

# TRUST EDUCATION

THE MAGAZINE FOR BROOKE WESTON TRUST STAFF



**TRUST CELEBRATES**  
EXCELLENT EXAM RESULTS 2016



**CBA'S LIBRARIAN WINS**  
SCHOOL LIBRARIAN OF  
THE YEAR TITLE!



**COMBINED CADET  
FORCE NEWS**



**BWA TEACHER  
INTERVIEWED**

## LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

Brooke Weston Trust 



**RESIDENTIAL TO  
ALYMERTON**



**OFFICIAL OPENING**  
OF COMPASS PRIMARY  
ACADEMY



**BEANFIELD PRIMARY  
SCHOOL CELEBRATES**



**CHILDREN IN NEED**  
STUDENTS AND STAFF RAISED  
MORE THAN £5,300



**DR ANDREW CAMPBELL**  
CEO, BROOKE WESTON TRUST

## WELCOME TO THIS LATEST EDITION OF THE BROOKE WESTON TRUST NEWSLETTER

“This has been, yet again, an exceptionally busy, but rewarding term for the Brooke Weston Trust and our family of schools.

The Trust has much to look forward to with new projects in the pipeline, including a major extension to Corby Technical School that will provide state-of-the-art facilities for existing students and also for their new Sixth Form which will come into operation from September 2017. Other proposed schemes include our bids to open nurseries at both Peckover Primary and Compass Primary Schools and we are also working in conjunction with educational partners on the Red Kite Academy project to oversee the building of a new special school for Corby.

We are also proud to be a part of a new initiative, The Trust Network, which is a unique forum for sharing best practice and capital efficiencies on schools estates projects. The group is led and managed by a steering group comprising Brooke Weston Trust, Ormiston Academies Trust and

the Academies Enterprise Trust along with two members of the Education Funding Agency.

I would like to congratulate Beanfield Primary School on their recent successful Ofsted inspection in which they secured good judgements in all categories. Similarly Thomas Clarkson Academy has made great improvements to ensure that their rising trajectory continues. Thanks to all the staff at these schools for all their hard work.

This magazine details just a few of the highlights that we have cause to celebrate so far this academic year, including results days, prize givings, residentials and professional networking initiatives.

Finally I would like to thank our existing staff, both support and teaching, for their sterling

efforts in ensuring our Trust aims are met, day in and day out and I would like to welcome all our 120 new staff (including two new Associate Principals, Anne Hill and Peter Kirkbride) to the Trust this term. I hope you have long and successful careers in our family of schools. A final congratulations go to Corby Business Academy's librarian Amy McKay, who was named School Librarian of the Year in a national competition, well done Amy, that is a stunning achievement.

Happy Christmas.



*Andrew Campbell*



## COMBINED CADET FORCE NEWS

The Trust's Combined Cadet Force has had a busy few months. First it has moved premises from Corby Technical School to Corby Business Academy and then it had a range of ceremonial duties, notably the Beret Parade when it welcomed its newest recruits, followed by the Remembrance Day commemoration.

Around 60 students took part in the parade when the 22 newest recruits were presented with their berets. The Brooke Weston Trust CCF banner was paraded before cadets gave a display of drill practice. Dr Campbell inspected the cadets, which marked the formal presentation of the Royal Anglian Regiment Beret & Cap badge. Then followed the announcement of promotions and awards with trophies presented to four cadets who had excelled this year.

Cdt Daniel Johnson from Kettering Science Academy was awarded the Waterloo Shield for endeavour, the Most Improved Cadet was Cpl Natalie Bristow from Corby Technical School, Best APC Cadet was Sgt Peter Sammons from Brooke Weston Academy while LCpl Zac Cresswell also from CTS, was awarded the Best Shot award following his performance at annual camp.

The CCF cadets also marched at Corby Business Academy and laid a ceremonial wreath on Remembrance Day. The wreath was later transferred to a local war memorial as a mark of respect for those killed and affected by war.

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

Here's a brief run-down of our new/recently appointed staff. Welcome to the Brooke Weston Trust family of schools. We hope you have a long and satisfying career with us:

## Beanfield Primary School:

Kaycee Bellamy-Turner - TA Unit  
Liam Benner - KS2 teacher  
Gary Chisholm - Unit teacher  
Donna Cousin - TA mainstream  
Gemma Cushing - Assistant Principal EYFS  
Calla Hall - TA Unit  
Jade Hamblin - TA Unit  
Natalie Kelly - KS1 teacher  
Nicole Lansberry - Assistant Principal Upper KS2  
Donna Lees - TA Unit  
Kirstie Martin - TA Unit  
Kate Matthews - KS2 teacher  
Louise Norris - TA Unit  
Kara Robinson Howard - TA Unit

## Brooke Weston Academy:

Charlotte Asprey - Art teacher  
James Barnes - MFL teacher  
Roberta Graziano - MFL teacher  
Rebecca Harrington - DT teacher  
Peter Kirkbride - Associate Principal  
Wendy McCabe - Librarian  
Robert McNally - Humanities teacher  
Leaha Rae - HR  
Alishia Read - Media officer  
Kathy Saunders - Humanities teacher  
Marie-Line Stephan - MFL teacher  
Sophie Vagg - Science teacher  
Rebecca Waterson - Head of Humanities  
Dawn Willis - Head of Performing Arts

## Compass Primary Academy:

Gavin Hall - Sports Specialist  
Susi Grey - Nursery Teacher

## Corby Business Academy:

Marie-Cecile Amiot - Foreign Language Assistant  
Sylvette Amoah-Agyei - MFL teacher  
Charlotte Bean - Cover supervisor  
Emily Boyd - Art and Design teacher  
Laura Caldas-Gonzalez - Spanish teacher  
Adrianna Chmielnicka - U/Q teacher  
Elaine Cox - HR assistant  
Natasha Currie - English teacher  
Cristina Felip Aravena - MFL assistant  
Jennifer Grisley - History teacher  
Patrick Hallam - Teacher of PE  
Michele Jenkins - Attendance assistant  
Jordon Joseph - U/Q teacher  
Oliver Machon - PE teacher  
Samantha Montgomery - Cover supervisor  
Kira Ogden - Technician

Miguel Raluy Espada - Science technician  
Katrina Shone - Special Needs teacher  
Matthew Shone - Humanities teacher  
Krystle Valliere - English teacher  
Paula Ward - LSA  
Alexander Witney-Fahey - LSA  
Elaine Wood - Social studies teacher

