### **INCLUSIVE** MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT



#happychildrenlearn

#happystaffthrive

#happyparentsbuildacommunity

**DEC 2023** 

#### **WELCOME**

I have thoroughly enjoyed these last few weeks as the children and staff have worked hard to finish off the autumn term with an educational flourish. I was also delighted to take in some fantastic Christmas performances across our three schools - Beechfield, Cherry Tree and Laurence Haines. It was wonderful to see the pupils' creative talents on display.

A huge thanks is owed to our kitchen teams and our partners at Chartwells for cooking and serving delicious Christmas dinners for over 1000 pupils and staff across the Trust! We are also extremely grateful to Mark and Grace Scoulding from the Watford Salvation Army who have generously supported our schools all year, and did so again this Christmas. I encourage you to follow their Twitter account <a href="mailto:mwww.mw.money.org/mw.mw.money.mw.money.org/mw.mw.money.org/mw.mw.money.org/mw.money.

Thank you also to you, our parents. I know how hard it is to balance everything currently so I am particularly pleased to share that our attendance rose by over 1% across our schools this term. This is a phenomenal achievement so thank you for your support in achieving this. Let's make sure we keep up the momentum into the new year!

I am sure that you will agree, that there is much to celebrate this term. This is thanks to the hard work and dedication of our pupils, families, volunteers, governors, trustees and staff. I sincerely thank all members of our school communities for their efforts in making this term a success.

I wish you all a well-deserved break over the holidays. For those families celebrating, I wish you a happy Christmas. For those who have alternative traditions, I wish you a peaceful and restful holiday.

James Roach

@CEOInclusiveMAT









@BFS\_Watford @HeadBeechfield

#### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

The children have been practising their singing and acting for the various Nativity and Christmas productions that have taken place over the last two weeks. Y1 can be seen here on their way to dazzle parents with their Nativity performance! There is much excitement is in the air as we share the holiday spirit together.

Y3-Y6 are looking forward to their carol concert at Christchurch in the last week of term. Staff and pupils are all looking forward to Christmas lunch on the last day of term when we can wear our Christmas jumpers! Thank you also to the Watford Schools Trust who came in to tell Y4 all about Christingle.



#### A DIFFERENT VIEW

We had an exciting day at Beechfield when students connected with a universal bilingual school in Qatar. They gained valuable insight from another teacher on how school life differs in a non-European country.



#### **HEALTHY EATING ASSEMBLY**

Our school caterers, Chartwells, came in to tell the children all about nutrition and the importance of eating a balanced and healthy diet.



#### **ROCK STEADY**

We have had 14 children sign up to take part in the Rock Steady music school following their wonderful assembly when Miss Fuller and Mr Robertson joined in!



#### **CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN**



Dean Russell, our local MP, wrote to thank a Beechfield student who had submitted a design for his Christmas card competition.

The 'Hap-pea Christmas' can be seen on the back of the MP's Christmas card along with some of the other runners-up.

Be Kind, Work Hard, Love Learning





@CTS\_Watford @Headcherrytree

#### MORE THAN A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

We would like to give a massive round of applause to the awesome parents and volunteers at Cherry Tree, who make up the Parent Teacher Association at our school!

They've been on fire this term, not only dishing out Friday treats but also nailing two amazing events. The Christmas fair was a smash hit, with loads of happy faces all around. And who could forget the three Winter discos that got our children grooving and shaking with joy!

These events are not just a great way to raise funds for the school but also bring us all together as a tight-knit community. A big high-five to everyone who lent a hand or donated their time and resources - we can see the love in our school!





#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

This half term we have really enjoyed welcoming visitors from our local community to support our RE curriculum.



These include the Watford Schools Trust who came to talk about the Christmas story with Year 2, The Three Wise Men and the importance of gifts at Christmas with Year 3, Christingles and meeting 'Chris the Christingle' in Year 4 and a Workshop on the importance of Christmas for Christians in Year 6.





We have also been fortunate to receive visits from Rabbi Aaron Goldstein from The Ark Synagogue, who delivered a whole school assembly on the festival of Hanukkah and Captain Mark Scoulding from The Salvation Army to talk abou Advent.



We are grateful to have these important volunteers to kindly share their knowledge with the children of Cherry Tree.

#### IT'S BEHIND YOU

Our Nursery and Reception children demonstrated how to get in the holiday spirit when they welcomed Chaplins, the UK's leading touring children's Pantomime company, to Cherry Tree turning our school hall into a fabulous theatre for 75 minutes of festive

fun.



From Happy Town all the way to Treasure Island itself the children were taken on a wild ride filled laughter, music and lots of booing and cheering!

This was the perfect way to start the festive season and we are grateful to parents for helping us to offer this wonderful experience to our children.

Learning together, learning for life!





@LHS\_Watford @HeadLHS

#### CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

On Wednesday, we held our annual Christmas Dinner Day, which turned out to be a great success. We wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who helped make it a memorable day.

First and foremost, a big thanks to our PTA for transforming our lunch hall with festive decor. We also appreciate Chartwells for providing delicious food, and our leadership team, including CEO James Roach and Chair of Governors Mike Dobner, for serving over 400 children and staff.

Lastly, we would like to thank our children for their outstanding behaviour throughout the day.



## YEAR 5 VISIT TO WATFORD FOOTBALL CLUB

group of our Year 5 students had the fantastic opportunity to visit Watford Football Club. The children participated in promotional filming and were given a tour of the

stadium.

week.

This



# LAURANCE HAINES FOOTBALL TEAM

Last month, Laurance Haines Football Team went to Beechfield School for their first ever football friendly. Although they didn't get the win they were hoping for, they showed great passion, sportsmanship and teamwork.



We are all so proud to have had them representing our school and values - well done team!

#### RECEPTION PANTOMIME TRIP

Our Reception class had an unforgettable experience watching Cinderella at Watford Palace Theatre. The highlight of the day was when two of our children were given the opportunity to perform a song and dance on stage with the Fairy Godmother. It was truly a day to remember. Our Year 2 class will also be going to the panto next week and we are sure they will have just as much fun!



"For a better future"