



#happychildrenlearn

#happystaffthrive

#happypeoplebuildacomunity

DEC 2024

WELCOME

As we wrap up another fantastic autumn term, I have been repeatedly reminded that at the heart of the Inclusive Multi Academy Trust lies a simple but important belief - happy children learn, happy staff thrive, and happy people build strong communities. Our children have shown real determination and character throughout the term. Their positive attitude to learning, excellent conduct in the wide variety of activities we do and support for one another creates the kind of atmosphere that makes our schools special places to be. This doesn't happen by accident, it is down to our hard working, dedicated and caring staff, whose tireless commitment, creativity and care for our children creates an environment that enables them to truly develop and succeed. The final ingredient is the backing from you, the parents and carers – thank you for your continued support and engagement which helps create the strong community we all value.

December has been a time of learning and community across our schools, exploring the Christmas story through nativities and carols. I was fortunate to join all three schools for their Christmas dinners. The Cherry Tree and Beechfield services at Christ Church & St Mark's were particularly memorable this year due to the appearance from a four legged guest star – a real life donkey! We're now looking forward to the Laurance Haines service at St Michael and All Angels on Friday. I hope you will enjoy the many festive designs throughout this newsletter. Thank you to everyone who entered. Huge congratulations to Laith who won the Trust Festive design competition. You can see his amazing picture below.

What makes our MAT community particularly special is its rich diversity. While many of our families celebrate Christmas, others observe different festivals and traditions throughout the year. This tapestry of cultures and beliefs enriches our community, teaching our children the value of understanding and respecting different perspectives. It always brings me immense pride to see how these celebrations bring us together, strengthening our community bonds.

As we look ahead to 2025, I hope everyone in our community, regardless of how you celebrate, enjoys a peaceful and restful winter break. Take time to recharge and return refreshed.

James Roach
@CEOInclusiveMAT



Tweet of the Month





@BFS_Watford @HeadBeechfield

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Key Stage One put on a fantastic performance of their Christmas production, Born in a Barn. The children worked incredibly hard to bring the story to life, showcasing wonderful acting, singing, and enthusiasm. It was a joy to see their confidence shine on stage, and they truly made us all proud.

A big thank you to the KS1 parents who attended the show and supported the children, your presence made the performance even more special.

Well done to all the children and staff involved for creating such a memorable and festive event!



CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGNS BY CREATIVE BEECHFIELD PUPILS!

What amazing and creative children we have at Beechfield!

We have had three Christmas card designs selected for this festive season! One for the Trust, one for Watford Borough Council and one for the Liberal Democrats!

On X this week: Watford Borough Council's Chairwoman, Cllr Dawn Allen-Williamson, has unveiled her Christmas greeting card, designed by two talented pupils (aged 5 and 7) from Beechfield School.

The festive design, will be shared across Hertfordshire and beyond. The card will be sent electronically to various organisations and dignitaries.

"I am very grateful to the pupils for their wonderful design." said Cllr Dawn Allen-Williamson. "There are so many talented children in our community, and I'm proud to help showcase their creativity."

"A huge shout-out to Mrs Gillian Jackson, Headteacher, for her incredible community support and inspiring community spirit!"



Congratulations also to Laith in Y1 who has won the Trust's Seasonal design competition. The design will be used in the Trust's social communications over the Festive period.

KS2 CAROL CONCERT

We had a fantastic Carol Concert this morning. Well done to all of children, staff and parents. Please look on X for more photos and video clips of the wonderful singing!



**Be Kind, Work Hard,
Love Learning**



CHERRY TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



[@CTS_Watford](#) [@headcherrytree](#)

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU AS WE WRAP UP THIS YEAR

As another fantastic year comes to a close, we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible community that makes Cherry Tree such a special place.

A huge shout out to the Salvation Army, whose kindness knows no bounds! From running our allotment to teaching our children about growth, responsibility, and the joys of working with nature—you are amazing, and we are so grateful.

To our wonderful volunteers, you are the heartbeat of our school! Whether you're nurturing our edible garden, accompanying swimming lessons, offering reading support, or helping with enrichment trips, your time and dedication create endless opportunities and memories for our children. Thank you for everything you do! Our dedicated Governors deserve a big round of applause too for their guidance and unwavering support, helping our school and pupils thrive. And where would we be without our fantastic Friends (our Parent Teacher Association)? You bring so much fun to our school community whilst raising funds for all the extras that make Cherry Tree shine.

We're also thrilled to thank everyone who supported us through the Asda Community Fund which raised £684 and for voting in the Watford Neighbourhood Grant Scheme which secured £15,995. Your generosity has helped us take a big step towards installing new outdoor play equipment that our children will enjoy for years to come.

As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child," and we couldn't be prouder of ours! At Cherry Tree, it's the many hands, hearts, and smiles that come together to support our pupils' growth and learning that make all the difference. Thank you for being such an incredible part of our school family. Here's to another amazing year ahead!

FESTIVE CHEER AT CHRISTCHURCH

A new Cherry Tree tradition began on December 18th, with Year 2 to Year 6 children walking from school to Christ Church to celebrate the festive season in a very special way.

The service featured joyful songs, thoughtful readings and a memorable encounter with a real donkey. Thank you to all the family members that joined us, fostering a sense of togetherness, community and a fabulous holiday spirit.



We hope this wonderful event marks the beginning of a new cherished tradition for our community.

COMMUNICATION AWARD

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news! Cherry Tree Primary School has received the Hertfordshire Shining Communication Award for its commitment to supporting children with speech, language, and communication needs.



Special thanks go to Sarah Wickham for her efforts with visuals and language groups, to Laura Robson, our speech therapist for her valuable insights, and to our amazing class teachers for embedding effective communication practices throughout the school. We also can't forget our wonderful Mrs Carrack, our Inclusion Leader.

We are proud to be a pilot school and will receive the award certificate in December. Congratulations to all involved! 🎉

**Learning together, learning
for life!**

[#happychildrenlearn](#) [#happystaffthrive](#) [#happyparentsbuidacommunity](#)





@LHS_Watford @HeadLHS

CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

Last 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 Aspens for providing delicious food, and our leadership team, including CEO James Roach and Chair of Governors Mike Dobner and Office Manager Kirsty Milnes, for serving over 400 children and staff.

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



ALUMNI VISITS

It has been amazing to have some of our alumni come back to school to visit our Year 6 children. The children listened to stories of life beyond LHS and our alumni inspired our children by talking about dedication and never giving up!



PLAY LEADERS



Our new play leaders have Hi-Viz jackets to wear when on the lower playground. The Hi-Viz jackets are a big hit and the Year 6 children are now more easily recognisable to our younger children. Our play leaders help model good behaviour on the playground and in the lunch hall. The younger children love seeing the play leaders around the playground

EARLY YEARS DECORATIONS

In Nursery, our youngest children have been busy making decorations. Pinecones were glued to jam jar lids and then the children were free to decorate them using paint, pom poms and glitter. We think they look fantastic!



"You see me. You hear me. I belong"

