

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

HEATHACADEMYTRUST.CO.UK

The Heath Academy Trust is a collaborative group of six primary and first schools, providing inspiring education for pupils from nursery to 11 years in East Dorset.



Credit to our professional photographer, Paul Collins, from PC Visuals who recently visited our schools in St Ives and Three Legged Cross to capture some fantastic images for us

SUCCESS STORY

Oakhurst Ofsted

We are delighted to celebrate the recent Ofsted success of Oakhurst Community First School, a fantastic achievement that reflects the hard work and commitment of pupils and staff. Congratulations to everyone involved and we look forward to seeing the school continue to flourish in the years ahead.

"The behaviour and attitudes of children are consistently positive. The school's values of 'caring, resilience, confidence and wonder' shape pupils' productive learning behaviours"

"Pupils enjoy listening to a range of stories in their daily reading sessions and understand how reading helps them to learn new things"

"Parents are overwhelmingly positive when they talk about the school. Everyone becomes part of a respectful and inclusive community from the moment they join. Pupils show a clear zest for life and learning, they attend well and feel safe"

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the Heath Academy Trust Newsletter. Once a term we will be bringing you news of the achievements, success and stories from our schools, highlighting the dedication of our pupils, staff, committee members and trustees and our wider school communities. As this academic year draws to a close we want to thank you for your continued support as we work together to provide outstanding opportunities for all our pupils.



Meet our Trustees

Our Trustees are a key part of our Trust community, helping to support and guide the direction of our schools. With experience from a range of professional backgrounds, they provide strategic leadership, robust governance, and champion the values that make our schools so special. Our Trustees help shape our long term plans, ensure resources are used effectively to benefit all children and promote educational excellence. Their oversight and support help ensure that every decision made across the Trust benefits pupils and contributes to the continued success of our schools. This is a voluntary role and we are grateful for their dedication, expertise, and commitment to helping every school within our Trust thrive and succeed.

We are always keen to hear from individuals who are passionate about education and making a difference; if you are interested in becoming a Trustee and helping to shape the future of our schools, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Trust-Wide Events

Being part of a small, local academy trust means our pupils benefit from lots of opportunities for shared experiences



MAY

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Children from all six trust schools had the opportunity to visit BSO at The Lighthouse in May.

"I learnt about the four sections of the orchestra and the different instruments in each one. I loved listening to the harp. I had never seen one before; it was massive" - pupil comment



"Visiting the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra was an awe-inspiring trip that provided the young people from across the Trust with the opportunity to experience something they may not otherwise have had the chance to enjoy. The way the orchestra involved the children in the performance was incredible - highly interactive and engaging throughout. The children absolutely loved it!" - staff comment

"Experiences like this are so valuable for our children. The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra delivered a lively, interactive performance that introduced them to a different style of music in a way that was engaging, accessible and great fun. The children thoroughly enjoyed every minute." - staff comment



JUNE

Cultural Hub

Through the Cultural Hub, pupils from Three Legged Cross and St Mary's schools recently enjoyed a performance of Crystal's Vardo by Kushti Bok, a charity that supports the rights, wellbeing and cultural recognition of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities across Dorset and the South West. The play told the story of Gypsy Roma heritage, giving children a valuable insight into an important part of local culture and history. A particular highlight was the opportunity for pupils to see a real vardo (traditional Gypsy wagon) in school.

"I think it's amazing that the children got to see a real vardo in school and learn some things about our Gypsy Roma culture." - parent comment

The Cultural Hub brings together local cultural organisations, including Brownsea Island, Dorset History Centre, Pavilion Dance South West and Poole Lighthouse which meet with participating schools every half term to share ideas and help with funding for inspiring cultural experiences and creative projects for our children.

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring all children have access to culture and the arts, we are delighted to share that from next year every school in the Trust will become a member of the Cultural Hub.

JUNE

Swimming Lessons

The outdoor swimming pool at St Ives school has been well used this year with many children participating in swimming lessons, not to mention keeping cool! Plans to extend the use of the pool to all our schools are in progress.

"It has been great to be able to ensure all children have the opportunity to learn to swim, embed correct technique and build stamina. It is fantastic that 96% of our Key Stage 2 children can swim without aids" - staff comment

"It has been a real pleasure to watch the children develop their swimming skills this term. Swimming is a vital life skill, and the progress they have made in just a few weeks has been remarkable. Their confidence in the water is growing every session, and we are excited to see what they will achieve by the end of the programme" - staff comment



JULY

Swimming Gala

Several of our schools also came together for a swimming gala in July, a really fun event which was enjoyed by all. Every child received a medal to recognise their participation in the gala and a trophy was awarded to the first place team.



School Trips

There have also been many opportunities for our children of all ages to participate in school trips both locally and further afield. To name a few, visits to Marwell Zoo, Brenscombe Outdoor Centre, Travellers Rest, Ancient Technology Centre and Fort Nelson have given the children real world experiences, whilst enhancing learning and personal development.



