



NEWSLETTER
JULY 2026

LOVE, SOCIAL JUSTICE, COMMUNITY, FLOURISH



Another year has rushed past us ...
Exams are done...
Leaving celebrations for Y11s are done
And all staff and children are tired, hot and need a break...

I just wanted to celebrate a core part of being in a Trust ...

Professional generosity

What is that ... Unconditional **Love** sharing and supporting developing relationships ...

Our ALT family is a **community**, we stand up for our children, each other and our communities.

What is professional generosity?

I have come to define it as freely sharing one's expertise or knowledge with another. It suggests a spirit of willingness, openhandedness, magnanimity, and collegiality. People who are professionally generous are benevolent, bighearted, and unselfish.

They are giving of wealth, giving of wisdom and giving of FEARLESSNESS.

We are family and whether we are older or younger siblings in this family – we **love** our **community**, stand up for each other (**Social Justice**), encourage each other, support each other to **flourish**.

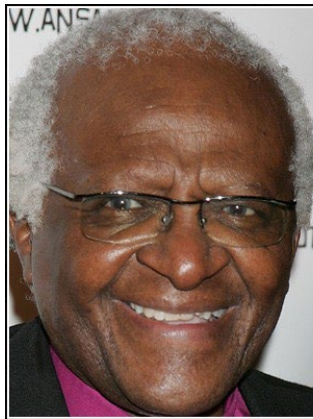
Our schools are our family we are all the ALT family, and we have a duty of care to each other... and the children and families we serve.

We need each other more than ever as we move into these complex new ways of working and dynamic policy changes ...

We are stronger together as a family... Bless you all and enjoy a well-earned break – Rest and Restore as we move into an exciting new school year.

Sending lots of Love

and all the Trust Team



No one is self-sufficient. And it's not a one-way thing- -the generosity of spirit from one side provokes a response in kind from the other side.

— Desmond Tutu —

AZ QUOTES

Until we can receive with an open heart,
we are never really giving with an open heart.
When we attach judgment to receiving help,
we knowingly or unknowingly attach
judgment to giving help.

Brené Brown



Below are updates from the Executive Team and a selection of the summer term's highlights from our schools

David Ward
Deputy CEO and Director of School Improvement

It has been a good year, working across all schools in the Trust. We have seen some great work happening, with some very good innovative practice.

The School Improvement Team have continued to work across schools carrying out several different strands of work. We have started the new Case Sampling work which has proved to be comprehensive in its outcomes. There have also been a series of different collaborative meetings, such as the SENDCo meetings, Curriculum meetings, Middle Leader training and Reading and Literacy Strategy.

We are excited about the addition of two new schools coming into the Trust from September. One of the schools is based in Sutton, Wandle Valley Academy a SEMH provision working with 80 pupils aged 5-16. The other school, Evolve Academy has two sites, one in West Norwood and the other in Kennington, SEMH and Alternative Provision with up to 160 pupils aged 5-16.

We have also been working, along with the Central HR team to develop CPD opportunities utilising the Apprenticeship Levy Funding. We have managed to put a significant number of staff onto courses, and as a result we had to find additional funding. We managed to raise £167,000 from organisations willing to "Gift Fund" from their own levy pots, these organisations included TFL, Haven and Formula 1. Next year we will be looking to develop these opportunities further by looking to such companies for additional funding.

Christopher Cann
Chief Finance Officer

Statutory External Audit

The ALT external auditors carried out the Interim Audit visit over eight days: 15 – 24 June 2026.

I am thrilled to report that our interim audit for the ALT concluded with zero recommendations or advisory notes as per table below.

Affinia – Summary of Recommendations – 30 June 2026

Area	Number of significant recommendations	Number of advisory recommendations
A review of the accounting system	0	0
Non-grant income	0	0
Payroll and personnel	0	0
Purchasing	0	0

This 'clean' outcome is an exceptional achievement. It provides absolute assurance to the Board and stakeholders that our *internal financial controls* are operating optimally, and our risk management framework is highly effective. This validates the strength of our teams' daily processes.

This puts us in a good position for the year-end audit.

Final year end audit is scheduled to take place 26-30 October 2026.

Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31 August 2026 will be presented to the Trust Board 16 December 2026.

New finance systems

The Trust has implemented a new financial system: Access Education Financials – Go Live 1 April 2026. The system is developing very well, and schools are using all functionality.

A new budgeting system is planned to be introduced 1 September 2026 at the start of 2026/2027 academic year.

Introduction of single bank account

The Trust has moved to one single bank account from 1 April 2026. All income and expenditure transactions have been successfully transferred. This has allowed the adoption of a single supplier BACS payments across all schools.

