

# Finham Park Multi Academy Trust World Class News

December 2022  
Edition 28



Lillington



Finham Park



Lyng Hall



Meadow Park



Finham Primary



Pearl Hyde



Finham Park 2



## Welcome from Mark Bailie

Dear Parents and Members of the Community,

Welcome to edition 28 of World Class News, which is once again filled with amazing articles showcasing the many experiences open to our students across all of our schools.

I know that colleagues across the MAT have worked incredibly hard to provide "world class" experiences for our young people. So many of the articles and contributions in this magazine showcase this, from students at Lillington experiencing British pre-history, Finham Park students exploring different cultures and celebrating diversity in a student led culture day, to Pearl Hyde students representing Warwickshire County at Table Tennis. Providing our students with the opportunity to experience "the time of their lives" we regularly arrange guest speakers to come in and meet our students. Meadow Park students have engaged with their local MP, during UK Parliament week and Finham Park 2 students have enjoyed a whole week of rail inspired activities. It is so easy to forget how these experiences shape the lives of our students, not only during their formative years in education, but beyond.

Our annual Finham Park MAT Training Day is fast approaching, which I am sure all colleagues are looking forward to. Looking through the programme, I am impressed with the quality of the different sessions on offer to staff. It will also be good to see everyone face to face again. I look forward to seeing the impact of these sessions, together with time dedicated to co-construction. I am sure that colleagues from Primary and Secondary schools will enjoy sharing great practice and fostering closer links between the schools.

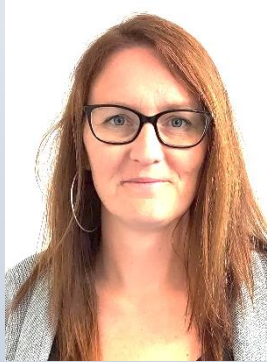
As we move towards a new term and the new calendar year, we are all mindful of the end of one year and the beginning of another. The New Year presents an opportunity for everyone to reflect on the successes in 2022 and the many possibilities for 2023. It will be a very exciting year ahead, and I hope you all take the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with your friends and family. Have a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2023.



**Mark Bailie**  
**Executive Headteacher**  
**Finham Park Multi Academy Trust**

## Education Development Team

### Liz Alton – Director of Education Development



I am sure everyone will agree that this half term has flown by, but what an amazing term it has been. I am extremely proud of the dedication I see and hear about in all of our schools providing brilliant education, a wide variety of support, kindness and opportunities for the children, their families and the wider community. This half term I have been working with colleagues at Lyng Hall looking at Responsive Teaching and Year 11 Raising Achievement and at Meadow Park we have been working on Curriculum and Quality Assurance. It is a pleasure every day to work with such enthusiastic colleagues in the MAT Education Development Team as well as across the FPMAT schools. I am really looking forward to next term starting with our MAT day getting everyone together to meet in person for the first time since before Covid. Wishing everyone a well-deserved break over the Christmas holidays.

### Claire Denton – Director of Primary Education Development



**Claire Denton**  
Director of Primary Education

Another half term has gone by in a flash! I have been working primarily at Pearl Hyde School this half term supporting the team to streamline Early Reading processes. We have also been working on making links across the curriculum subjects a piece of work we will be continuing into the new year. I want to take this opportunity to say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all colleagues. I look forward to seeing everyone on the MAT training day.

### **Emma O'Toole – Primary Support and Innovation Lead**



This has been another busy half-term in the primary schools across the MAT. It is a pleasure supporting and working alongside our Early Career Teachers, who are all settling in well and developing the craft of teaching.

It is fascinating supporting the different subject leaders in their roles, working together to create intent statements, develop curriculum overviews and knowledge and skill progression documents. Monitoring their subjects together, through drop ins to lessons, book looks, and pupil voice have all enabled us to identify what is working well and next steps in the development of the foundation subjects.