## Corby Technical School:

Sabahat Gunenc - Catering assistant  
David Harris - Academic maths coach  
Laureen Lowe - Cover supervisor  
Yvonne Ludeks - Senior science technician  
Laura Millican - Catering manager  
Elaine O'Donovan - Catering assistant  
Tina Vines - Data and exams officer

## Gretton Primary School:

Emma Alexander - Rowan class teacher  
Rebecca Dawson - Willow Class teacher  
Molly Hill - Office apprentice  
Sarah Stride - SEN assistant  
Michelle Thacker - Cleaner  
Sue Watt - Teaching assistant

## Kettering Science Academy:

Kathryn Bancroft - English teacher  
Craig Chapman - Cleaner  
Gemma Dainty - Community Lettings  
Ceilidh Devine - Humanities teacher  
Nicole Elliot - Catering assistant  
Helen Fennon - English teacher  
Georgina Freeman - Community Lettings  
Fern Gibson - School Media Officer  
Josef Ginns - Community Lettings  
Edmund Hawkrigge - AV Technician  
Matt Jackson - English teacher  
Simon Jones - Economics teacher  
Biljana Keres - Science teacher  
Lauson Kenyon - Community Lettings  
Zelko Koncarevic - IT Tech  
Kate Massey - Science teacher  
Ayesha Mubarka - Science teacher  
Alex Old - DT teacher  
David Owen Lee - Science technician  
Kristopher Reeder - Music teacher  
Abigail Rzepka - Cover Supervisor  
Jo Shannon - Community Lettings  
Sally Shannon - Teaching Assistant  
Michael Stock - PE Teacher  
Philip Threlfall - Cover Supervisor  
Suzy Watkinson - Drama Teacher  
Armande Zeze - MFL

## Oakley Vale Primary School:

Hollee Barrowman - Apprentice Finance Assistant  
Laura Medley - Year 1 teacher  
Mandy Mutch - Year 1 teacher  
Frankie Barrington - Year 2 teacher  
Gemma Cantlow - Year 4 teacher  
Claire Johnson - Year 5 teacher  
Stephanie Cross - Year 6 teacher  
Lauren Conlon - Year 6 teacher  
Anneka Smith - Year 6 teacher  
Joyce Geldard - SEN coordinator  
Hannah Haynes - Teaching assistant  
Anna Plaminiak - Teaching assistant  
Janita Singh - Teaching assistant  
Claire Woolley - Teaching Assistant

## Peckover Primary School:

Lucy Downham - NQT teacher  
Tom Driver - NQT teacher  
Leonie Goodale - NQT teacher  
Marina Harkett - Midday supervisor  
Jade Jimson - NQT teacher  
Thelma Loveridge - Assistant cook

## Thomas Clarkson Academy:

Samantha Grinham - English teacher  
Mike Harrison - Lead teacher of maths  
Anne Hill - Principal  
Andy Hopper - School improvement partner  
Richard Scott - Vice principal  
David Simpson - Science teacher  
Daniela Stevenson - HLTA  
Mark Taylor - School Improvement Partner  
Jeff Wilson - Head of Business Studies





## RAISING ASPIRATIONS IN WISBECH

Thomas Clarkson Academy's new Principal, Anne Hill has massive aspirations for her students and is encouraging them to aim high in their studies and ambitions.

Mrs Hill said: 'Since being in post it has been a busy and interesting time. We have had an Ofsted visit, a DfE visit and both have gone well. We know that we have work to do here but actually we are beginning to see some of the systems, structures and processes that we are putting in place are paying dividends. We are getting much more positive feedback from the students saying they like the fact that we have shifted into concentrating on learning rather than just behaviour. We have had two Parent Voice meetings so far both of which have been positive. They recognise that there are changes being made and, like all parents, they just want the best for their children.'

Mrs Hill's previous experience in turning around an underperforming school informs her decision making: 'There are a lot of parallels between this school and the previous school I was at which was the most deprived school in Northamptonshire but that became a consistently good school with strong outcomes.

'That experience has enabled me to see those factors that will accelerate progress more quickly than others. To put a timeline on this school is very difficult, it is a bit too early to say but absolutely focusing on raising aspirations of students, raising their self belief and showing them the opportunities that are available outside of school are absolutely critical.

'I firmly believe that context within which a school operates is fundamentally important and we have to address issues that are specific to Thomas Clarkson Academy in Wisbech, not try and impose a one size fits all model. It was reassuring for me to have both Ofsted and the DfE say that our plans were robust and they agree with not only the plans but our priorities.'

Mrs Hill has been spending time getting to know her students and staff, as well as liaising with the local authority and MPs. In fact local MP Stephen Barclay wrote letters of congratulations to TCA's highest performing GCSE students and it is that culture of high expectation and success that Mrs Hill wants to promote: 'I have been very pleasantly surprised by our students, their general conduct and behaviour around the school is very good indeed. A huge part of what we need to do in this school is raise their aspirations. We have got a fantastic Sixth Form and we expect all our students to aspire to join the Sixth Form here and ensure that they progress to good universities.

'Wanting to do well and believing success is possible are critical ingredients in making sure that the whole school improves. It is all about looking up, success breeds success and if we can show to our younger students that you too can go to a top university from this school then that sends a really powerful message to the whole school and community; that children in this school no matter what their background, have the same opportunities to go to a good university, as any child in any school in this country. That is what it is about, making sure we provide the same opportunities to our students as anybody else.

'Education makes a huge difference to people's lives. Fundamentally our job is to make sure our students get the best opportunities.'



## A STEP UP TO HEADSHIP

Mr Peter Kirkbride, Brooke Weston's new Associate Principal, has had a whirlwind introduction to the role and is excited and enthused after just a few months in post. He has made a range of new appointments, including an entirely new Sixth Form team and Assistant Principal. He has quickly built solid relationships with the Executive Principal and other schools across the Trust.

He said: 'It has been exhilarating but a roller coaster experience. Becoming a head is a big step. I was a deputy for a good number of years so you think you know what the role entails, but when you step up to this level you realise that the buck properly stops with you!'