"I wanted to write and thank you for the wonderful week at Brenscombe. My child returned home having had the most amazing time. The fact that he lost his voice is a testament to just how much fun he had!"

The amount of work, care and time that goes into both the planning and the week itself certainly does not go unnoticed. You and your team gave up your own time, away from your own families, to provide the children with such a special and memorable experience.

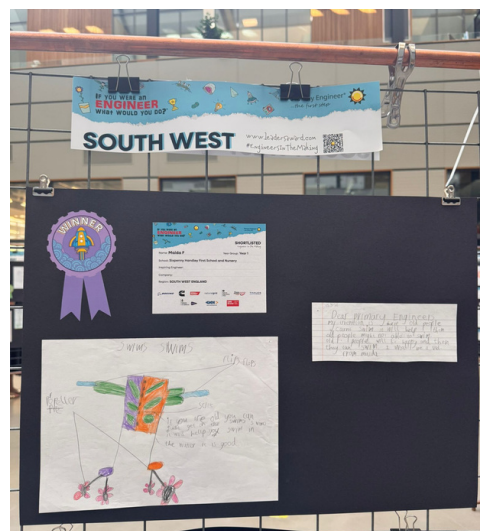
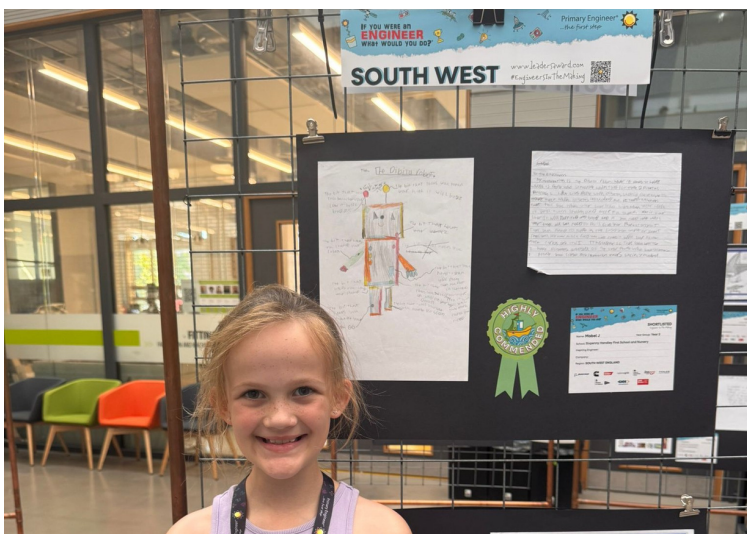
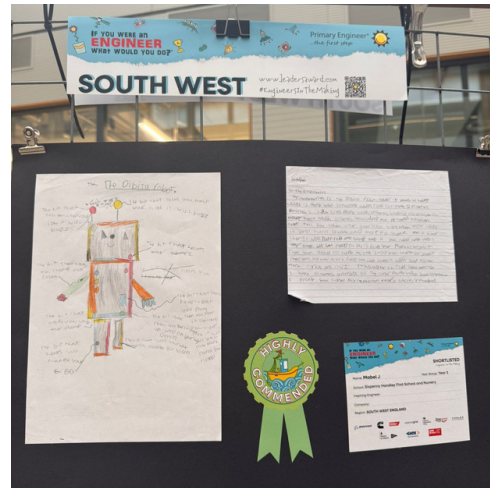
He has enthusiastically taken me through all of the wonderful activities he enjoyed, and I know these are memories that will stay with him and his classmates for many years to come" - parent comment

"Our residential trip to Springhead is amazing! We are outside most of the time, river dipping, hiking and den building. I would give it a 5 Star review! I loved all of it and was really sad when we left"- Year 4 pupil comment



Science Week

Special mention goes to children at Sixpenny Handley First School who excelled during Science Week when each child in the school entered the 'If You Were an Engineer' competition. This is a national competition that received over 70,000 entries, which were then judged regionally. Within the South West region, five of their children had their designs shortlisted for the winner's award. Congratulations to Ronnie, Bella and Oscar C, Mabel who also received a Highly Commended award, and Maida who was selected as the overall winner for her age category. We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part and are especially thrilled for those recognised for their achievements. As a result of their success, Maida and Mabel were invited to attend the awards ceremony at UWE Bristol to receive their awards!



Did You Know?

The Heath Academy Trust offers a school-led PGCE programme that provides a personalised, nurturing and fully supported route into primary teaching. Working in partnership with the University of Winchester, the programme blends real classroom experience with high-quality academic study - preparing you with confidence for the start of your teaching career.

Across our Trust of six schools, you will learn from outstanding, innovative and deeply committed teachers who are passionate about raising achievement and transforming children's lives. We welcome applicants who are enthusiastic, reflective and passionate about helping children thrive.

If you think teaching might be for you then visit our website for more information.