### **Mat Gaynon – Secondary Support and Innovation Lead**



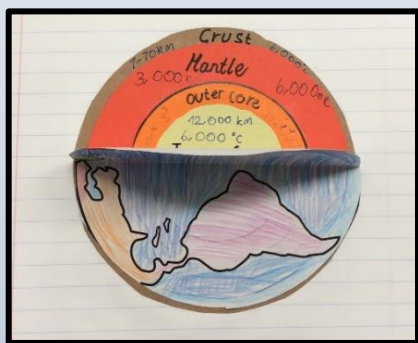
As we approach the Christmas break, with a whole term coming to an end I am amazed at the hard work of colleagues across the MAT as we work to ensure all students succeed. Over the course of this half term, I have been continuing to support the Behaviour and Attendance teams at Meadow Park as we embed structures and practices, as well as supporting teaching and learning, curriculum developments at Finham Park 2.





## Through the Ages

At Lillington, Year 3 started off the school year with a history topic all about British prehistory from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, including changes to people and lifestyle caused by ingenuity, invention, and technological advancement. In History lessons, the children used secondary sources to research various areas of life during this period – farming, clothing, dwellings, and tribal battles.



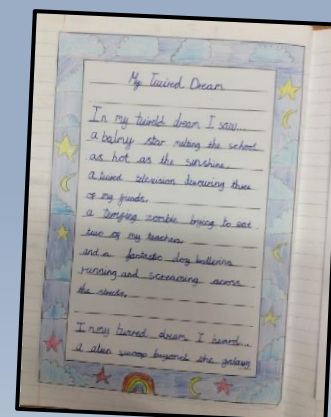
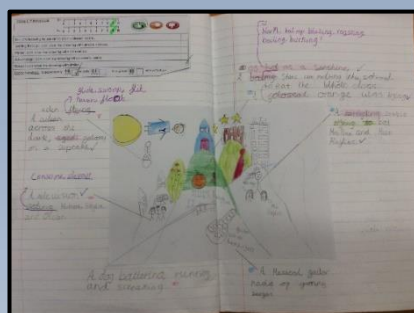
In Geography lessons, they have been brushing up on their essential knowledge about the Earth: its layers, plate tectonics and the five major climate zones. Building on this understanding, they have started to locate countries and cities, and use grid references, compass points and latitude and longitude.

In Art, they developed their pottery skills, creating Bell Beaker pots decorated using natural materials foraged from around the school.



In Science, the children have started to learn about the importance of nutrition for humans and other animals by beginning to understand the development of the human diet. Working scientifically, Year 3 have planned an observational investigation, focusing on the amount of fat found in various foods.

In English, Year 3 have explored journey narratives and explanation texts. However, their favourite unit seems to have been dream poetry. Using the T4W approach, the children internalised a 'nonsensical' model text before planning and drafting their own dream poems.



## Bright Spot - Ms Cooper



Students in the art department have been inspired by the Tower of London poppies created by artists Paul Cummins and Tom Piper, where 888,246 ceramic poppies progressively filled the Tower's famous moat between July and November 2014. Our year 9 pupils have been busy in their art lessons sculpting and glazing individual poppies in order to show our respects this remembrance day. We remember those individuals that lost their lives at war and for the service and sacrifice of our armed forces, veterans and their families.

Please go and have a look at our beautifully created poppies on display in the reception area, year 9 have done a fantastic job, well done!



Students reflected on why Remembrance Day is important?

"I think remembrance day is important because we need to remember the ones who risked their lives, we should always have at least one day a year to keep them with us because of the amazing things they did for us and they sacrificed their lives for this country." – Zaid 9R

"It is important to remember because people, soldiers risked their lives to make our lives better today." – Kiran 9O

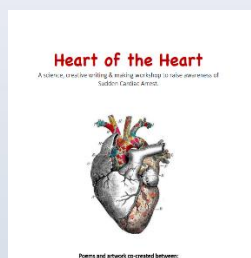
"I think remembrance day is important because its a day to remember people who have died and lost their lives for our lives to be better." – Ellie 9O

