



L.E.A.D. Academy Trust

# Newsletter

March  
2018

## Contents

### 02 Trust Updates

*Featuring the latest news from L.E.A.D. Academy Trust*

### 03 Top Tweets

*A selection of highlighted tweets from around the Trust*

### 04 Your Voice Campaign Launch

*Empowering the L.E.A.D. community to share their views*

### 05 In the Press

*Media coverage highlights of L.E.A.D. academies*

### 06 Academy Round-up

*A selection of stories from across the Trust*

### 11 The L.E.A.D. Teaching School Alliance

*An introduction and outline of the L.E.A.D. TSA*

## Welcome

Welcome to the first L.E.A.D. Newsletter. The aim of the newsletter is to give you an update and brief summary of some of the wonderful achievements, proud moments and diverse events that have happened across the Trust.

There are now twenty-five schools within our Trust, providing education to pupils from two to nineteen years. The schools are situated across Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

This newsletter should enhance some of the communication networks that are already in place across the Trust. Pupil and staff voice meetings have taken place for a while now and the end of 2017 saw the launch of 'Your Voice' campaign, which is designed to improve communication between parents and individual schools.

Your role and contribution to the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust is highly valued and appreciated. Together we will ensure that our children get the education, experiences and life skills that they are entitled to.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Diana Owen CBE**

*Chief Executive, L.E.A.D. Academy Trust*



L.E.A.D. Academy Trust

Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive

Follow us on twitter:  @LEADAcadTrust



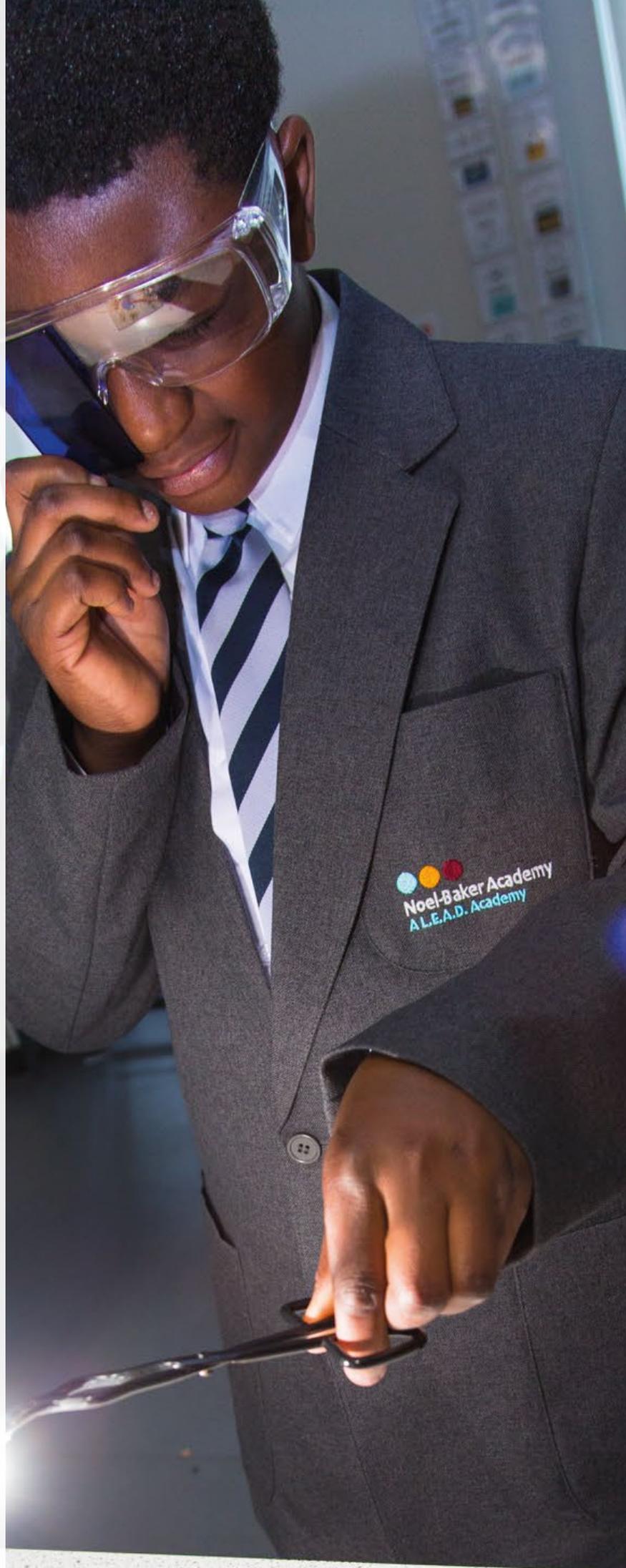
# Trust News

## Four Schools Join The L.E.A.D. Family

We are delighted to begin 2018 with the announcement of four new schools joining our family. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following academies:

- (Leicester) Forest Lodge Academy
- (Lincoln) Witham St. Hughs Academy
- (Lincoln) Waddington All Saints Academy
- (Lincoln) Manor Farm Academy

We are looking forward to working alongside the pupils, staff, parents and communities of these schools, and helping to enable every individual to reach their full potential.





# Top Tweets

## All aboard!

We are very much aware of the fantastic events, activities and achievements that occur in our L.E.A.D. academies every single day, which is why we are delighted to now start shouting about it on Twitter! Here's a selection of recent tweets:

 **L.E.A.D. Academy**  
@LEADAcadTrust

Congratulations from all at L.E.A.D. to Millie Walker; achieving a @birleyacademy 'Headteacher's Award' for displaying her culinary talents! @birleyacademy #PROUD



 L.E.A.D. Academy Retweeted  
**Noel Baker Academy**  
@Noelbakerlead

Start the week as you mean to go on...

@LEADAcadTrust



 **Windmill Academy**  
@windmilllead

Thursdays are our weekly visit from Sandy our school counsellor and Amber our therapy dog. Sandy runs our 'Time to Talk' sessions on a Thursday lunchtime.

@LEADAcadTrust



 **Millfield Academy**  
@millfieldlead

DODGEBALL CHAMPIONS! We are #proud to announce that Millfield won the Family 4 & 5 Dodgeball competition last term. Well done children! @LEADAcadTrust

## Competition



 L.E.A.D. Academy Retweeted  
**LEAD TSA**  
@LEAD\_Urban\_TSA

Thank you to Paul Longden of @Ofstednews for delivering an inspiring and highly informative programme of learning today - 'Developing High Quality Additional Adult Support!' @LEADAcadTrust



 **Da Vinci Academy**  
@davincilead

NEWS! We are so proud to have raised £1528 for @TeenageCancer and £400 for @savechildreuk last term - inspired by a fellow student currently battling against myeloid leukaemia. #Proud @DerbyTelegraph @MarketingDerby @LEADAcadTrust

## Fundraising

 **StAnns Well**  
@stannswelllead

On Friday 26 January 2018, Year 3 pupils will be visiting the @JorvikViking Centre in York - we cannot wait! @LEADAcadTrust



 **L.E.A.D. Academy**  
@LEADAcadTrust

We're proud of our students and delighted to work in partnership with so many inspiring organisations to #lead, #empower, #achieve and #drive.



We don't want to miss a thing – so please remember to tell us what's happening in your school on a monthly basis by emailing Ross Bennett: [ross@engaging-education.org.uk](mailto:ross@engaging-education.org.uk)

Whether its parent notifications, trips and events, individual and group achievements, exciting lessons or key news items...we want to know!



Empowering you,  
achieving together.

'Your Voice' was launched to improve communication between each academy and the communities they serve. It has already resulted in the following:



**Newsletter:**

A fresh feel, with easy-to-digest, useful information.



**Email:**

Individual email accounts for each school to direct parental enquiries through (yourvoice@).



**Twitter:**

Daily announcements to celebrate pupil achievement and brilliant work.