He credits his staff for supporting him during the transition: 'The senior team is brilliant. I have three VPs and a vacancy for a fourth. I have a really sound team and I trust them completely already. They are up for the challenge and are so full of energy and passion. Dr Campbell talks about 'building big relationships' and the phrase resonated. At Brooke Weston there are almost 200 staff and 1300 students and they all bring their own personalities, needs and expectations. You have to meet people, learn their names and really get to know them so they trust you and buy into your vision.'

One of his immediate challenges has been getting used to having a Sixth Form and assembling an entirely new leadership team for it: 'I don't come from a Sixth Form background so dealing with that was a priority but we now have a very committed and enthusiastic Sixth Form team in place and great plans to attract more students. Students, particularly the Sixth Formers, are very passionate here and much more willing to tell you how it really is! I like that as it keeps me on my toes.'

'He was attracted to the role as it offered not only the support and experience of an Executive Principal but also the opportunity to work with a range of schools in the Trust:

'Having an Executive Principal who has also been Principal and worked at Brooke Weston Academy since it started means there are no issues that she hasn't encountered and I have absolutely benefited from her experience and advice. Previously I worked for a Local Authority school that didn't really have a lot to do with neighbouring secondary schools so working as part of the Trust has been very different. We have the Principals' meetings and support with issues, such as procurement and IT so you are able to access expertise and wisdom from a range of people.'

Despite the demands of his new role Mr Kirkbride is also determined to stay in the classroom: 'I am teaching Year 13 geography A Level for just two periods a week and am really enjoying it. I don't know how common that is among heads but I am really determined to keep that going. It helps me to see the impact of the initiatives I have put in place and I love teaching.'

Having settled into the role he is now looking to ensure the Academy stays outstanding into the future: 'We do amazing things here but there is still so much potential and more we can achieve as a team. We have joined the national organisation PiXL (partners in excellence) to bring new ideas in. We are a really amazing community and it is just a buzz of activity. The staff here is incredible. I am sure that every headteacher says that but the extra mile they go to is unbelievable, both in the classroom and in extra-curricular activities. Staff care about the students and that comes across in every conversation.'

Whatever his long-term ambitions for Brooke Weston Mr Kirkbride recognises that work-life balance is essential: 'All work and no play is not a good combination, for me or my staff. It is about juggling different roles to be a good Principal, a good classroom teacher, good dad, good husband and good colleague. It is full-on but I wouldn't have it any other way. I love it!'

# NEW MEDIA OFFICERS APPOINTED

Welcome also to our new media officers, Fern Gibson and Alishia Read who will be covering school events in the green and blue school clusters respectively.

It is Fern's first job since graduating while Alishia has had extensive experience in the newspaper industry.

Alishia said: 'I have generally worked in media, sales, advertising and PR although I also had my own business teaching baby massage and children's yoga so I have a varied skill set!'

Fern's degree is in media and communications. She said: 'As part of my work experience I had a placement at University College Birmingham writing stories and profiles on the students and their achievements so I really like working in an educational environment. I like seeing the differences between our schools. I hope I bring a fresh perspective and every day is so different so it is never boring.'



## TRUST CELEBRATES EXCELLENT EXAM RESULTS 2016

### A LEVELS:

Students from across the Brooke Weston Trust secured excellent A Level exam results with many going on to top universities. Thomas Clarkson Academy, Corby Business Academy and Kettering Science Academies all recorded significant improvements on last year's results.

#### Thomas Clarkson Academy

At Thomas Clarkson Academy there were massive leaps in both the A2 and AS figures with those scoring A\* - B grades at A2 increasing to 81% from last year's 57% and the AS results jumping to 87% (from 66%) for those achieving A\* - E grades.

#### Corby Business Academy

Corby Business Academy marked a 25% improvement in its success rate over last year with hikes in grades across all subjects, particularly chemistry, physics, maths, English and media.

#### Kettering Science Academy

The majority of students at Kettering Science Academy achieved or exceeded their targets with the number gaining 3 A\* - B grades trebling this year and 60% securing results up to at least a B grade. Special mention must go to Kettering Science Academy's trio who will be studying medicine. Head boy, Dylan Birk has gone to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, Connor Beadsworth is studying at Manchester while Arash Ganji is at the University of Exeter.

#### Brooke Weston Academy

At Brooke Weston Academy 55% of all entries were at A\*/A/B and 83% of grades were at A\* - C. Over 80% of the Year 13 cohort went to university with the remainder opting for professional or vocational apprenticeships.







## GCSE RESULTS:

There were further improvements in results across the Trust this year with all three of our sponsor academies bucking the national trend by making gains in maths and English this year.

At Thomas Clarkson Academy more students gained five A\* to C graded GCSEs including maths and English than last year while at Kettering Science Academy the figures leaped by more than 10% in a year with 56% of students hitting the benchmark figure.

At Corby Business Academy the level rose to 58% of students while 77% of those at Brooke Weston achieved the same criteria. Also nearly a quarter of all examinations at Brooke Weston scored top marks of A, A\* or Distinction.

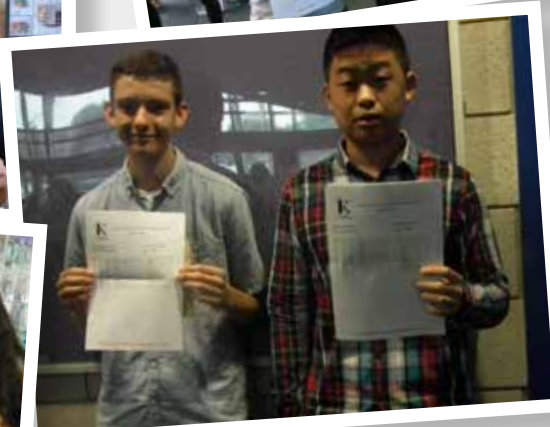
Levels of progress at Corby Business Academy, Kettering Science Academy and Thomas Clarkson Academy have all risen.

An impressive 80% of English students at Corby Business Academy made three levels of progress and more than 40% improved by four levels.

Kettering Science Academy's progress in English exceeded national expectations while their significant rise for maths brought them in line with national levels of performance. They also surpassed the county average for GCSEs and progress.

At Thomas Clarkson Academy 77% of students made the expected level of progress in English while 52% hit the target for maths with 45% of the cohort achieving the government's newly introduced measure of two A-C grades in English and maths.

Dr Andrew Campbell said: 'These results show a rising trend in improvement that our newer academies have worked hard to achieve while our founding school, Brooke Weston, has maintained its traditional high level of attainment. These results encompass our Trust aims of high expectations and ambition for all. The challenge now is to close the gap for disadvantaged students and achieve positive progress scores.'





## PRIZE GIVING AT BROOKE WESTON ACADEMY

Intrepid explorer and adventurer George Bullard was the guest of honour at Brooke Weston's Prize Giving where he spoke about his latest adventure, kayaking thousands of miles from Greenland to Scotland.

He and fellow explorer Ollie Hicks paddled 1500 miles from Greenland and ended up 66 days later on the beach at Balnakiel Bay in the north of Scotland. They travelled via Iceland and the Faroes and navigated the dreaded Devil's Dancefloor before becoming marooned on North Rona for a week, surviving on rainwater and wildlife including limpets and sea birds.

He said: 'I am nothing more than a guy who has been lucky enough to visit some of the most beautiful parts of our planet.'



## BEANFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES GOOD OFSTED GRADING

Beanfield Primary School celebrated its recent 'good' judgement by Ofsted by getting the students to put on a performance of 'Happy' in the school playground and inviting parents in for an afternoon of celebration.

The school achieved 'good' judgements in all five categories. Key findings said that 'the dedicated Principal, supported by a committed leadership team, has secured significant improvements.' Ofsted noted that the quality of teaching is 'typically good' with pupils making 'good progress.' Governors were praised for their knowledge of, and commitment to, the school and parents are 'appreciative' of its work.

'Strong leadership' has enhanced the quality of teaching and 'leaders set high expectations ... Planning is sharply focused on improving teaching and pupils' progress.' They also 'promote equality of opportunity and 'make good use of pupil premium funding to promote the care, well-being and progress of disadvantaged pupils.' The report said that leaders 'are taking quick and effective action to tackle issues and address underperformance.'

Teachers 'display good subject knowledge' and 'provide a range of different approaches to learning and plan work that is well matched to pupils' abilities.' They also provide activities that 'require pupils to work harder.' Middle leaders played a 'valuable, hands-on role in supporting teachers and other adults' and 'the quality of teaching has improved since the last inspection.' Teachers valued the professional development they received and NQTs 'appreciate the support they are given.'

Principal Leyton Smith said: 'We are absolutely delighted with this grading by Ofsted. It reflects the hard work and commitment that has gone on at all levels over the past couple of years to take us from a school that 'requires improvement' to one that achieved good judgements across the board. We are very proud and look forward to building on this success.'



## CORBY BUSINESS ACADEMY'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Athlete Claire Lomas was guest of honour at this year's Achievement Awards at Corby Business Academy. She gave an inspirational speech about the amazing sporting challenges she has completed since being paralysed from the chest down in a freak riding accident. Claire completed the London Marathon in 17 days, lit the London 2012 Paralympic cauldron, finished the Great North Run and rides motorbikes at speeds of up to 90mph. She has also raised over £500,000 for spinal injury research.

She said: 'If I had to name the best five times of my life they would all come after my accident; meeting my husband, having my daughter, the challenges I have done and some of the schools I have been to, everything really that I have done since then. When things feel tough don't give in, keep going and persevere.'



# LOCAL MP SENDS EXAM CONGRATULATIONS

High achieving Sixth Formers at Thomas Clarkson Academy have been presented with congratulatory notes from local MP Stephen Barclay following their exceptional GCSE exam results this summer. Mr Barclay asked for the names of the top performing students and he wrote each of them a personalised letter congratulating them on their hard work and giving them encouragement for their future studies. Principal Mrs Hill presented the students with their letters, typed on official House of Commons stationery and told the students how proud she was of their endeavours. Between them the ten students achieved a staggering 14 A\*, 35 A and

35 B graded GCSEs and 7 Distinction \*s and they are all in the Sixth Form at Thomas Clarkson academy, many working towards four A Levels and all aiming for places at top level universities. Congratulations to Connor Atkins, Alicia Baghdouyan, Naomi Baxter, Courtney Beckett, Charlotte Cameron, Susan Farg, Lola Lynn, Luran Seekings, Harry Spriggs and Livvi Williams. Head Girl Charlotte said: 'We are all very grateful that Mr Barclay took time out of his busy schedule to get in touch. It was amazing to receive these letters and they are much appreciated by all of us.'

## OFFICIAL OPENING OF COMPASS PRIMARY ACADEMY

At the start of the autumn term the Mayor of Kettering officially opened Compass Primary Academy, marking the start of its identity as a separate school with a new governing body, name, logo and uniform. Cllr Scott Edwards welcomed parents and performed a ribbon-cutting ceremony in front of a large crowd of parents and students, alongside Principal Jo Fallowell and interim Chair of Governors Phil Harris-Bridge.

Cllr Edwards said: 'This is the first school that I have opened. The Principal has got great plans for Compass Primary Academy and it is fantastic to see such an inspirational leader. This school is fresh, inviting and you can see a lot of work and dedication has been put into it.'







## CBA'S LIBRARIAN WINS SCHOOL LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR TITLE!

Congratulations to Corby Business Academy's amazing librarian, Amy McKay, who has been named School Librarian of the Year 2016!

Amy beat off competition from four other candidates to scoop the top national title awarded by The School Library Association. She was presented with her award by multi-award winning author Kim Slater at an award ceremony in London.

Amy runs a huge range of activities and the SLA highlighted many exciting ones including home-made reward scratch cards, staff/student battles of the books, barbecues, sleepovers, trips to comic-con events and even zombie apocalypses!

As well as being full time librarian Amy also co-ordinates the prestigious Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards.

Ginette Doyle, Chair of the SLA School

Librarian of the Year Selection Committee, said: 'Amy injects fun into her activities, whether to promote reading for pleasure or to demonstrate study skills. Her library is vibrant, colourful and full of displays promoting books, authors and reading. Passionate about her work she is a kind and caring individual who has an impact on the lives of her students: she is a very worthy winner of the 2016 award.'

## WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL DIRECT TRAINEES

Welcome to this year's cohort of secondary trainees who are just starting their placements on the School Direct programme. The year-long course combines university study and school experience and successful candidates will be awarded a PGCE qualification next summer.

The trainees, specialising in English, maths, science, French and history, are a mix of recent undergraduates and those who have had jobs in other sectors but who want a career change to teaching.

