

the  
**SUMMER TERM**  
newsletter



**Raleigh**  
EDUCATION TRUST

Each term, I have the wonderful task of reviewing the termly newsletter. This term has been particularly challenging due to the numerous activities happening across the schools, which have made it difficult to condense the content. It was so tough that I haven't been able to do so! I hope you enjoy gaining insights into each school and the Trust, as we showcase some of the incredible opportunities our children experience.

This time of year also allows us to express our gratitude and warm wishes to a few colleagues who are leaving us. I want to give a special mention to our newsletter cover star and the recipient of the 2025 Outstanding Contribution to Education Award. We all wish Jane the best on her next adventure and look forward to her rejoining us later in the autumn.

Thank you all for your hard work and commitment this term. I hope you take the time to rest well and return ready to reconnect and reignite the sparkle in our schools.

Sean

**Raise Your Voice**  
Listening, Learning, and Taking Action

**We appreciate everyone who shared their thoughts and experiences, enriching our community with valuable feedback.**

Since then, the Trust and our academies have been passionately engaged in a journey to not only hear your voices but also to act meaningfully on them. Across our vibrant schools, we are witnessing an exciting transformation shaped by your insights - from enhancements in communication and support that foster a nurturing environment, to thoughtful adjustments that optimise daily school life.

Your feedback fuels our commitment to continuous improvement as we collaborate to create an educational experience that is not only exceptional for every child but also deeply supportive for every family and valued member of our workforce.

Raise Your Voice

"Pupils from Lady Jane Grey, Woodlands and Westbury said they wanted more creative things to do outside, and you have made a significant investment in outdoor play equipment, Forest School and drama and music opportunities".

"You changed the school meal contractor after pupils and parents asked for improved school meals"

"Westbury staff asked for more tailored CPD to their role, and you responded by introducing personal pathways"

"Denewood parents said they wanted more regular feedback on their child's progress. The team responded by introducing daily progress calls"



Warm welcome to Lady Jane Grey Academy

**From May 2025, the Trust is delighted to officially welcome Lady Jane Grey Academy, a vibrant primary school based in Leicestershire, into our growing family of schools.**

Our partnership began in June 2024, and over the past year, we have worked closely with staff and leaders to support a period of exciting development. Together, we have focused on enhancing the quality of teaching, strengthening pastoral support, and raising academic expectations - all with the shared goal of improving outcomes and experiences for every child.

The Academy has embarked on a transformational journey, including the revitalisation of its outdoor learning spaces during the May half-term. We are incredibly proud of the progress made so far and look confidently to the future, united in our mission to empower pupils and serve the wider community with excellence.



Over the past year, Raleigh Education Trust has proudly partnered with the PCC, VRP, and 'It's in Nottingham' to co-develop a bold new social impact model for Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire.

The model isn't about reinventing the wheel; it's about building on the incredible work already happening across our communities. By shifting from short-term fixes to a 10-year vision, we're aligning efforts across all sectors to better support every child and young person (0-25). On July 25, the Trust hosted an event that was a powerful reminder of the collective passion and willingness to think differently, collaborate authentically, and take action together.



This term, the Raleigh Education Trust introduced a fleet of minibuses across its schools, designed to offer pupils greater access to opportunities beyond the school gate. A key part of this initiative is a free bus service for pupils who face barriers to regular attendance - an important step in **supporting every child to thrive in a consistent and nurturing school environment.**

At Denewood Academy, the service launched in March and has already had a significant impact on some of the school's most hard-to-reach pupils. Since its introduction, weekly attendance has improved by an average of 20%, **providing children with the stability and support they need to succeed.**



“Before the Trust introduced this service, many children who arrived from across the city had experienced a disrupted education and struggled to attend regularly. This service helps them develop positive relationships with adults in school, as they are now coming regularly and experiencing the benefits of being present.” Head of School, Mark Clifford

This year, the Trust launched its **Growing Leaders Programme**, a 12-month professional development programme designed to nurture today's and tomorrow's leaders.

Our leadership development programme is structured around seven key themes: leadership styles, professional encounters, line management, coaching culture, financial literacy, reporting and accountability, and evaluation and action planning. In addition, all participants receive half-termly supervision sessions to support their growth and development.