Introduction of single payroll

The Trust transitioned to one single payroll from 1 April 2026. The move has been thorough and successfully implemented.

Two new schools joining 1 September 2026

Central finance is working with Wandle Valley Academy and Evolve Academy to assimilate into the finance protocols

Lisa Parry
HR Manager

A Message of Thanks

Over recent months, we have had the opportunity to visit all of our schools and speak with a wide range of colleagues. We would like to sincerely thank everyone who took the time to share their experiences, insights and feedback. The conversations were honest, constructive and incredibly valuable.

We are pleased to share some of the key themes that emerged from these visits, along with updates on several Trust-wide priorities.

Trust Values and Culture

It was encouraging to hear that staff across the Trust feel our values are deeply embedded in daily practice. Colleagues consistently spoke about the strong child-centred approach that exists across our schools, where student's voices are listened to, valued and prioritised.

Many staff highlighted the positive culture within their schools and the commitment shown by colleagues to achieving the very best outcomes for students.

Alongside this positive feedback, some staff shared there is a clear desire for greater Trust visibility and more opportunities for engagement across schools.

What happens next?

The feedback will help shape our development plan and inform future priorities, ensuring we continue to strengthen connections across all schools and the Trust.

Collaboration Across Schools

One of the strongest messages from staff was the desire for greater collaboration between colleagues across our schools.

Many colleagues spoke positively about a previous inset day where departments worked together, shared ideas and exchanged best practice. This opportunity was frequently described as a valuable professional development experience.

Staff would welcome:

- More inter-school departmental meetings
- Increased opportunities to share expertise and resources
- Greater collaboration throughout the year, rather than solely during annual inset events

Our ambition is to continue embedding a culture of collaborative working across the Trust, where sharing best practice, supporting one another and learning together becomes a regular feature of professional life.

Apprenticeships and Staff Development

The Trust remains committed to investing in our staff and creating opportunities for career development.

Our apprenticeship programme continues to support progression pathways from teaching assistants and support roles into teaching and other education-related careers. Apprenticeships are also providing valuable development opportunities across a broad range of professional services, including administration, finance, IT, HR and Estates.

This approach helps us build capacity from within, develop talent and reduce reliance on external recruitment.

We are currently applying for further levy gifting funding to enable us to continue expanding apprenticeship opportunities across the Trust. Last year we received generous gifting from Haven and TfL and have secured funds from F1.

Apprenticeships help us:

- Grow our own workforce
- Support recruitment and retention
- Create clear progression pathways
- Invest in long-term staff development
- Enable colleagues to gain nationally recognised qualifications

Each school now has a designated Apprenticeship Link who will work closely with the Trust to help promote opportunities and support colleagues.

We will also be developing a Professional Development Calendar on the Trust website during the next academic year.

Wellbeing Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent Wellbeing Survey.

The Trust has discussed the feedback with each school and will use the findings to help shape future priorities and actions.

We strongly encourage all colleagues to participate in future surveys. Your feedback helps us to:

- Better understand staff experiences
- Identify areas for improvement
- Inform decision-making
- Develop initiatives that support staff wellbeing

Every response helps us create a positive, supportive and healthy working environment across the Trust.

Recruitment and Careers

All schools across the Trust are now using **MyNewTerm** to advertise vacancies.

Each school has its own dedicated careers page, making it easier for potential applicants to explore opportunities and learn more about working within our Trust.

The feedback on the platform has been very positive so far.

Please support us by:

- Sharing vacancies within your networks
- Promoting career opportunities across our schools
- Encouraging others to visit our careers pages

Your support helps us attract talented individuals who share our commitment to making a difference for children and young people.

Looking Ahead

We are looking forward to welcoming two new schools into the Trust from 1 September 2026.

Astrid Searle Chief Operating Officer

The focus on Health and Safety is continuing with active staff engagement and understanding of roles and responsibilities.

Will Adams Academy (WAA) and Saffron Valley Collegiate (SVC) were successful with their Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) bids. WAA for fire safety improvements and SVC for heating and distribution improvements across two of their sites. Work will commence as soon as possible.

Since Easter, WAA, SVC, Nore Academy (NA) and Estuary Academy (EAN/EAI) have been working to migrate from SIMS to Arbor as the main school MIS provider following a procurement process under one of the DfE approved frameworks. The migration follows a strict 12-week timetable. To further support the process, we have put an enhanced support contract with Cygnet IT in place for the first year. All schools are engaging well and are on track to go live from September.

Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Level 2 Gardening Award



Students at Nore Academy have achieved the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Level 2 Gardening Award, recognising our growing commitment to gardening as a valuable part of school life and learning.

This award celebrates the fantastic work taking place in our school garden, where pupils have been developing new gardening skills while enjoying the many wellbeing benefits that gardening brings. From planting and nurturing flowers to caring for vegetables and wildlife-friendly spaces, our pupils have embraced every opportunity to get their hands dirty and learn through nature.

A key part of achieving the award was demonstrating how pupil voice helps shape our gardening projects. Our young gardeners have played an active role in deciding what to grow, how to care for plants, and how to make our outdoor spaces flourish.

The RHS Level 2 Award also recognises our commitment to ensuring that gardening is accessible to everyone in our school community and marks an exciting milestone on our gardening journey.

Congratulations to all the pupils and staff who have helped make this achievement possible—we can't wait to see what grows next!



Following our success in winning the **Swale Community Leisure Vision Award** in the Education category we are incredibly proud to announce that Nore Academy and Estuary Academy Island have been shortlisted for the **National Diversity Awards 2026**.

“Huge Congratulations! We are absolutely thrilled to announce that **you have officially been shortlisted for the National Diversity Awards 2026!** Selected from over **80,000 nominations and votes**, this is a remarkable achievement and a true reflection of your unwavering commitment to championing equality, diversity and inclusion. We are in awe of your journey and incredibly proud to shine a national spotlight on your inspiring work. It is our honour to confirm that you are a **shortlisted finalist for the Community Organisation for Multi-Strand Award**.

Let us be among the first to say — well done, and best of luck on the big night!”



Being shortlisted is a testament to the dedication, passion, and hard work of our staff, learners, partners, and supporters, who strive every day to create an inclusive environment where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

We look forward to the awards ceremony and will keep our school community updated with any further news.

RNLI Visit Inspires Students to Stay Safe Around

We were delighted to welcome a local representative from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) to speak with our students about the importance of staying safe around water. The session provided invaluable life-saving knowledge, particularly relevant given our coastal location and the national context regarding young people and open water.



During the visit, students participated in an interactive workshop designed to raise awareness and build confidence when near water, with a key focus on recognising potential risks. Through practical scenarios and real-life examples, the RNLI encouraged active participation, thoughtful discussion, and informed decision-making.

This hands-on approach enabled students not only to learn essential water safety principles but also to apply them to situations they may encounter in our local community. The session was both engaging and informative, equipping students with important skills and knowledge that could one day help save lives.

To further develop our students' personal survival skills in and around water, they have been taking part in water safety sessions at Sheerness Leisure Centre. Through a range of practical activities, they have been learning how to stay safe, recognise potential hazards, and build their confidence in the water. These valuable sessions provide important life skills that will help keep our students safe both now and in the future.

First Aid Qualification

Several Year 9, 10 and 11 students completed a first aid qualification with charismatic instructor Ross, who delivered a fun and engaging course that empowered students to understand what to do in a numerous medical emergencies and scenarios. This is an invaluable qualification for our students and has equipped them to deal with situations ranging from cuts and burns to potential life-saving circumstances. The students worked incredibly hard and showed immense concentration when completing the tasks and enhancing their skills and knowledge.



Hadlow College visit

Year 9 and 10 students from Nore Academy made the trip to Hadlow College on Tuesday 30th June, to participate in an open day to inform them of their future choices once they leave school. Our wonderful guide, Lucy, took the students around the whole campus, and students saw the incredible selection of subjects and qualifications on offer, as well as the fantastic facilities. Students visited the mechanics workshop and experienced many tame and wild animals, as well as the many outdoor and vocational spaces available at the college. We hope that the visit may have inspired some of our students to consider applying to Hadlow College as an option for post-16 destinations.



Cheerleading Competition

Our Estuary Academy Island KS3 girls recently travelled to Medway Park in Gillingham to compete in a Cheerleading competition, where they proudly secured **2nd place** in their category!

Throughout the journey, the girls demonstrated incredible resilience, determination, and teamwork. It has been wonderful to watch their passion, confidence, and skills grow with every practice and performance.

Following the competition, the team has been eager to begin working on their next routine, taking all the judges' feedback on board with enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

We are so proud of them for their dedication, commitment, and hard work they have shown throughout. Congratulations to the team on this fantastic accomplishment!



Visit from Councillor Mike Whiting

Recently we welcomed Cllr Mike Whiting to Nore and Estuary Academy Island. During his visit, Cllr Whiting spent time meeting students and staff, learning more about the academy, and seeing first-hand the positive work taking place across our school community.