"I think remembrance day is important because it allows us to remember those who fought for our freedom in the past. Remembering those that helped us to make sure that past mistakes are not repeated." – Mrs Coletta

"Remembrance day is important because we need to pay respect to all the soldiers that fought for us and saved our country." – David

"I have always been passionate about remembrance day, I think it's so important to remember those lost but also the service and sacrifice of our armed forces, veterans and their families." – Mrs Cooper





The Year 11 Triple Science students were involved in a wonderful workshop organised by the University of Warwick. The concept was built around the scientific details of the heart and its functions; the interpretations that developed from this idea were then creativity explored, with fabulous results. A taste of the fantastic work our students did, and their output, is included in the following pages - a final brochure including the work of other schools involved will be available soon. In addition to the school visit, there was an evening event at the University of Warwick, which some of our pupils attended and they did us proud!

### From one of our students who was involved:

'It was very exciting to hear and interact with experts in the STEM field about the current research and discussions on the topics of cardiac arrest in young people and the genetic reasoning behind it. Including the ethical debate on whether people, who are susceptible to the mentioned heart conditions, should test to check, was also an enlightening experience for me.'

### From the organiser:

"Lovely to meet you again the other evening and thank you for attending the last workshop. Your students are absolutely adorable and I loved working with them! I'm so impressed with what they produced in such a short amount of time and in a space that was not their comfort zone! I have attached a document which presents the work produced in the first 3 workshops along with the aims and objectives of the project and a poem that I wrote that was inspired by it. A huge thank you for all your support and for being so open minded. I am very grateful."



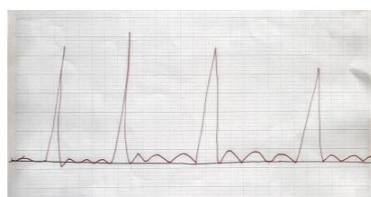
Heart of an **Cowder** (cow crossed with a spider).

A sharp void forms between pulsating muscles cavernous and abyssal. It takes away the liquid of life like an experienced thief. The lubdubbing gradually slows to a halt; the sharp void consumes all.

**FEATURE:** arteries resemble udders. Other circulatory structures web around the heart.

**CAUSE OF SCA:** Commotio Cordis (chest injury).

**ECG:** red dagger-like projections / sudden spiking.



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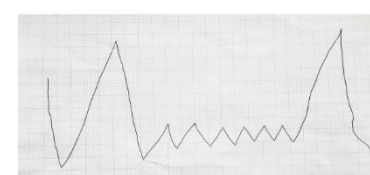
Heart of a **Batman** (Bat crossed with a Homosapien)

Lurking through the late-night streets Thinking of his parents, his heart beats He can't eat He can't sleep He was viciously hit twice with a bat How ironic is that He was batshamed So instantly flew away.

**FEATURE:** consists of only one chamber. No venous return (Batman does not return!); has only oxygenated and de-oxygenated arteries.

**CAUSE OF SCA:** Commotio Cordis (chest injury).

**ECG:** indicates 2 large blows to the heart - battered.



## Year 1 Autumn Term DT Project

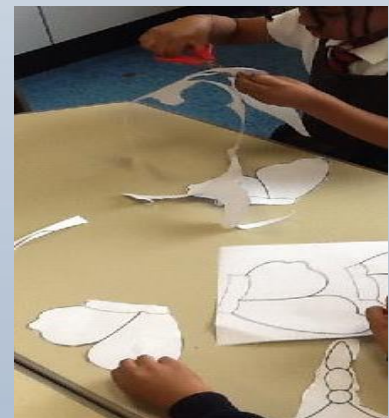
As part of an overall topic on 'Toys', Year 1 have been learning how to create fixed and moveable joints in their first Design Technology project of the year.