Rachel Johnson, Frankie Macleod and Rebecca Liquorish are specialising in English. Victoria Leonard will be working in Modern Foreign Languages and Lewis Holdcroft is in Humanities. Hari Mistry is in the Maths department while Hannah Sneddon will be teaching chemistry.

They are currently based at Brooke Weston for their first placement and they will take up their second placements in other Trust schools in the new year.

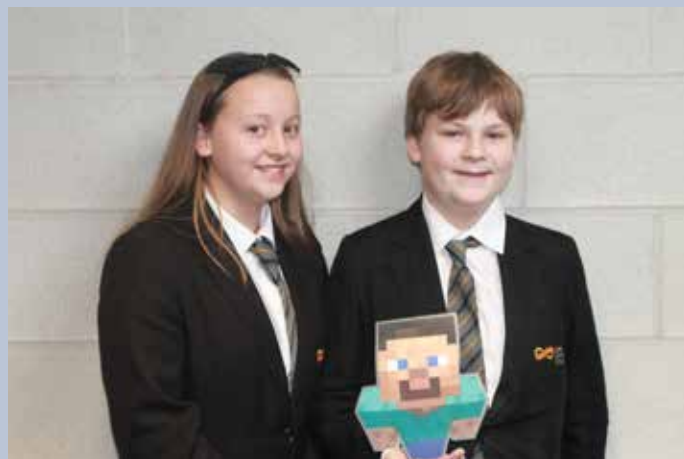


# USING MINECRAFT IN SCHOOLS

## BWA TEACHER INTERVIEWED BY NATIONAL MEDIA

Mr Ray Chambers, a computer science teacher at Brooke Weston Academy, has been interviewed by national media about the imminent release of an educational version of Minecraft.

The game, which allows users to construct virtual structures, is already popular with students but the new release is specifically aimed at school use. Mr Chambers was quoted in the Sunday Times. He along with students from Brooke Weston Academy was filmed for BBC Click earlier this year and he has also written a book on Minecraft for teachers, complete with activities, lesson plans and Powerpoints that is due for release in February.



## CTS STUDENTS RECREATE SCHOOL IN MINECRAFT

Two Year 9 students from Corby Technical School have built an accurate Minecraft model of the school building. Nathaniel Tew and Courtney Daniels used the program, which allows users to build using 3D blocks, to create a digital representation of the school, gathering data from real life research and photographs.

It took two weeks to complete and they then created a YouTube video of their work.

Computer teacher Mr Arron Gourlay said 'The great thing is they have used a tool, which is considered to be a toy, to create something technically and architecturally correct. It is impressive how they have used the platform to create this vision.'

## NEW 3D PRINTERS FOR CORBY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

RS Components donated two state-of-the-art 3D printers to Corby Technical School allowing students increased access to technology. The printers will be used to develop Key Stage 3 understanding of new technologies and how CAD/CAM can be used to design and develop products.

David Harley, teacher of design and technology said 'In addition to the support for Key Stage 3 learning, at Key Stage 4, students are using the 3D printers to make components for the practical element of their controlled assessment in both GCSE Engineering & Product Design.

'If they can draw something using CAD software they can then create it with the 3D Printer - this is the reality of 3D printing. Our students will develop their designs in the same way they are developed and realised in industry, this will increase their confidence and develop their design and engineering skill set. Both the school and the students are very grateful to RS for the very kind donation.'

Andrew Shorley from RS Components said 'We have donated a number of 3D printers to schools in Corby to support innovation in education around technology subjects and help inspire tomorrow's engineers. We hope that these kinds of donations will go some way to helping address the shortage of young people entering the industry.'



The school and the students are very grateful to RS for the very kind donation.



## TRUST SCHOOLS BEGIN NAHT ASPIRE PROGRAMME

Principals from across the Trust Schools met for the first phase of the NAHT Aspire Programme, an initiative to drive up performance in schools. The scheme develops key aspects of school life and achievement, particularly across multi-academy trusts, helping them to share best practice and achieve measurable impact.

Ian Rawstorne from Edison Learning, said: 'We look at schools through the Aspire model which has features of highly effective schools to see how well the schools have got these features in place. From that, across the Trust, we see if there are any common development areas and that becomes the focus.'

'As well as leadership the model has other strands; pedagogy, curriculum and assessment for learning. We will have a similar day to this with key leads from all the schools and another one on learning environment and student support. It is a wrap-around approach for schools.'



## TEACHING LEADERS PROGRAMME

16 teachers from across the Trust's schools successfully secured places on the nationally accredited Teaching Leaders Fellows programme. The two-year course is aimed at further developing high potential middle leaders. It is delivered by experienced educational facilitators, and stretches and supports participants to become leaders in the future and improve education outcomes for students.

The Trust secondary practitioners are Rebecca Clark, Roisin Fernando and Matthew Rodger from Brooke Weston Academy, Charlotte Knight and Rebecca Horridge from Corby Business Academy along with Angela Charlton, Rachael Davies and Grace Smith from Kettering Science Academy and Deborah Simpson and Trevor Jones from Thomas Clarkson Academy.

Those from the primary sector are Gemma Carey, Charlotte Johnson and Charlotte Evans from Beanfield, Michael Knight and Hannah Tibbs from Compass and Andy Buffham from Peckover Primary School.







## TRUST LAUNCHES A 'LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN' FORUM

Staff from across the Trust schools took part in a seminar to look at the needs of, and provision for, Looked After Children. The training was delivered by members of the Local Authority's Virtual School team.

Trust Education Welfare Officer Martine Boyd said: 'One of the most important things is to ensure we are using Pupil Premium Plus funds to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Looked After Children are one of the most vulnerable identified groups and it is essential to raise their attainment and address inequalities.'



## BWT HOSTS COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE FORUM

Delegates from across Corby came to Brooke Weston Academy for the inaugural meeting of a support group specifically for attendance personnel and education welfare officers. The Community Attendance Forum aims to meet three times a year and it is a way of attendance personnel sharing strategies and keeping up to date with legislation with the aim of maintaining and raising attendance levels.

## EXPANSION OF CORBY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Work is well underway on the new £6.8m project at Corby Technical School that will double the number of its students along with the size of its accommodation.