It was a pleasure to share our achievements, aspirations, and the unique opportunities available to our learners. Cllr Whiting thoroughly enjoyed his visit and was kind enough to share a lovely message about his experience on social media, highlighting the warm welcome he received and the excellent work being carried out at the academy.

"I want to say a huge thank you to head teacher Danielle, the staff and pupils at Nore and Estuary Academy in Halfway. I was made very welcome during my visit and was hugely impressed with everyone I met and everything I saw. What a great school, and yes, we did actually eat one of the carrots, freshly picked from the students' own kitchen garden. If you get the chance, pop along to one of their community days."

It was a reminder how far education on the island has come in the past few years. There's more to be done of course, but with two new high schools, five new specialist provision schools, a growing Sheppey College and junior college and, of course a great section of primary schools, Sheppey's young people are now being offered a much better start in life".

We would like to thank Cllr Whiting for taking the time to visit us and for his continued support of education within our local community.



Year 11 Celebration Event

This summer, we were delighted to welcome the friends and families of students from both Nore Academy and Estuary Academy to our Year 11 Celebration Event. With over 60 visitors in attendance, the event provided a wonderful opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements, resilience and growth of our Year 11 students.

The afternoon was a proud reflection of the remarkable progress made by our young people and the positive impact that high-quality alternative provision can have. It also highlighted the significant transformation in educational opportunities available on the Isle of Sheppey, ensuring that more young people can access the support, guidance and personalised pathways they need to succeed.

The success of our students is a testament to their determination, as well as the strong relationships that staff have built with students and their families. Through collaboration, trust and unwavering commitment, we have helped our young people reach this important milestone and move forward with confidence towards bright and ambitious futures. We are incredibly proud of all our Year 11 leavers and wish them every success as they embark on the next stage of their journeys.



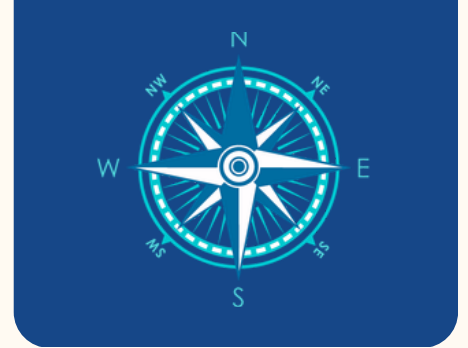
Nore Academy and Estuary Academy Island Summer Community



This event is one of the highlights of our school calendar and gives us the opportunity to celebrate our community together. It is a chance to enjoy a relaxed afternoon before many of our students begin the next exciting chapter of their education, training or employment.

Our Community Day reflects our commitment to building lasting relationships with our families. This event is our way of giving back to our families, celebrating our shared successes and bringing our school community together.

ESTUARY ACADEMY NORTH NEWSLETTER



WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO!

Enrichment Activities

Alongside their academic work, students have enjoyed a wide range of enrichment activities this term. These opportunities help build confidence, develop new interests, and create memorable experiences. Highlights have included kayaking sessions, museum visits, walking experiences, and trips to wildlife parks. Each activity has allowed students to explore new environments and learn beyond the classroom.



LEARNING

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 students for the way they have approached their exams this term.

They have shown resilience, determination, and maturity throughout what has been a challenging and important time. Their hard work, positive attitude, and commitment have been outstanding, and they should all be proud of what they have achieved. We wish them every success as they move on to the next exciting chapter, and we look forward to celebrating their accomplishments. Well done, Year 11!



Sports Interventions

Our sports intervention sessions have been a fantastic success this term, and we are incredibly proud of the progress our students have made. Through teamwork, perseverance, and positive encouragement, they have developed confidence, resilience, and self-regulation skills while enjoying being active. It has been wonderful to see them embrace new challenges, celebrate their achievements, and support one another. Their growth and determination have been inspiring, and they should all be very proud of themselves.



Our Year 10 students are excited about the opportunity to work with Mid Kent College next year as part of their carousel programme, where they will have the chance to explore a range of different subjects and develop new skills. They have been working incredibly hard to demonstrate that they are ready to embrace this exciting challenge. We are proud of their enthusiasm, commitment, and positive attitude, and we look forward to seeing them make the most of this fantastic opportunity.

Our KS3 English students have been showcasing their creativity by writing their own incredible myths and legends. Inspired by classic tales, they created imaginative heroes, fearsome creatures, and magical worlds, using vivid descriptive language and powerful storytelling techniques. It has been fantastic to see their confidence and creativity grow as they brought their unique ideas to life. We are incredibly proud of the effort, imagination, and enthusiasm they have shown throughout this exciting unit.