### **Creating a fixed joint**



1. Demonstrate accuracy in cutting out the templates of wings and a body using scissors.



2. Try out using Sellotape or glue to make a fixed joint when fixing the wings to the body.



3. A selection of the completed butterflies with fixed joints.





## Creating a moveable joint

The children investigated single and double hole-punches to create holes – realising they needed to use much more strength with card, and working out where the hole would be created 😊 Then they discovered split pins, and how they can fix things together, but allow them to move....a moveable joint!



This is a variety of the vehicles Year 1 created, all with moveable wheels that can be rolled along the ground 😊





Our D and T department embarked on their annual pilgrimage with Year 12s to the Design Museum and The Victorian and Albert Museum in London. Staff and students always love these museums and their exhibits. So much to see; perfect for inspiration and course content.



Amazing work from our Year 8 drama students and the brilliant [Highly](#) Sprung staff. Together they created a beautiful play-in-a-day using physical theatre to wow a year 9 audience! Great work everyone.

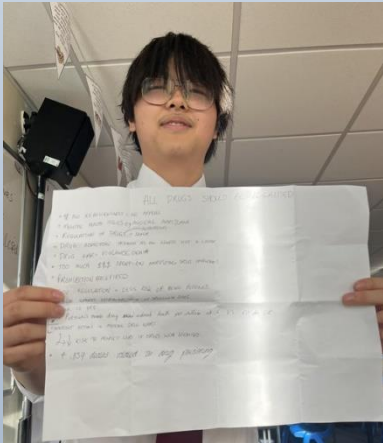


Fabulous fencers from the year 7 fencing club have attended a 5 week after school course and have done brilliantly; we look forward to seeing a few Olympians in the future! In addition to the after-school clubs, our hard-working PE department have played over 50 fixtures already this term!





Film Studies students visited [Pinewood Studios](#) for this year's [Pinewood Futures](#) Festival. All had a great time even though Mr Gunn nearly came to an unfortunate end at the hands of a familiar villain! The students are now more convinced than ever they can work in the film industry.



Debate club is a popular enrichment activity run by sixth formers who invite students from KS4 to join their weekly discussions. They discuss a range of issues from lowering the voting age to the contentious motion: "This house believes we should boycott the World Cup in Qatar" It is fair to say the year 11 football team, who attended that afternoon's debate, did not agree!



Preena and Mahia from the head student team organised a culture day in October. Sixth form students were invited to wear clothing from their own or a different culture to celebrate the diversity of our school community. Such a joyful day and what beautiful outfits.



## Musicals and Workshops and Exams- Oh my!

Everything has been Go, Go Go! in the Finham Park Drama Department.



With only a handful of weeks left, we are waist deep in Annie Jr rehearsals and it is looking fantastic! Our super talented cast and crew have been working tirelessly to bring the classic musical to life and it is inspiring to see such a dedicated collection of young people working together. Nothing brings people together like a show!



A lovely group of year 8 Drama students had the opportunity to work with the spectacular Highly Sprung Theatre company where they explored a story of hope, perseverance and committing to a dream. We were so proud of the work they

produced using Physical Theatre and it was a pleasure to watch them grow in confidence and ability throughout the day.

We also have 4-year groups readying themselves for their practical exams. Year 10 and 12 are both working on their devised performances, looking at the impact of social media and 'What is Freedom?' respectively. Devising is a long, and sometimes arduous, journey but their persistent determination to create something spectacular is never wavering. Year 11 and 13 are working on their



scripted performances and are showing keen insight into the intentions of the playwright to ensure that their portrayals are dynamic and apt.

Finally, we were lucky enough to be offered tickets to a show at the Warwick Arts Centre; 'A Dead



Body in Taos' by Fuel, which was unique and thought provoking. It is great to see students enjoying themselves at the Theatre once more.

What a year!

The Finham Park Drama Department,  
Mrs Spokes and Ms Bartlett



## Zarah Sultana visits Meadow Park School



MEADOW PARK  
SCHOOL



Staff and students at Meadow Park School welcomed Zarah Sultana, MP of Coventry South, during 2022 UK Parliament Week. Zarah spoke about her journey to becoming an MP and answered questions posed by our students.

Zarah explained that the West Midlands has one of the youngest demographics in the U.K so it is essential for MPs to engage with young people in schools across the region. Inspiring young minds is her favourite part of the job!

Mr Moore, Head of Humanities, shared that "It was a pleasure to welcome Zarah Sultana into school to speak to our students. I believe it is essential that children understand their right to have opinions and be listened to so to hear from someone who has the platform to drive change through the views of her constituents could be inspirational. Our students appeared captivated by her stories and I hope some of them feel empowered to speak out about their own opinions, respectfully challenge others and ultimately uphold our British Values".

***"When you work hard and believe in yourself, you can be a politician, prime minister, lawyer, doctor, nurse...anything you want to be!"***

*Zarah Sultana*







## BBC Share a Story



BBC Share a Story came into school on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The visit formed part of the BBC's centenary celebrations and we were fortunate enough to be one of the 400 secondary schools across the UK chosen to be part of these important celebrations.

Navtej and Zahrah, BBC Ambassadors shared their inspirational journeys with students, in a bid to inspire them through the power of storytelling. Navtej and Zahrah overcame hardships in their childhood years to have successful careers with the BBC. As well as being entertaining, the stories resonated with some of our students and they were really keen to chat to Navtej and Zahrah after the session. Navtej said of Meadow Park students, "They have listened so intently and asked some searching and honest questions – they have been amazing. I've really enjoyed it here."







## **Our achievements outside of the classroom**

It's been an action packed last few weeks at Pearl Hyde!

The boys football team had their first game of the season, we travelled to Corpus Christi Primary school. It was a hard game, the boys put in a resilient performance to achieve a 1-1 draw. The players worked hard, keeping a positive attitude throughout.

Pearl Hyde were invited by BBC CWR & Coventry City Council to attend a BBC Children in Need session to record a film with Pudsey! The idea was to make Pudsey a bit more active this year by talking & walking with him.

The children had an amazing time making this recording. Click on link below to view it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuVLKGSIAys>

The highlight of our half term has been attending the Warwickshire schools Table Tennis Championship at Meon Vale Sports Centre in Stratford Upon Avon.

Our team performed so well they are now representing Warwickshire County!



## Museum Take Over Day at the Lapworth Museum of Geology



The children had a fabulous day at the Lapworth Museum of Geology for Museum Take Over Day. First, they explored the museum, completing a geology hunt around the museum and meeting Rory the allosaurus. Then they worked in pairs to create audio guides for different objects in the museum. The audio guides are now being put together to create an audio trail around the museum and will also go onto the museum's website.



Thank you to Lizzy Goodger, Learning and Community Development Officer at the Lapworth for hosting the pupils from Pearl Hyde and sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm for geology with them. During the day the children commented "It's the best day of my life," and "I'd like to work in a museum when I'm older, it's really interesting."





### Scholars Trip to Oxford

Our Year 7 Scholars students visited St. Catherine's College, Oxford to launch the Scholars project. They attended some workshops, had a tour of the campus, and were given the most amazing lunch in the dining halls.



The Scholar's Programme is now being run in school with small groups of Year 7 who are learning about The Windrush Years with a PHD tutor from Nottingham University. At the end students will be helped to write a 1,500 essay on the subject which will be given a university style mark. Following this, students will attend a graduation ceremony at Oxford University! Exciting times.



### Renaissance Reading Conference

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November we were privileged in hosting the first 'Reading Conference' sponsored by our Accelerated Reader programme provider, Renaissance. The keynote speaker, Alison Tarrant, Chief Executive of the School's Library Association and Co-Chair of the Great School Libraries campaign, gave us a fantastic talk about reading engagement. It was a brilliant day, most notably for networking opportunities and sharing of best practice.



### Rail Week

Two small words, but what an impact! Year 8 were treated to whole week of rail inspired activities which were delivered in partnership with our friends at the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership. Each day had a different theme – careers, sustainability, art, engineering, and HS2. Every session was delivered by an external contributor including employees from West Midlands Railways, Avanti West Coast, HS2, West Midlands Rail Executive, The Small piece Trust, Siemens and Renault supported by Finham Park 2 teaching staff.