We are pleased to share that eight colleagues from across our schools successfully enrolled in the programme. So far, they have completed sessions focused on leadership styles, professional encounters, and financial understanding. We look forward to their continued progress next year as they **build on this strong foundation and further develop their leadership capabilities.**



## Raising Aspirations Through Careers Education

Careers education is a key focus at Ambleside Academy. All our Key Stage 2 pupils work closely with Into University, exploring a wide range of career paths and learning about the opportunities that lie ahead. Our annual Careers Week is a real highlight — **opening pupils' eyes to the world of work and further education**. The week finishes with a whole-school celebration, where pupils dress up as their future selves: pilots, vets, beauticians, palaeontologists, archaeologists, doctors, and many more. The creativity and ambition on show are truly inspiring! One of our most unique and loved initiatives is our Year 6 "Big Day" work experience programme. Pupils write to a member of staff they'd like to shadow, explain why they're interested, and then spend the day learning on the job — dressed for the role and ready to get Involved.



## Creative Curriculum Adventures

Woodlands pupils took part in exciting trips linked to the Art curriculum, including visits to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Wollaton Hall, exploring sculpture and creative expression.



## Year 7 Religious Discovery

Year 7 Westbury pupils recently took part in Faith Day with a visit to the Derby Open Centre, embarking on a **meaningful journey of religious discovery and**

**cultural understanding**. The day began with a visit to a Hindu Temple, where pupils were immersed in a vibrant world of fragrance, music, and colourful deity statues, learning about key aspects of Hindu worship and tradition.

Next, the group explored Derby's largest Mosque, gaining valuable insight into the Islamic way of life and observing the peaceful environment where daily prayers take place.

The final stop was the Gurdwara, where pupils learned about the principles of Sikhism and enjoyed a warm welcome - including a delicious meal of dhal and rice offered as part of the Sikh tradition of hospitality. Faith Day was an enriching experience that opened minds and encouraged respectful dialogue and curiosity about different religions and beliefs.





Denewood Academy held a vibrant and joyful Cultural Festival for pupils and staff — a fantastic way to explore and celebrate the traditions, languages, and customs of different countries around the world.

Each class was allocated a country to study — **China, Pakistan, Greece, France, New Zealand, or Mexico** — and transformed their classrooms into creative, informative displays. Pupils took the lead in teaching their peers new words, sharing interesting facts, showcasing artwork, and even offering tastes of traditional food from their chosen country. As part of the experience, children also discovered traditional games and customs, **immersing themselves in the richness of global cultures**. A delicious variety of foods was enjoyed by all — from Anzac biscuits (New Zealand) and croissants (France) to samosas (Pakistan), each bite offered a taste of something new and exciting.

The festival was a lively, hands-on celebration of diversity, sparking curiosity and fostering a deeper understanding of the world beyond the classroom.

## *Celebrating Diversity at Denewood Academy's*

## *Cultural Festival*



## Celebrating Sporting Excellence at the School Sports Awards

On a warm and joyful evening, the school community at Lady Jane Grey came together to celebrate the incredible sporting achievements of their pupils at this year's School Sports Awards. **With over 40 trophies presented, the evening was a true reflection of the dedication, talent, and teamwork that pupils have demonstrated throughout the year.**

From netball and football to athletics and swimming, every award told a story of effort, progress, and pride. These achievements not only highlight the hard work and determination of their pupils, but also the unwavering support of the dedicated staff and proud parents, whose encouragement plays a vital role in every success. It was a night to remember - one filled with celebration, inspiration, and the joy of recognising all that our young athletes have accomplished.



## Educational Enrichment: Learning Beyond the Classroom at Ambleside Academy

This term has been packed with enriching experiences and visits galore - all part of our commitment to making learning come alive through hands-on, real-world adventures.

Staff are **passionate about the great outdoors and the transformative power of 'real' experiences in deepening knowledge, curiosity, and understanding.** One of the standout moments this term was a magical trip to Stonehurst Family Farm for our Reception pupils.