ESTUARY ACADEMY NORTH NEWSLETTER



WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO!

KS3 Teamwork

Our KS3 students have embraced every opportunity to learn the importance of teamwork through a range of fun and engaging games and activities. They have shown fantastic enthusiasm, developed their communication skills, and learned how to support and encourage one another. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they work together, solve challenges, and celebrate each other's successes. We are incredibly proud of the positive attitudes and team spirit they have shown throughout the term.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Reward Trip

To celebrate their outstanding effort, positive behaviour, and commitment throughout the year, our pupils with the highest number of nominations enjoyed a well-deserved reward trip to Thorpe Park.



They represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating respect, responsibility, and excellent behaviour throughout the day. It was a fantastic opportunity to recognise their achievements and celebrate all of their hard work. We hope they had an unforgettable day and are proud of everything they have accomplished.

KS3 VISIT LOCAL MUSEUM



Enrichment

Our students have enjoyed having their voices heard by voting for their preferred Friday Enrichment activities. It has been fantastic to see them taking ownership of their choices and looking forward to trying new activities. We can't wait to see them enjoy their chosen enrichment sessions next term!

Y11 GRADUATION

Our Year 11 Graduation was a wonderful way to mark the end of an important chapter. After completing their final exam, students came together to celebrate by signing each other's shirts, sharing memories, and enjoying KFC. It was a fantastic opportunity to reflect on everything they have achieved, celebrate their friendships, and wish them all the very best for the future. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and look forward to seeing what they achieve next.

SVC East's Jack Petchey Year 11 Prom



Congratulations to our award-winning year 11's Alex and Maisy who won the highly coveted Jack Petchey Award.

The Jack Petchey Award doesn't just look at top marks; it celebrates young people who show outstanding effort, kindness, and resilience. Both students were nominated by their peers and staff for going above and beyond.

Alex and Maisy were presented with their certificates by Deputy Headteacher Kate Maidment-Young at their leavers celebration on June 25th.

The celebration saw the year 11s get picked up from SVC East in a limousine, driven around in luxury before arriving at the venue.

They were greeted by their peers and teachers and enjoyed sushi, cold drinks, a popcorn machine and a huge personalised cake!

The event would not have been possible without our Jack Petchey Leader Award winner Katie Sullivan whose win came with an eligible grant.

We would like to thank Fox Limo's, our driver Bibi, and Paul at Arena music venue for hosting us. We will see our year 11s one more time for the trip to Brighton on the 15th July, again funded by Katie's Leader Award Grant.



SLT Visit to Heartwood Forest



The Senior Leadership Team took their meeting outdoors with a visit to Heartwood Forest, led by Taskforce Mental Health Lead, Alex Ramsden.

BE READY, BE RESPECTFUL, BE SAFE

As many of our students regularly visit Heartwood Forest as part of their learning and personal development experiences, the visit provided an invaluable opportunity for SLT members to gain first-hand experience of the environment and activities that our young people take part in.

The day began with a leadership meeting held in the woodland setting, offering a refreshing change from the usual meeting room environment or TEAMS. Guided by Alex, the team explored the benefits of outdoor spaces for wellbeing and positive mental health while discussing school priorities in a unique and inspiring setting.

Following the meeting, the team took part in a range of activities similar to those experienced by our students. This gave leaders the opportunity to better understand the challenges, learning opportunities and personal development benefits that these sessions can provide.

By experiencing Heartwood Forest from a student's perspective, the team gained valuable insight into how outdoor learning supports confidence, resilience, teamwork and wellbeing. The visit reinforced our commitment to ensuring that the experiences we provide are meaningful, engaging and beneficial for the young people we support.

The day was both enjoyable and informative, leaving the team with a greater appreciation of the positive impact that visits to Heartwood Forest can have on our students' wellbeing and personal development. It was a valuable opportunity to experience exactly what we ask our young people to engage with and to see first-hand the benefits these experiences can bring.



Thorpe Park

KS4 South End of Year 11 Trip



From the moment the gates opened, the mission was clear: go on as many rides as possible and hit the biggest rides first!

The day started with a collective test of nerves at **Stealth**, launching the group from 0 to 80 mph in under two seconds. While a few students admitted to closed eyes on the launch, the adrenaline rush set a high-energy tone for the rest of the afternoon. From there, it was a tour of the park's heavy-hitters: plunging 100 degrees on **SAW** and the twists and turns of **Swarm**, and getting thoroughly drenched on **Tidal Wave**. Luckily the weather was fantastic on the day, so everyone's clothes dried off in no-time at all.