We were very grateful for the contributions from all of our corporate partners. All of our Year 8 students will be treated to a trip by train in the new year.



### Blood Brothers

On 17<sup>th</sup> November, Year 9 Drama students went to Aylesbury Waterside Theatre to watch Willy Russell's Blood Brothers. The students represented Finham Park 2 with pride and audience members commented about how smart they looked and





well behaved all of our students were. The show was amazing and everybody thoroughly enjoyed the trip. We have some very talented aspiring actors!

### UNESCO Associated Schools Network

We were delighted to have been granted membership of this prestigious organisation and selected for a unique project as well! Finham Park 2 is the only UK secondary school to be participating in the UNESCO Fostering Global Citizens through the Memory of the World project. We are working alongside our friends at Earlsdon Primary School and have been partnered with a school in Ghana with whom we will start joint projects in the new year through our Languages and History department.



### World Cup Fever in the Library

We have launched the competition to end all competitions in Finham Park 2 Library! Readers are being encouraged to read and quiz on Accelerated Reader with the chance to meet the England Football Team at St. Georges Park as the prize! Our librarian, Mrs Kerr, has been working alongside the FA to secure this amazing prize. Needless to say, that, apart from watching the football, reading has become everyone's favourite pastime and the draw for the 10 places on the trip which takes place on the last day of term is eagerly anticipated!



**MEET ENGLAND AND PREMIER LEAGUE PLAYERS!**  
**VISIT ST. GEORGES PARK AND USE THE ENGLAND TRAINING FACILITIES!**  
**WIN SIGNED ENGLAND FOOTBALL MERCHANDISE!**

**How?**

- READ A BOOK
- TAKE THE AR QUIZ (YR 7 – 9) OR MRS KERR'S QUIZ (YR 10)
- PASS THE QUIZ AND YOU WILL EARN 1 ENTRY INTO THE PRIZE DRAW FOR THE ABOVE PRIZES.
- THE MORE QUIZZES YOU TAKE, THE MORE ENTRIES YOU WILL GET.
- COMPETITION RUNS FROM MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER TO THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER
- DRAW TAKES PLACE ON FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER WHEN WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED.

**PLEASE SEE MRS KERR WITH ANY QUERIES**

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365 days a year

To access the service, simply call **03303 800658\***  
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Whether you're facing problems at work or at home, you can access impartial, confidential advice from qualified counsellors for many different issues, including:

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Visit [vivup.co.uk](https://vivup.co.uk)



\*Calls charged at local rates

A reminder to all staff that you have access to the Employee Assistance Programme any time you feel like you need it.

Call: 03303 800658



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## Other Discounts

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ASDA  
Let's feel good



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 **Nuffield  
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Nuffield Health Gyms currently have 30% discount for education employees. To join online, search for your local centre below and enter code TEACHER30

If you know about any other discounts for staff working in education, please feel free to let the central team know and we can publish them in the next copy of the magazine.





FINHAM PARK  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



FINHAM PARK  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

# Finham Park MAT Day

## Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

### at Finham Park 2/MAT site

After being online for 2 years we are pleased to welcome everyone back in person for an important day of networking, co-construction and connection. Following feedback from colleagues we know how important it is for well-being to come together to share, learn and support each other across our Trust.

with **Tom Sherrington**  
Responsive Teaching  
Instructional Coaching



Internal & External Speakers



CPD Workshops



Co-construction



Networking



Well-being



### Finham Park MAT Day Food Bank Collection

We will be collecting items to donate to local Coventry Food Banks. Please bring any unwanted & unused food or household items, plus we will also be collecting unwanted Christmas gifts to rehome in the community.



@FinhamParkMAT

Our FPMAT Values:

Kindness – Respect – Teamwork – Honesty – Integrity – Enjoyment