The 3,308 sq.m. two-storey extension comprises extra classrooms, a drama studio, lecture theatre, media studies and music department including practice rooms plus provision for the new Sixth Form which starts next September.

Currently the school has a Year 7 intake of 75, which will double to 150 when the new build, including expansion of the car park and alteration of existing classrooms, is complete. The school, which is oversubscribed, was earmarked for expansion by Northamptonshire County Council, which is funding the scheme.

So far the build has involved the removal of 11,000 cubic metres of soil, the pouring of foundations, drainage installation and now the steel framework is being put into place.

Mr Matt Isherwood, Director of Estates for the Brooke Weston Trust, said: 'We are delighted to be working with contractors Wates and consultancy services Pick Everards on this build which will dramatically enhance Corby Technical School's facilities. Once the new building is handed over we will remodel parts of the existing school to provide dedicated science and art classrooms, extensions to the special projects workshop and specialist CAD facilities.'



# THE TRUST NETWORK

Brooke Weston Trust is delighted to be a part of The Trust Network, a unique forum for sharing best practice and driving capital efficiency on school estates projects.

The network was set up by the Ormiston Academies Trust. They, along with the Academies Enterprise Trust and the Brooke Weston Trust, plus two Education Funding Agency officials, have formed a Steering Group. The Trust Network now has 87 members representing 1,152 schools nationwide who benefit from sharing ideas and advice on issues including procurement, building lifecycle modelling, technical and ICT support.

The Trust Network aims to ensure that all independently run state-funded trusts have a clear strategy for estates management and the opportunity to share best practice. As well as being an important forum for learning, the group hopes to become a means for its members to communicate with the Department for Education and Education Funding Agency on these issues.

Mr Matt Isherwood, Director of Estates for the Brooke Weston Trust, said: 'The Trust Network will open up new opportunities for inter-MAT collaboration; the development of efficient systems to manage the education property portfolio in partnership with EFA and fellow MATs will be critical as the educational landscape responds to the challenges of increasing autonomy and accountability. It is an exciting time for the sector and Brooke Weston Trust is delighted to be involved with our MAT partners.'



Thanks to our generous students and staff more than £5,300 was raised for Children in Need by schools across the Trust. Most had non-uniform days with students wearing spotty clothes with Oakley Vale Primary, Beanfield Primary, Compass Primary and Gretton Primary all going dotty potty! At Peckover Primary School students dressed as mad scientists and took part in science challenges. They also had a 'Bake-off Friday' where each class made the same recipe with the results judged on taste, appearance and overall artistic effect!

Corby Technical School and Kettering Science Academy students were in mufti and KSA's Sixth Formers organised activities including a cake sale, tombola and lucky dip.

Thomas Clarkson Academy devoted the whole afternoon to Children in Need with the Year 7s and 8s having a 'cinema experience' while the Sixth Formers acted as ushers making and serving refreshments.

Other year groups at TCA did craft, sports and special 'Pudsey's Den' presentations. Corby Business Academy will be holding a Christmas jumper day on the last day of this term with proceeds due to be donated to Children in Need while Brooke Weston staff and students have already taken part in a mufti day earlier this term to raise hundreds of pounds for Cardiac Risk in the Young.

Here's the Children in Need totals from our schools ...

**Beanfield Primary £522.14**

**Compass Primary - £415**

**Corby Technical School - £446.44**

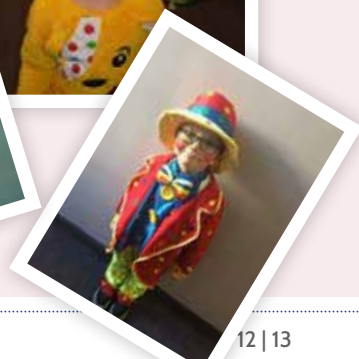
**Gretton Primary School - £240. Special mention must be made of Isabelle who raised £160 on her cake stall. She even baked all the cakes herself!**

**KSA - £1,705**

**Oakley Vale - £211.85**

**Peckover Primary School - £255**

**Thomas Clarkson - £1413.40**







### PECKOVER'S YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TO ALYMERTON

Year 6 students from Peckover Primary School enjoyed lots of activities including a monster trail, pirate activities and spooky story telling on a fantastic four-day residential trip. A total of 47 students and four staff members went on the action-packed trip to Aymerton Field Study Centre near the north Norfolk coast.

### BEANFIELD'S ADVENTURES AT CROOKSTONE BARN

A total of 16 Year 5 students from Beanfield Primary School took part in a residential to Crookstone Barn in Derbyshire, funded by the school and Crookstone Adventure Trust. The students stayed for five days where they were completely self-sufficient and responsible for all chores, including the cooking and toilet cleaning! On their return they had a presentation evening when they were awarded with certificates and their parents could hear all about their adventures.



### GRETTON RESIDENTIAL

Students attended an action packed residential taking part in activities including quad biking, raft building, canoeing, kayaking and rock climbing. Each day students took part in four activities including raft building using barrels, ropes and logs. Students participated in 14 different activities over the course of the week at PGL in Shrewsbury.

Year 6 teacher, Miss Phillips said 'It was such a memorable experience and I don't think they will ever forget it. All the children have tried something different and have grown in confidence.'



## STUDENTS ENJOYED ACTION-PACKED BORNEO TRIP

Taking part in a jungle camp and learning to dive were just a couple of the highlights of this year's Brooke Weston Academy's expedition to Borneo. A handful of intrepid students made the month-long trip which had been two years in the planning.

They learned junglecraft skills then climbed Mount Kinabalu, which was an 8km trek to the summit. They also constructed a wire mesh fence as part of their community project before learning how to scuba dive in the TAR islands, gaining their PADI Open Water certificates.

They were accompanied by teacher Mrs Strydom and a representative from Outlook Expedition.



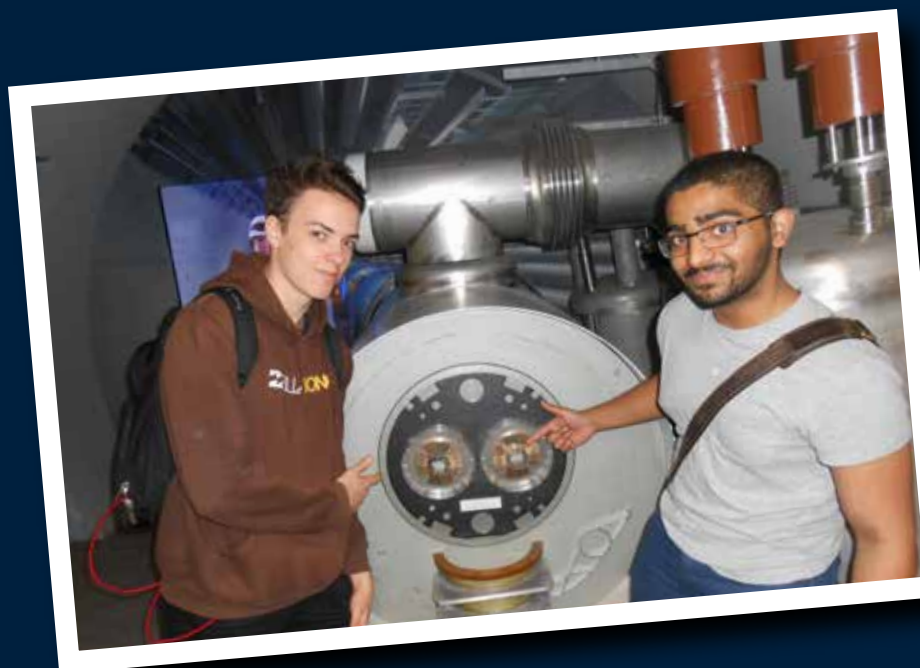
## SCIENTIFIC VISITS

Students from across the Trust schools have seen practical science first hand with trips to top universities and the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

Year 10 and 11 scientists from Thomas Clarkson Academy visited the Cavendish Laboratory, the home of Cambridge University's physics department for a special 'Physics at Work' event where they carried out lots of practical experiments. They were given a guided tour and introduced to some of the groundbreaking work and research that has taken place there.

Head of Physics Mr Cobby said: 'This was a great opportunity for our students to see one of the great scientific institutions in the UK. They did all sorts of other activities such as seeing dynamite being blown up in slow motion using one of the fastest cameras on the planet.'

Brooke Weston students visited the world famous experiments at CERN and spoke to scientists that work there. The trip covered sites in both Switzerland and France as experiments at CERN run across both countries with the Large Hadron Collider spanning a 27km circumference across the border. Students also had free time to explore Geneva's shops, museums and restaurants, as well as the headquarters of the International Red Cross.



## BEANFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY

The whole school did Challenge 382 where they dressed in mufti and took part in amazing maths challenges finding out different ways to make 382. They also drew out the number 382 and put the donated money inside, raising more than £500 that will go towards Lakelands hospice.

A group of Year 5 students had a great week-long stay at Crookstone Barn in the Peak District. They did lots of different challenges including a survival challenge as well as walks around LadbyBower reservoir and the Derwent Dam. Also they did archery, cookery and completed brilliant sketches of the barn.

Year 4 students enjoyed Roman Design and Technology day when they made mosaics, a horse and chariot and a roman catapult using lollipop sticks and elastic bands.

To celebrate Remembrance Day, the Corby branch of the Royal British Legion invited local primary schools to create posters for this year's Poppy Appeal, with the winning design being produced as a postcard.

The artists who submitted the five best entries from each school were invited to attend an awards ceremony hosted by Mayor Julie Riley. From the 15 finalists Beanfield Primary School had two winners, Eleanor Vanstone from Year 6, who came third and runner up Finley Duff from Year 3.



Beanfield  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



## BROOKE WESTON ACADEMY

Brooke Weston computer science teacher Ray Chambers has been named as one of four UK teachers to be included in the top 50 shortlist for the Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Prize 2017. Now in its third year, the US \$1 million award is the largest prize of its kind. The Global Teacher Prize was set up to recognise one exceptional teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession as well as to shine a spotlight on the important role teachers play in society.

Drama students from Year 9 entertained students at Beanfield and Gretton primary schools with a shortened version of the story 'A Christmas Carol'.

It was the first time that the Year 9 students had ever performed to a live audience. Drama teacher Miss Kerr said 'It was lovely to be

able to share our work with children from schools within the Brooke Weston Trust and to see the younger children enjoying the play so much.'

Year 9 students at Brooke Weston took on practical challenges including building bridges out of paper and level crossings from Lego during a STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) day run as part of Tomorrow's Engineers Week.

Brooke Weston is working together with education charity Future First to build a network of former students. Engaging an Alumni Network helps to stay in touch with former students, and can be of mutual benefit in supporting with careers, work experience and fund raising.

## COMPASS PRIMARY ACADEMY

Compass Primary Academy students and their families walked nearly 1.5 million steps as part of a health challenge organised by Northants County Council. Teacher Rebecca Walker asked students, and their families, to calculate their steps from their weekend walks. There was a great response from 36 families who clocked up an amazing 1,440,245 steps between them. The data about the participants, year groups and total steps walked was used in maths and statistics lessons.







## Corby Business Academy

## CORBY BUSINESS ACADEMY

Corby Business Academy updated their Open Evening this year with interactive activities and workshops.

Senior Assistant Principal Mrs Alice Beckwith said 'The idea for this year was to get the children involved and engaged in what they saw. For instance, in the Science department they held an event called 'Whizz bang, pop' and did lots of experiments such as dissecting an animal's lung. There were drama workshops, pottery demonstrations,

baking, garment making, open music rehearsals and the Media department photo shopped pictures. The feedback was very positive.'

Three Corby Business Academy students, Louie and Evie Anderson and Joshua Gilding performed at the Royal Albert Hall in London as part of Youth Brass 2000. CBA Director of Music, Mr Clive Wears took 30 students along to watch the Music For Youth Proms performance in November.

## CORBY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Corby Technical School raised awareness of mental health issues in a special week with a whole range of activities including visits from the county's mental health campaign team. Students took part in assemblies, yoga, discussion groups and positive strategies from the school nurse including a positivity jar, healthy diet, sleep and exercise.

CTS teachers Linda Arnold and Elizabeth James have launched a series of coffee morning targeted at parents and guardians to increase parental involvement with the school. The first was held in November and there will be two per term.

Year 10 student Iulia Petre has been selected for the GB Archery training camp and is hoping to take part in the Tokyo Olympics. She trains every day and is currently using the school's sports field as the one belonging to her club isn't long enough!