Our ten students were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Despite the high excitement, the group stuck together, looked out for one another, and managed to navigate the crowded park with impressive maturity. What a great day, and huge thank you to ALL the staff involved.



BE READY, BE RESPECTFUL, BE SAFE

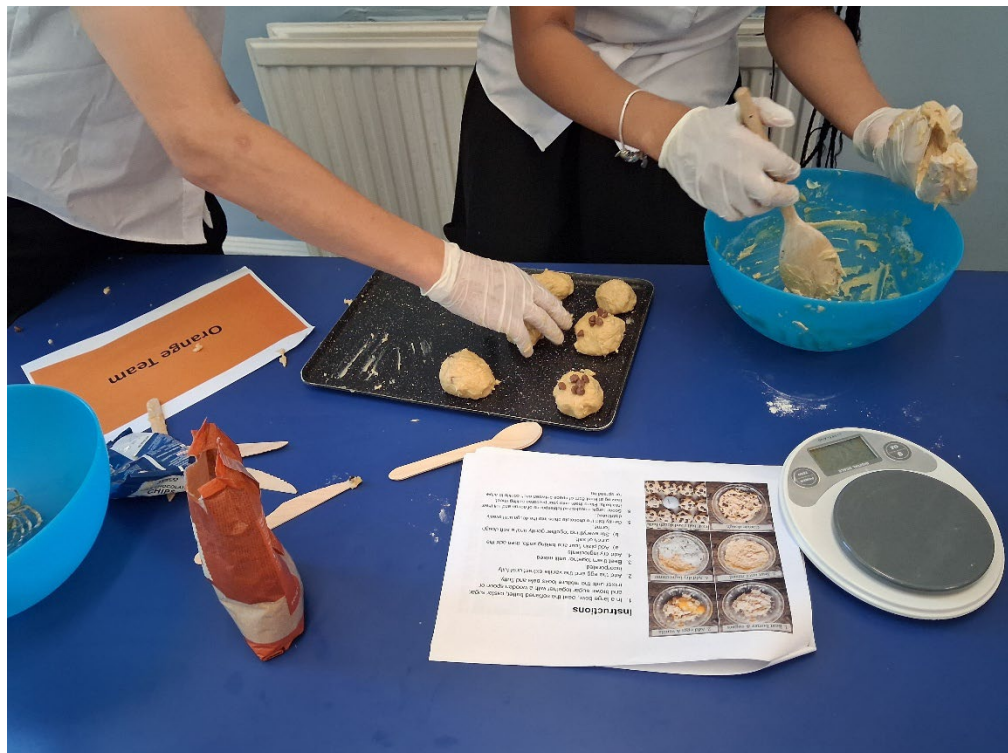
KS4 North End of Year 11 Trip

Staff and Students at KS4 North braved the hottest day of the year to go to Thorpe Park to celebrate the end of Yr11 journey at SVC. We wish all of our leavers the best of luck for their futures and we appreciated having the opportunity to make a memory with them before they left.



Cookie Donation to St Johns Church

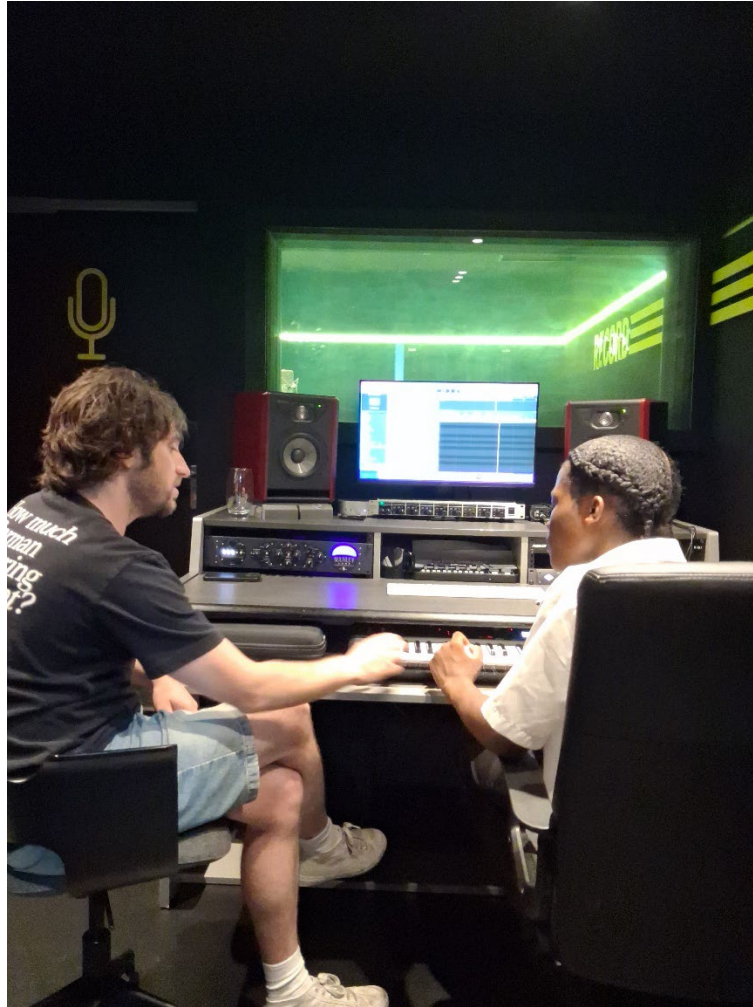
Students at KS4 North baked cookies to donate to the church to thank them for their continued support in providing our students with the opportunity to use their kitchen for cooking on a Friday and in providing work experience opportunities to students.