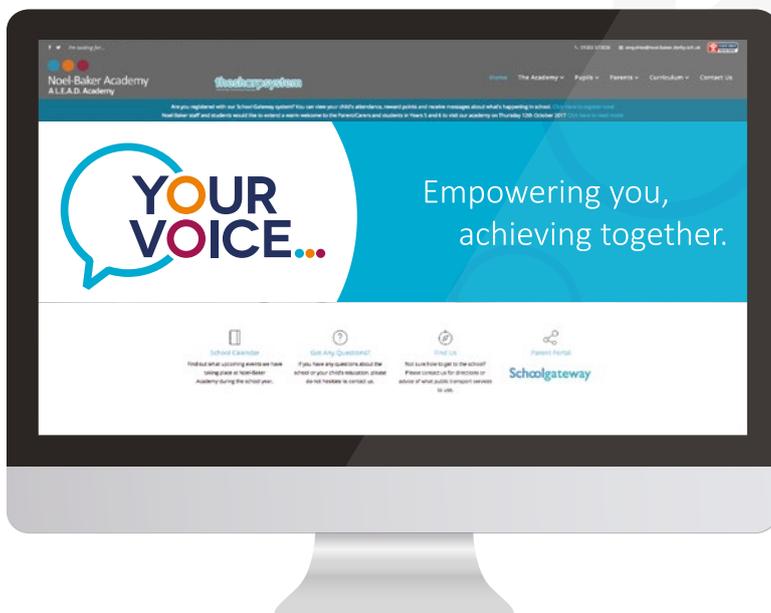
**Parent Forums:**

Encouraging face-to-face partnerships between senior leaders and parents.



**Website:**

Introducing a 'Your Voice' page: posting parental events, updates and highlighting the changes made in response to parent feedback through the official channels.



Crucially, we must continue to work together to ensure that we constantly refine and improve our communication. Therefore, if you have any questions or comments, please do get in touch!



# In The Press

Highlighted snippets from our recent features in the local press.

If you have a story that you believe would generate positive press interest, please get in touch: [ross@engaging-education.org.uk](mailto:ross@engaging-education.org.uk)



## Noel-Baker Academy

Our new Headteacher at Noel-Baker Academy, Simon Cotton, featured in the Derby Telegraph at the end of 2017. He spoke to local reporter Zena Hawley and outlined his vision for the future of Alvaston Secondary School.

[www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/local-news/noel-baker-head-teacher-improve-661036](http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/local-news/noel-baker-head-teacher-improve-661036)



## Radford Academy

Following their recent Ofsted inspection, Radford Academy hit the headlines in the Nottingham Post. The story encapsulated how the hard work and commitment of staff, pupils and the local school community moved Radford from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Good'.

[www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/primary-school-given-good-rating-822187](http://www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/primary-school-given-good-rating-822187)



# Academy Round-up

## Uplands L.E.A.D. Academy

### Building Relationships

Uplands L.E.A.D. Academy is building a relationship with De Montfort University. This will provide them with the opportunity to access many activities offered to schools in the city. De Montfort will support the academy by providing students to listen to children reading, delivering a five-week ICT project based on coding, first aid training and a visit to the University. The Year 6 pupils will also visit the campus after they have taken their SATs.

## Jubilee Academy

### Book & Breakfast

A special 'Book and Breakfast' morning was held at Jubilee Academy. Breakfast, tea and coffee was provided for all parents, alongside information on pupil reading progress from Reception to Year 2. There was also the opportunity for everyone to immerse themselves in Jubilee's £14,000 investment of new reading books!

## Radford Academy

### Radford Academy Moves From 'Requires Improvement' to 'Good'

Following an Ofsted inspection between 17th and 18th October 2017, we are pleased to report that Radford Academy has been graded as 'good'. The school achieved this grading in all five categories of the inspection framework.

Since joining the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust in December 2014 (as a school that 'requires improvement'), Meeta Dave (Headteacher) and her committed leadership team have worked tirelessly to deliver rapid success. The impact of Meeta is identified in the report as a key strength, alongside a vast array of positive findings, including: good pupil progress, provision of a broad and balanced curriculum, a clear focus on quality teaching and learning, a passionate staff team and good behaviour demonstrated consistently throughout the school.

The inspection team also cited the vital role served by L.E.A.D. in guiding Radford Academy from 'requires improvement' to 'good'. In particular, it found that "the academy trust has been pivotal in improving the school." It also praised trustees for having "an accurate view of the effectiveness of the school's work" and commended L.E.A.D. representatives in "providing high quality support for leaders to improve their effectiveness."

Demonstrating true partnership, the report highlights how school leaders have efficiently utilised our extensive resources, support network and best practice methods in order to drive forward standards.

We would like to congratulate everyone at Radford Academy!

Sycamore Academy

## Competition time at Sycamore Academy

Students from Sycamore Academy competed at the Karnival Cup, held at The Forest Zone, Forest Recreation, Gregory Boulevard. The tournament was keenly contested and featured over 25 schools. Congratulations to the pupils at Sycamore Academy, who finished 4th overall!

Warren Academy

## Warren Art Gallery

Children from Warren Academy created masterpieces to display at their very own art exhibition. In January, the academy invited parents/carers to visit and admire the work that the pupils had created. There was even the opportunity for parents to purchase a framed version of the children's artwork.

Noel-Baker Academy

## School Of Rock Production

In December 2017, over 50 students from Noel-Baker Academy took part in a production of 'The School of Rock'. The show was truly heart-warming and told the story of children finding their own ways of expressing themselves through music, backed up with some rocking songs that had everyone up and out of their seats.

The students, including the cast and the band, rehearsed at lunchtimes and after school for four months to ensure that this production was the best yet.

For inspiration, the students involved in the performance visited London in October to see the show in the West End.



*'The School of Rock' production at Noel-Baker Academy*

St Ann's Well Academy

## School Choir Sing At BBC Children In Need Event

In November, the St Ann's Well school choir were selected to sing in the BBC Children in Need event, along with six other schools from the East Midlands. The students enjoyed the whole experience of being filmed, singing "Somewhere over the Rainbow" in the Albert Hall and seeing themselves on the television. The academy thoroughly enjoyed their day and felt honoured to raise money for Children in Need.

Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D. Academy

## Academy Award

Mrs Bray from Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D. Academy travelled to Utttoxeter to collect the Primary Science Mark Award. The academy is very proud of the work that Mrs Bray has undertaken in developing science, and the subsequent positive impact that this has had on student learning.

Da Vinci Academy

## Da Vinci Students Commended for Impactful Knife-crime Demonstration

Seven students from Da Vinci Academy were commended at the Derbyshire Constabulary South Division's recent Celebrating Achievement event. The students were recognised for their determination, professionalism and commitment in organising the Da Vinci Project. The initiative, which involved over 70 members of the emergency services, educated hundreds of young people on the dangers of carrying knives.

Alongside fellow pupils, they produced a knife-crime dramatisation at the school, which captured the interest of the media and led to the staging of similar events across the county.

Congratulations to everyone involved in bringing this successful project to life.

*Police officers face danger and complexity on a day-to-day basis and this was our opportunity to recognise some of the bravest and most impressive feats carried out in Derbyshire's South Division in recent months.*

**Chief Superintendent**  
Jim Allen

Huntingdon Academy

## Visit From a Tyrannosaurus Rex!

Students in Year 1 at Huntingdon Academy were visited by Pete the T-Rex to commence work on their exciting topic about dinosaurs. The students learnt lots of interesting facts and had the opportunity to handle different fossils before meeting Pete!

Cloudside Academy

## Winter Olympics

The Young Ambassadors and 'This Girl Can' representatives from Cloudside Academy have attended their termly ESSP meeting. They had the opportunity to take part in a variety of Winter Olympic inspired activities. They had a great time and were commended on their outstanding behaviour.

Windmill L.E.A.D. Academy

## Gardening Event

The School Council of Windmill L.E.A.D. Academy recently staged a wonderful Family Gardening Event. Members of the Council, parents, carers and staff helped to clear the school gardens and plant new bulbs as part of the School Council legacy for the year.

Hogarth Academy

## Book Swap Initiative

Year 3 students at Hogarth Academy enjoyed a day with Dominic the Viking. The students learnt how, why and when the Vikings invaded. Shay and Kyle said, "the best bit was when Dominic smashed a melon with an axe." Dominic the Viking was very impressed with the pupils' enthusiasm and they all had a wonderful day.

Hogarth Academy have also introduced a new book swap initiative. Book swap shelves have been set up and students are able to bring in a book to trade it for another. They have also employed some book swap monitors, who are making sure this happens regularly!

Edna G Olds Academy

## Year 3 Visit to Crocus Café

On Monday 8th January, students from Edna G Olds Academy visited the Crocus Café in Lenton as part of their art topic. They had the opportunity to appreciate artwork created by local artists.

---

*I really liked getting to see some of the paintings that people from Nottingham had created. Their artwork looked quite dated and the designs were on old pieces of paper. When we got back to school, we had a go at our own paintings using watercolours. We painted water lilies because one of the artists we are looking at this half-term is Monet.*

---

**Ibraheem Khan**

Millfield L.E.A.D. Academy

## Millfield Visit to The Black Country Museum

In February 2017, Year 4 classes from Millfield L.E.A.D. Academy had a trip to the Black Country Museum, learning more about the Industrial Revolution. They have been focusing on how people worked, so they had the opportunity to learn about coal mines and explore a mineshaft. The pupils also visited a range of houses, shops and schools that provided information on the Industrial Revolution.



*Black Country Museum Visit*

Rainbow Forge Primary Academy

## Making Music

Rainbow Forge Primary Academy have recently promoted a love of music through a range of initiatives. Firstly, all teachers have started to play classical music for the children upon arrival into school every morning. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have begun to learn songs for their upcoming performance; 'School of Rock'. Year 3 and Year 4 are preparing for their Easter show and a staff choir has also been established.

Glapton Academy

## Trip to Newstead Abbey

Recently, students from Glapton Academy enjoyed a bushcraft trip to Newstead Abbey. They were joined by many of the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust schools for a joint adventure. The students were mixed into different groups to take part in various activities, from tarp building to camouflage games.

Birley Spa Primary Academy

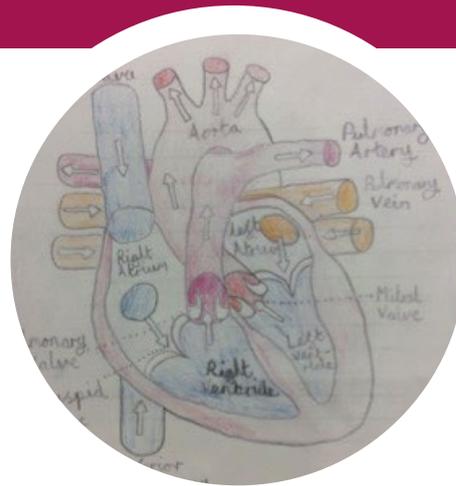
## Community Events

Birley Spa Primary Academy have held a range of hugely successful fund raising events, incorporating a variety of exciting activities. The PTA continue to work very hard in ensuring that the projects are a sparkling success.

Birley Academy

## Raising Money For Charity

The students and staff at The Birley Academy have had a busy year raising money for charity, including the Sheffield Children's Hospital. They have raised a fantastic **£4,000**. Well done!



*Diagram illustrated by a pupil at Charnock Hall Primary Academy*

Charnock Hall Primary Academy

## Learning About the Body

At Charnock Hall Primary Academy, Year 6 pupils have been learning about the heart in science lessons. They have produced some great diagrams and presented these back to their peers.

Birley Primary Academy

## Fund Raising

Birley Primary Academy have been furiously fund raising over the last term. The pupils have taken part in many fun activities and raised a huge amount of money for their local community and wider projects. They raised £544.24 for Children in Need by wearing something spotty. The Christmas Fayre was also a huge success and the academy raised a record £1,271.03. They once again supported The Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity by "buying" a snowflake to be displayed in the hospital. This raised £805.10!



# The L.E.A.D. Teaching School Alliance

The L.E.A.D. Teaching School Alliance is a dynamic, cross-phase collaboration of schools committed to harnessing, nurturing and sharing the specific skills and attributes required to teach and lead in areas with diverse pupil populations. Everything we do in our schools is about providing children with an outstanding, broad and balanced education.

Our innovative Initial Teaching Training (ITT) route aims to increase the number of quality teachers in our schools. In addition, we offer a range of high quality Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for staff at all levels and tailored school-to-school support. We are keen to nurture and grow staff across our alliance and offer a range of opportunities to develop the leaders of tomorrow. By working in partnership with The University of Nottingham and other regional universities, we are also creating a research culture within our alliance that will impact positively on teaching, learning and the achievement of young people.

For further information, please contact our Director of Teaching School, Matt Lawrence:

0115 8225440

07710 390842

[matt.lawrence@leadacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:matt.lawrence@leadacademytrust.co.uk)



**L.E.A.D. Academy Trust**  
**Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive**

 @LEADAcadTrust

L.E.A.D. Academy Trust  
5a The Ropewalk  
Nottingham  
NG1 5DU

**Email:** [admin@leadacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:admin@leadacademytrust.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 0115 822 5440