During their visit, they fed the horses, developed gross motor skills when swinging on the rope swing across gigantic hay bales and enjoyed the snuggle corner where they cuddled many interesting pets.

In early June, 20 Woodlands pupils attended an exciting residential trip to Hagg Farm in Derbyshire. The group enjoyed a variety of outdoor challenges, including rock climbing, orienteering, fire lighting, rock hopping, and den building. The weather was fantastic, and it was a truly unforgettable experience for all involved.







Woodlands Birch Class focused on 'A Regatta on the Grand Canal' by Canaletto as part of the Take One Picture project. Pupils created a vibrant flotilla of origami boats, which they floated on the lake at Wollaton Park, re-enacting the painting's scene.

They also **enjoyed a canal boat trip, experiencing the view from the water and later used this inspiration to create stunning photo collages.**



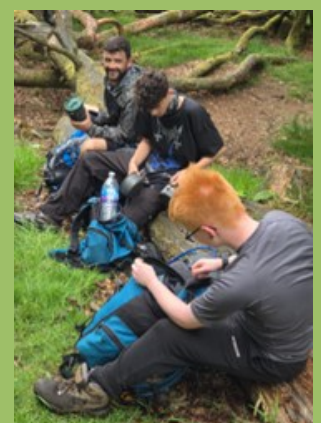
### Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Adventure

Westbury Year 11 pupils recently embarked on a thrilling two-day expedition to the beautiful Peak District in Derbyshire as part of their Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) programme.

This exciting journey provided not only an escape into nature but also a valuable opportunity to put their outdoor survival skills to the test. Pupils developed their map-reading and navigation abilities, all **while trekking through breathtaking landscapes.**

The adventure was filled with challenges that encouraged teamwork, resilience, and problem-solving. Along the way, pupils discovered hidden trails and supported one another, creating strong bonds and a real sense of camaraderie.

By the end of the trip, each participant had gained newfound confidence, a deeper appreciation for the natural world, and many unforgettable memories. The DofE expedition was a fantastic blend of education, adventure, and personal growth — a true highlight of their time at Westbury!





This term, Unity Academy has placed a strong focus on literacy across the Alternative Provision (AP) network - a **valuable opportunity to review and strengthen the reading experiences available to our pupils.**

Through this spotlight, staff have explored how reading is embedded across the curriculum, as well as how to support the development of oracy and comprehension skills. The review highlighted a wide range of provisions that not only promote literacy and communication but also help pupils to develop a genuine love of reading.

This literacy-driven approach is already making a positive difference, opening up opportunities for pupils to **engage more deeply with texts, build confidence in speaking and understanding, and enjoy the lifelong benefits of strong literacy skills.**





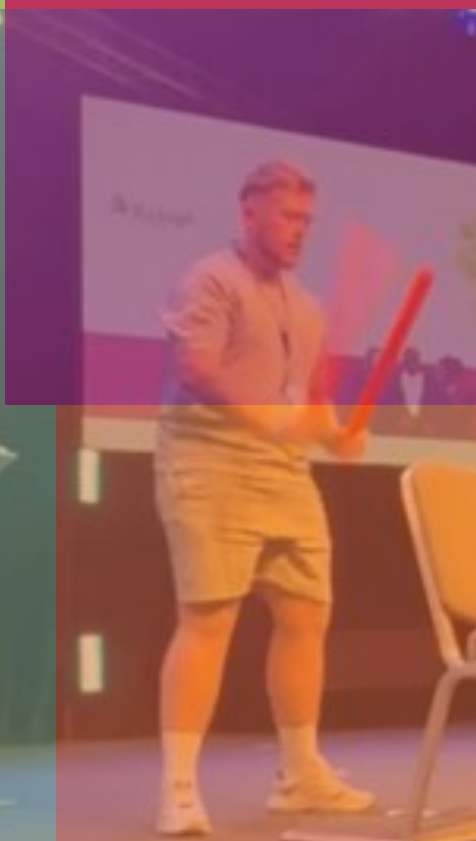
On 11th July 2025, colleagues from across our Trust came together for *The Big Conversation 2025* - a powerful and inspiring day dedicated to shared learning, deep reflection, and joyful celebration.