BE READY, BE RESPECTFUL, BE SAFE

Merky FC

Students at KS4 North have had the opportunity to learn about music production this term working with Matt at Merky FC. Students have enjoyed learning to make beats and record their own material in a music studio. Many students are now also accessing the after-school opportunities provided by Merky FC to the local community.



BE READY, BE RESPECTFUL, BE SAFE

KS3 trip to Whipsnade Zoo

On Thursday 11th June we took four KS3 students to Whipsnade Zoo as part of our Non-Fiction Media and the News topic. This trip was to consolidate their learning inside the classroom about article writing and ways in which to present your ideas and opinions. It showed them the great conservation work that the Zoo provides and why this is important to the survival of certain species. Unfortunately, it poured down! However, that did not deter the students from watching and listening to the animal talks and even meeting a new baby elephant that was four days old! Despite the weather, they were fantastic and between going bravely into the Lima enclosure, to learning about the Flamingos and giraffes, a great day was had by all.



Tall Ships

This term we took a group of students away on our annual Tall Ships trip around the Isle of Wight, the students absolutely loved every minute. They stayed on a yacht for 4 nights learning all about working at sea. They learnt about sailing, navigation and even got to drive the 72-foot yacht in the Solent. They also tried their hand at fishing and crabbing as well as doing the cooking and cleaning on board! They faced many challenges and fears through the week including climbing the 90-foot mast and hanging over the yacht in the middle of the sea. We were also greeted by a seal who followed us for some time in the water. There were many incredible sights along the way, and they especially loved the sunset on the final evening.



Sunningdale Construction Training Site Open Day Success

Sunningdale Construction Training Site continues to go from strength to strength as a specialist satellite provision for learners aged 14–16, offering valuable opportunities to gain City & Guilds Construction Skills qualifications alongside their school studies. On Wednesday 24th June, the centre proudly hosted its Open Day, welcoming a wide range of visitors including school leaders, families, and members of the local community. The event provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase the impressive progress learners have made across both theoretical knowledge and practical construction skills.



Throughout the afternoon, staff led guided tours of the site, giving visiting school leaders a first-hand insight into the high-quality facilities and curriculum on offer. These visits sparked strong interest from schools considering Sunningdale as a destination for their students in the next academic year. Students worked on their Carpentry skills to showcase their abilities and give a feel for what a normal day at Sunningdale is like.

Families of current learners were also warmly welcomed, with many taking the opportunity to see the breadth of work their young people have been completing. From hands-on construction projects to underpinning theory work, visitors were able to appreciate the dedication, discipline, and pride our learners bring to their studies. A particularly significant milestone was celebrated during the event: three Year 11 learners have successfully completed their Entry Level 3 Qualification. This marks a historic achievement, as they are the first cohort to receive formal qualifications from the centre since its opening. Their success is a testament to both their hard work and the commitment of the staff supporting them.

Looking ahead, learners are continuing to build on their skills through a range of units, including:



- Health & Safety in Construction
- Carpentry
- Bricklaying
- Painting Techniques (newly introduced)
- Introduction to the Construction Industry

The Open Day was a success and highlighted the positive impact the Sunningdale Construction Training Site is already having on students' development, confidence, and future career pathways and providing an alternative learning opportunity for students with EHCP's who thrive through hands on learning. We are incredibly proud of our learners and staff, and we look forward with excitement to the next academic year as we continue to grow, achieve, and support even more young people in reaching their potential.

Outreach – Thorpe Lakes

"I took a group of young people to Thorpe Lakes on 11th June 2026. The weather was awful. It was cold and windy, and the rain was relentless. It got so bad that we ended up getting out of the lake halfway through because nobody could warm up. The staff persevered, I bought everyone a hot chocolate, and we made the best of it.