Well done to Year 11 student Zac Cresswell who has been selected for the U16's East Midlands Saints Rugby DPP (Development Player Programme) squad for 2016/17.

He said 'I love rugby as it is so full on and we all help and rely on one another. My dream is to be a professional rugby player or join the Army.'



## GRETTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



The term started off with lots of sports activities including a fun skipping workshop which all of the children (and some teachers!) took part in. It finished with a special assembly where some of the children showed off their new skills.

Three students Libby, Ethan and Jake M went to East Carlton Park to compete in an orienteering competition, answering questions which were hidden around the course and they managed to complete the challenge in just over an hour.

Students raised nearly £400 for Macmillan by holding a coffee morning. A total of 28

of them helped to organise the event, along with Miss Dawson who said: 'We decided to get the students involved in this way to boost their responsibility preparing them to enter Key Stage 2. They did a brilliant job of everything.'

Gretton students enjoyed their time at Peckover Primary School when they took part in a series of challenges to win the Primary Maths Challenge. They, along with other schools in the Trust, did a 'Bake Off' challenge as well as designing and making a cake stand and taking part in outside maths challenges.

## KETTERING SCIENCE ACADEMY

Congratulations to Joe Smallman and Hannah Winstone who have been voted Head Boy and Head Girl this year. Both attended the Sixth Form Open Evening in November to talk to students about life at KSA.

This PE department has set up a KSA Sports League in the girls' Friday games lesson to promote healthy competition and improve cooperation and resilience. Teacher Dawn Ferguson said 'The Sports League has been a fantastic success. We have seen a increase in skill level, tactical awareness and teamwork, not to mention participation and, above all, enjoyment.'

Year 10 students studying Art and Design Technology visited the Victoria and Albert museum to gain inspiration for their coursework projects including 'an Urban Grunge style bomber jacket with a Chanel twist' a 16th century inspired dress and hand embroidered and beaded textiles.

KSA is planning to take students on a ski trip to Austria in February half term when they will learn to ski and enjoy a range of activities in the Zillertal Valley. PE teacher Mr Feely said 'The students who went on the trip last year all enjoyed the experience and learnt some valuable skills along the way.'



## OAKLEY VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

As part of a school project a Year 6 student was lucky enough to be selected to research, order equipment and visit a local pet shop with Mrs McDonald and Miss Goodwin, to choose two guinea pigs as new school pets.

Once they were chosen and introduced to the children, it was time to vote on their names. In the selection were Salt and Pepper, Oakley and Vale and Fizz and Pop, but favourites Bubble and Squeak, were chosen by the majority of students.

The Year 5 and 6 girls' football team saw success in their first ever tournament at Kingswood Secondary Academy in Corby. With more than 10 teams competing the girls came third overall, winning one and drawing two of their games. PE coordinator Polly Murdock said 'The girls all demonstrated real team spirit, as well as determination. After winning the first game it really motivated them to go on and defend hard. They all worked hard and displayed aspects of their training in game play!'

Students from Year 3 visited the Northampton Shoe Museum as part of their 'Step into My Shoes' topic. The museum is home to the largest historical shoe collection in the world and features more than 12,000 shoes. One Year 3 student said 'My favourite part was holding the shoes. We held one that was long like a carrot! It was long because the more money you had the longer the shoe was!'

Students in Reception invited parents into the classroom for a superheroes themed afternoon and they dressed up as their favourite characters. The parents joined in making superhero masks, building a tower for maths and completing an obstacle course.

Our students got into the festive spirit and chose presents for their parents and carers. For a £3 contribution students could choose from a range of gifts that was set up in a room like a shop. They then wrapped the presents and wrote the labels, all ready for Christmas.



## PECKOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

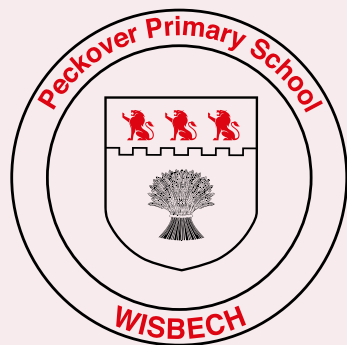
Peckover Primary School welcomed 70 parents to their latest Reading Café. Their aim is to help parents understand how to bring stories to life and talk about books in greater depth. Teachers model the technique by reading a book to the children and their parents and then exploring the characters, themes and ideas in the book.

Year 1 students enjoyed a very special tea party recently when they all dressed up for the guest of honour – Goldilocks! The party was the finale to their topic on fairy stories when they had read stories including the Jolly Christmas Postman and got excited about party invitations, presents and all things festive.

Year 2 students enjoyed a screening of James

and the Giant Peach which was a follow up to their class read. Year 3s enjoyed a day out at Banham Zoo as part of their topic on safaris. They passed around shed snakeskins plus land snails and even a hissing cockroach as well as seeing animals including snow leopards, giraffes and cheetahs.

Year 4 students made and sold scones to raise funds for school enrichment activities while the Year 5s enjoyed the Trust-wide trip to Kidzania. Finally the Year 6 students ended their topic on World War Two with a VE Day party. They had previously experienced life as evacuees at an education centre in Stibbington near Peterborough.



## THOMAS CLARKSON ACADEMY

Thomas Clarkson students took part in a taster day at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, one of the UK's best dance universities. The students, from Years 9, 10 and 11, had a tour of the building, watched the resident graduate dance company, Transitions, and took part in a contemporary class followed by a creative session.

This year's cohort has already signed up for the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme at TCA and is busy planning this year's activities. Students have to complete a combination of voluntary work, a physical skill and expeditions and around 40 attended the initial meeting.

The scheme is co-ordinated by teachers Tom Cobby and Dan Hudson and they are planning to run two or three groups of Bronze participants,

along with one group at Silver level.

Students from across the Wisbech schools have been challenged to come up with an original and creative piece of writing with the title 'In Times of Great Need'. The competition, with prize money kindly donated by the Rotary Club, is the latest in a series of events for Wisbech Reads, a long term strategy aimed at boosting literacy in the town.

Congratulations to sporting students Danny Grieve from Year 8 who has been accepted onto the Northampton Saints rugby academy programme after just one year playing the sport and Year 7 Seth Briggs-Williams has his sights set on a tennis career after winning around 50 trophies and 100 medals so far and who is climbing up the LTA official rankings.



Thomas Clarkson Academy