This year's theme, ***Through the Eyes of the Child***, encouraged every participant, regardless of role, to return to one central question: What does this mean for the child?

The day began with **energy, rhythm, and connection** as attendees took part in a dynamic musical experience led by Creative Team Events. With boom whackers in hand, hundreds of colleagues created music together, setting a vibrant tone for a day grounded in collaboration, purpose, and joy.

Following this energising opening, participants engaged in a diverse range of thought-provoking and practical sessions facilitated by both internal and external experts. These sessions **showcased the depth of expertise across our Trust** and catered to a broad range of interests and professional needs.

The afternoon provided a moment to pause and celebrate achievements across the Trust, recognising both collective efforts and individual excellence. A special highlight was the presentation of the **Outstanding Contribution to Education Award to Jane Bromley**, Principal of Ambleside Academy, who will retire at the end of this year. Jane, thank you for your remarkable dedication and lasting impact.



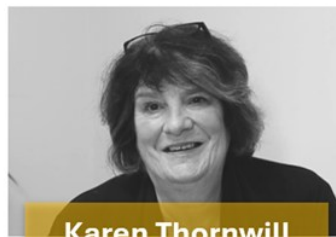




**Janice Brown**



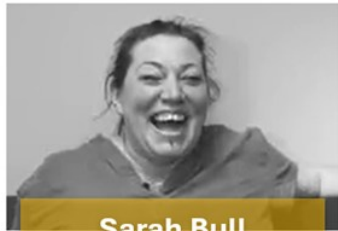
**Gary Williams**



**Karen Thornwill**



**Laura McAdams**



**Sarah Bull**

**Unsung Hero of the Year**  
**2025**



**Lee Morgan**  
**Headteacher of the Year**  
**2025**



**Raleigh Education Trust Recognition**

**AWARDS**

**2025**



**Amy Fielder**  
**Exceptional Leader of the Year**  
**2025**



**Jane Bromley**  
**Outstanding Contribution to Education**  
**2025**

A huge congratulations to the amazing team at Southwell Electrical Services Ltd who successfully climbed Mount Snowdon on Friday in support of Raleigh Education Trust!

This incredible challenge was more than just a climb — it was a powerful step forward in helping us relaunch life-changing residential trips to ‘The Outward Bound Trust’ in Aberdovey. These experiences build confidence, resilience, character, creativity, and curiosity in our pupils — skills that last a lifetime.

**Thanks to the team's determination and the generosity of supporters, we're reducing the cost to families and opening the door to adventure for more young people across our Trust.**

A massive thank you to Dean Hurst, David Leigh, and the entire Southwell Electrical team for your dedication, energy, and generosity. Your impact will be felt far beyond the summit.

## *Southwell Electrical Conquers Snowdon*





## Character in Action at Lady Jane Grey Academy

Pupils were thrilled to welcome parents, local headteachers, and members of the community to their special Commando Joe's Open Day at Lady Jane Grey Academy.

Blessed with beautiful weather, the day offered a fantastic opportunity for visitors to see pupils in action as they tackled a range of adventurous, team-based challenges. From climbing and crawling to problem-solving and working together under pressure, the children demonstrated the core character traits taught through the programme - including resilience, teamwork, leadership, and perseverance. **It was truly heartwarming to see so many parents cheering on**

**the pupils, celebrating their courage and determination at every stage.**



This term, selected pupils from every class at Denewood had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a residential trip to Eyam — and what an adventure it turned out to be!

From hiking through breathtaking scenery to building rafts (and even jumping in for a swim!), the trip was packed with challenge, excitement, and plenty of teamwork. The energy and enthusiasm were unmistakable the moment pupils returned — they couldn't wait to share their stories. It was a truly **unforgettable experience — one that created lasting memories, strengthened friendships, and gave pupils the chance to grow** in confidence, resilience, and independence.





What a jam-packed and fun-filled half term it has been for the incredible Ambleside Year 6 pupils! From Bikeability and a trip to the university, to going wild on the rides at Alton Towers and diving into non-stop play rehearsals, they truly haven't had a minute to spare. Throughout it all, they've shown themselves to be brave, kind, empathetic, and full of character - we are so proud of the amazing young people they've become.

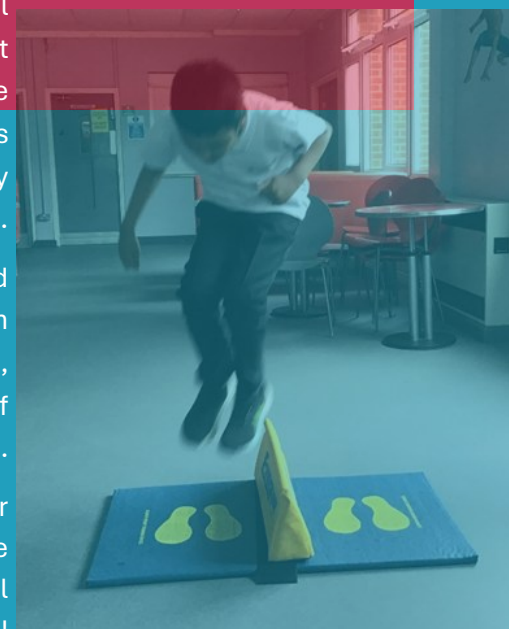
On 8th July, pupils received their end of Key Stage Two assessment results, and were thrilled to see their hard work pay off. There was plenty to celebrate - **76.1% achieved the expected standard in writing, which is 4.1% above the national standard.** A fantastic achievement and a true reflection of their commitment and resilience. They are more ready for the next exciting chapter in your education. We wish them all the very best.



On 24th June, Woodlands held its annual Sports Day, always a much-loved highlight in the school calendar. Pupils were grouped into mixed-age, inclusive teams across various pathways and spent the day participating in fun and engaging activities.

In addition to the sports, children worked together on a creative project to design their own country, complete with a name, history, and flag. It was a wonderful celebration of teamwork, imagination, and participation.

Medals were awarded to every child during our celebration assembly, with trophies presented to the teams who placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. A huge well done to everyone!



Westbury Pupils from Years 3 to 8 stepped back in time to mark VE Day in true 1940s style, hosting a fantastic school street party that was both educational and fun.

Each class researched and recreated traditional games from the era, designing activities for everyone to enjoy. From card games like Higher or Lower to bowls, jacks, and many other nostalgic pastimes, the playground was filled with laughter and old-fashioned entertainment.

The celebration continued with a delicious spread of classic 1940s treats, including finger sandwiches, biscuits, scones, and other traditional party favourites. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with learning, laughter, and community spirit, as pupils came together to honour a significant moment in history.







Unity Academy is proud to celebrate the **incredible resilience, determination, and growth shown by our pupils**. For many, simply stepping into an exam or assessment room marks a major milestone - one that reflects not only their personal progress, but also the unwavering dedication of staff and the invaluable support from our partner education providers. This term, pupils have engaged with a broad and challenging range of assessments—**spanning subjects such as Art, Polish, Computer Science, and Sociology, as well as final units in vocational pathways like Mechanics, Sport, Catering, Health and Social Care, Music, and Construction**. Beyond the academic achievements, pupils have continued to build lasting memories, share meaningful experiences, and strengthen the connections that will carry them forward in life. A particular highlight has been the inspiring collaboration with New You Hair Academy—a shining example of how partnerships can empower pupils and prepare them for the next chapter of their journeys.

This term has been filled with unforgettable adventures for Ambleside's youngest learners!

Reception pupils enjoyed a **truly magical visit to Stonehurst Family Farm, where they had the chance to feed horses, explore the farm, and cuddle a range of furry friends in the snuggle corner**. They even got to swing across giant hay bales — a joyful, hands-on experience that brought learning to life in the great outdoors.

For Year 2 pupils, an equally special adventure took place a little closer to home. On Friday 27th June, they took part in their very first sleepover at school - the much-anticipated Year 2 Spectacular Sleepover! For many, it was their first night away from loved ones, and they embraced the experience with courage and excitement.

The evening was packed with fun, including Crafting Corner, Superstar Cycling and toasting marshmallows to make s'mores.

It was a magical night full of laughter, friendship, and new memories — the kind that stay with them forever.