On the drive home, I apologised to the young people. I told them I was sorry the weather hadn't been what we'd hoped for and that it probably wasn't the day they'd expected.

What happened next surprised me.

They told me I didn't need to apologise. They said they'd enjoyed the day. Not because of the weather or because of the activity, but because of the conversations, the car journey, spending time together, having a laugh, getting out and about, trying something different and simply sharing the experience.

It made me reflect. As adults, we often judge success by outcomes. We focus on whether everything went to plan. Young people don't always see it that way.

Sometimes what stays with them isn't the activity itself. It's the relationships. The feeling of belonging. The memories created. The fact that somebody made time for them. The fact that the effort and the intention were there.

Today was a reminder that connection often matters far more than perfection.

Sometimes the things we think went wrong aren't the things young people remember at all.

Ross Thompson
Strategic Safeguarding Manager

BOOST Year 11 leavers Afternoon Tea

Our Year 11 BOOST girls and their families were invited to school for a celebratory afternoon tea. It was lovely to see everyone's appreciation of our students' achievements and everyone enjoyed seeing the variety of photos of the girls engaged in activities over the years. The students were presented with leavers certificates which highlighted their individual strengths. It was a positive ending for a great group of students who The Limes College staff have enjoyed teaching and seeing them progress and develop.



Year 11 Leavers' BBQ and Presentation

We were delighted to celebrate our Year 11 students at this year's Leavers' Presentation and BBQ, marking the end of their journey at The Limes College.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was our annual video montage, which is always eagerly anticipated by students. The video took everyone down memory lane, showcasing photographs and memories from their time with us. There was plenty of laughter as students reflected on how much they have changed over the years, as well as the many activities, achievements and opportunities they have experienced during their time at The Limes College.

A particularly special part of the presentation was the awarding of the Jimmy Stevens Award, given in memory of our former student who sadly passed away several years ago. This year's award was presented to Harvey in recognition of his exceptional perseverance, resilience and determination in overcoming barriers, achieving personal growth and making positive progress throughout his time with us. Harvey should be incredibly proud of this well-deserved achievement.

Following the presentation, students, families and staff gathered in the garden for a BBQ. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to relax, catch up, share memories and wish our Year 11 leavers every success for the future.

The afternoon was a fitting celebration of all that our students have accomplished and a lovely way to bring their time at The Limes College to a close. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and look forward to hearing about their future successes. We wish all of our Year 11 leavers the very best in their next chapter.

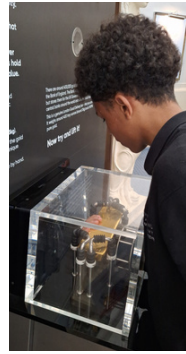


UNICEF ACCREDITATION

After months of hard work, we are now officially recognised as a UNICEF UK Silver: Rights Aware school. We are now working towards achieving the Gold Award.

BANK OF ENGLAND VISIT

Students were invited to take a tour of the Bank of England and despite London traffic and delays, students had an enjoyable trip, noting the museum as the highlight of the day.

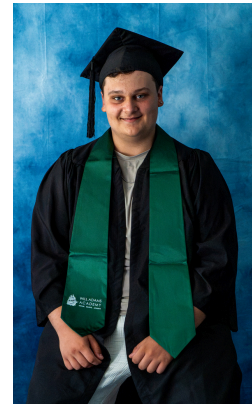
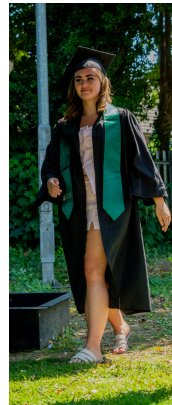


Summer

At Will
Adams

GRADUATION

Graduation was a lovely time dedicated to celebrating our Year 11s and congratulating them for all they have accomplished in the time they have spent with us, both personally and academically. We have seen these Year 11s thrive in such a new and positive way and being able to honour this in front of their family and friends was such a delight. We wish all our year 11s the very best in whatever they choose to do next!



PROM

Students had a great time at prom; dancing, jumping on the bouncy castle and spending time with staff.



MATHSMANIA TOURNAMENT

Our first Mathsmania Tournament was a huge success! We were honoured to have Rabi Atiti as one of the adjudicators for the event. All the students displayed great teamwork and resilience in all the challenges. Well done to Janis and Leo for winning first place!



COMING UP: WAA vs EAN SPORTS DAY



WILL ADAMS
ACADEMY
DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE