

NEWSLETTER

The latest news from South Bank Academy Trust

ISSUE 5: July 2018

Farewell from the Trust Principal

This is a big week for me—it is my last week as Scarcroft School Headteacher and also as the Trust Principal at South Bank Trust. I have served as Trust Principal since May 2017 and have thoroughly enjoyed the role. It has of course brought plenty of challenges and it has certainly kept me busy, but it has also brought me into contact with pupils and staff across the Trust, which has been an absolute pleasure.

Watching our young people experience a wide range of educational opportunities from the age of 4 to 16 years has reinforced my view that we can achieve so much more together than we can individually. I have been involved in the

Headteacher Peer Reviews, where we have challenged each other to achieve even more for our schools, and this has been both thought-provoking and rewarding. I have carried out reviews of our schools' Health & Safety and also looked at standards of Safeguarding across the MAT. It has been uplifting to see such good practice and to be able to facilitate the sharing of good practice between the schools.

I have no doubt that the Trust will continue from strength to strength and I wish you all—staff, pupils, governors, Trustees and parents—all the best for the future.

Anna Cornhill (Trust Principal)

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The Year 6 SATs results are now available and the children have been able to share their achievements with their families at home. Congratulations to all our Year 6 leavers in all three primary schools—there are many successes to celebrate. A big thank you must go to the Year 6 teachers, who have worked tirelessly to help their pupils achieve their very best. Well done!

Performance for Year 2 pupils across the MAT is also pleasing—well done to them all and to their teachers. There is also a good set of outcomes in the Phonics Check for Year 1 pupils, with performance above the national average in all three schools—well done to all!

This is the time of year when we say goodbye to our Year 6 and Year 11 pupils and we wish them

all well on the next step of their journey. As our leavers move on to the next stage of their education we hope that the good grounding they have had in our schools has set them up well.

For those families who are leaving our schools for the last time—thank you for your continued support of your child's school and their teachers. It really does make a difference!

DEVELOPING KEY CAREERS SKILLS IN:

- TEAMWORK
- CONFIDENCE
- ORGANISATION
- COMMUNICATION
- INITIATIVE
- PROBLEM-SOLVING

Millthorpe selected as 'Careers Hub'

Working together... [Celebrating successes](#)

20 National Careers Hubs have been selected across the country and one of them is in our region. Congratulations to Millthorpe for being selected as the lead school of the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Hub.

This local Business Enterprise is an exciting new opportunity for young people in York to engage in a partnership between education and local businesses, expanding their horizons and opening up a wider range of career prospects for them to explore and experience.

The YNYER Careers Hub will be made up of 35 local schools and colleges, working together with universities, training providers, employers and career profession-

als to improve careers education.

Careers Hubs are a central part of the Government's Careers Strategy, published in December. The strategy aims to improve careers education and help prepare young people for the world of work.

Tim Gillbanks, Deputy Head at Millthorpe School said:

"Quality Career Education, Advice and Guidance for students is at the heart of everything we do at Millthorpe. We look forward to working alongside other schools and organisations in Yorkshire to equip students with the skills and advice they need for their future careers."

Collaborative Working in our Primary Schools

Working together... [Better opportunities for pupils and staff](#)

Year 6 pupils at Knavesmire and Scarcroft participated in a joint Writing Day, based on a picture from 'The Mystery of Harris Burdick'. They completed a number of different drama and writing workshops with teachers from both schools, supported by experts from the Theatre Royal.

Pupils used their experiences to generate their own Quest Stories, which they completed back at school. Each pupil designed their own Quest, selecting their own characters, challenges faced along the way and final resolution to the journey. The pieces of writing were then shared across the staff at both schools.

Staff in Y2 and Y6 across Knavesmire, Scarcroft and Woodthorpe have met regularly to moderate children's writing, compare ideas for stimulating children's interests and compare standards of work.

Y6 pupils at Scarcroft and Knavesmire invited each other to come and watch their end of year plays. This was enjoyed by all and further opportunities to work together are already planned for the coming academic year.

Saying a big 'Thank you'

Scarcroft School's Chair of Governors Tracy Kuhn stepped down from her role this summer. We are very grateful for her work in this challenging role and wish to thank her for all that she has done for the school, its staff and its pupils—thank you Tracy.

Knavesmire School's Chair of Governors Tanya Wheatley also steps down from her role in August. Like Tracy, Tanya saw the school through the process of forming the South Bank MAT and we wish to thank her for all her hard work over the years she has supported the school—thank you Tanya.

Trustee Graham Wilson is also moving on this summer. He has brought with him to meetings and discussions a wealth of educational experience and we are very grateful for his contributions—thank you Graham.

All our governors and Trustees are volunteers and we continue to be extremely grateful for all the work that they do.

GET IN TOUCH

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South Bank Multi Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 10067116 whose registered office is at Woodthorpe Primary School, Summerfield

South Bank says farewell to its Chief Finance Officer

Our Chief Finance Officer Becky Guest has been with us since the Trust first formed and has done a fantastic job of setting up a whole range of high quality financial procedures. Feedback from external and internal audits have been extremely favourable and she is highly regarded within the Trust.

It is with sadness that we say our goodbyes and wish her well as she starts a new post in a Trust in Leeds. She will be missed by her team and by everybody who works with her across the Trust. There will be a period where our finances are led by an interim CFO, prior to appointing a permanent replacement for Becky.

In capable hands

Meet the Trust's Standards Committee Chair



Jill Hodges has worked in education for nearly forty years in a variety of roles and positions. Jill was Headteacher at Norton College which is a successful school in North Yorkshire. The College was judged to be "good" under her leadership on its way to becoming outstanding in 2007.

Until recently, Jill worked as the Assistant Director for Education and Skills in North Yorkshire. Previously, she had held the same position in York, where she worked closely with Headteachers and Governors across the City. Both local authorities are known for their strong outcomes, particularly at secondary level.

Jill is delighted to be returning to the York education community as a Trustee of the South Bank Academy Trust. She is passionate about education and ensuring that all children and young people can have the best possible life chances. Jill Chairs the Standards Committee, which has responsibility for overseeing the pupil outcomes in all the Trust schools. The committee provides challenge for school leaders, in order to ensure that every student achieves to their absolute best potential.