The 2025 Westbury Goes Green summer fair was a fantastic celebration of sustainability, creativity, and community - and the weather was kind too! Pupils from Years 3 to 10 worked hard to design and run an impressive range of eco-friendly stalls. From **beautifully crafted bug houses, clocks, keyrings, coasters, and cushions made from recycled or repurposed materials**, to homemade and barbecued food using local ingredients and produce from their very own school garden.

There was something for everyone to enjoy.

## Westbury Goes Green





### Mablethorpe Seaside Trip

Westbury Pupils from Years 3 to 8 enjoyed a fantastic day out to Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire - a well-deserved **treat filled with sunshine, laughter, and classic seaside fun.**

The day was packed with joyful activities: paddling in the sea, building sandcastles, and enjoying delicious fish and chips right on the beach. One of the biggest highlights was a visit to the arcades, where the ever-popular 2p machines brought lots of smiles and a bit of friendly competition!

What made this trip even **more meaningful was the fact that pupils helped make it happen. Throughout the year, they raised funds by taking part in events like the Christmas Fair**, showing incredible creativity, teamwork, and pride in their school community. It was a joyful and rewarding day, full of lasting memories and a strong reminder of what pupils can achieve when they work together.



### Alternative Provision Network Olympics Event

The AP Olympics event took place this term — **a brilliant day of sport, teamwork, and inclusion!**

Over 80 pupils from 8 different education settings across Nottingham City came together to take part in a range of track and field events, with many trying High Jump, Long Jump, and Discus for the very first time. From friendly races to medal-chasing sprints, the energy and enthusiasm were inspiring.

**What truly stood out was the spirit of support, fun, and connection - pupils celebrated each other's successes, offered encouragement, formed new friendships, and enjoyed time with peers from across the region.** The AP network continues to break down barriers and foster shared experiences that matter.



## The BIG Community Challenge: Education and Community in Action

Embodying our **values of creativity, character, curiosity, confidence and, above all, challenge**, teams from across Raleigh Education Trust and Diversify Education and Communities united at Beechdale Community Centre for The BIG Community Challenge, as part of our annual Festival of Learning.

This ambitious project came out of a growing partnership between Raleigh Education Trust schools and the community centre, **driven by a vision to engage pupils in meaningful, hands-on environmental learning while promoting community involvement**. Inspired by local voices, the plan was bold: transform an unused space into a vibrant area for sensory wellbeing, relaxation, creativity, social interaction, and a community garden to support the centre's kitchen.

The week began with **K&W Builders generously donating their time** to lay the groundwork, digging out a sensory path and installing support posts. Our dedicated site teams built benches and planters, which were lined by pupils from Ambleside Academy, while another group crafted and painted colourful bird boxes.



Pupils and staff from Westbury Academy embraced the challenge, collaborating with Anna Bond from Allotment Education to bring the space to life – rain and shine. **Together, they filled garden beds, painted fences, installed interactive boards, and spread barrow loads of woodchips. They planted strawberries, tomatoes, herbs, perennials and bedding plants**, generously donated by Allotment Education and Notcutts Wheatcroft. Finishing touches came together in time for the community centre summer fair with a water feature and an enormous bug hotel built by pupils at Denewood Academy.

Looking ahead, the project continues to evolve. **A collaborative mosaic artwork, created through workshops at each academy and with local residents**, will soon take pride of place in the garden, alongside a time capsule commemorating this collective achievement. It's a space where pupils, colleagues, and local residents can come together, strengthening bonds within the community.

This initiative stands as a **powerful example of how schools and communities can work hand-in-hand to make a lasting impact**. Not only are we teaching our children about their environment, but we're also encouraging them to be **active citizens and to value the importance of local collaboration; creating an invaluable resource for personal development**, helping students gain practical skills such as problem-solving, responsibility, and cooperation.

With plans for ongoing input from our schools, this project proves that when **education and community come together, great things can blossom**.

*The BIG Community  
Challenge: Education and  
Community in Action*



[www.raleightrust.org](http://www.raleightrust.org)

**Togetherness**  
is what makes us special



**Raleigh**  
EDUCATION TRUST