

APRIL 2025 | ISSUE 5



Woodland  
Academy Trust

*Ignite the spark, reveal the champion*

# WE ARE WOODLAND

Connecting our Community

AMBITION COLLABORATION COMPASSION EXCELLENCE INCLUSIVITY

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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As we near the end of another lively and fulfilling term, it's remarkable to see how our communities—both local and wider—continue to shape the experience of every child at Woodland Academy Trust.

With ongoing conversations in education around AI, recruitment, and the importance of holistic wellbeing, our focus remains on uniting innovation with compassion, ensuring that we not only equip our children with valuable skills, but also foster caring and connected communities.

What shines through in this term's edition most clearly is the power of community. This term, we've deepened our relationships with local organisations, global educators, and families to create opportunities that extend learning beyond the classroom and celebrate feedback shared.

Digital innovation has remained a driving force this term across our Trust. Our shortlisting for Multi-Academy Trust of the Year at the Edufuturists Uprising Awards 2025, alongside our continued status as an Apple Regional Training Centre underscores our commitment to leveraging technology for equity and excellence. Our schools have led the way in showcasing how technology, grounded in strong pedagogy, can empower learners. Whether it's through our AI strategy, partnerships with platforms like Jamf and Magma Maths, or the creative use of iPad devices across classrooms, our commitment to excellence and inclusivity remains clear.

Above all, what stands out is the culture of empowerment we're building together. Our pupils are confidently leading, exploring, and creating. Our staff are growing in their expertise. And our communities are united by a shared belief: that every child has the potential to thrive when given the tools, trust and opportunity to do so.

Our collective achievements this term are a testament to our staff's dedication, our families' unwavering support, and our childrens' curiosity and kindness. By continually nurturing partnerships within the local community and beyond, we're expanding opportunities for children to learn, connect, and thrive. Thank you to everyone who plays a part in our journey and for making this term such a powerful reflection of our shared mission: to *ignite the spark, and reveal the champion* in every child.

Wishing all our readers a wonderful spring break.

Warm regards,

Nav Sanghara  
Trust Leader (CEO)

# Our Digital Journey



## Woodland Academy Trust at Bett UK 2025: Empowering Learners Through Technology

Staff and students from across Woodland Academy Trust had a fantastic time attending Bett UK 2025 in January, exploring the latest in education technology and how it can be used to support and empower learners.

As part of the event, our Trust Digital Development Lead, Daniel Davies, took to the stage with Goodnotes to showcase our Trust's digital journey. His session highlighted how Goodnotes is being used across our school settings to enhance teaching and learning — demonstrating how digital tools can be thoughtfully embedded to support engagement, creativity and progress.



Central to our approach is Universal Design for Learning (UDL), which underpins how we use technology to personalise learning. Our schools are committed to helping students take ownership of their education in ways that work best for them, ensuring inclusive and accessible opportunities for all. We were proud to represent the Trust at such an inspiring event, connecting with other educators and innovators to share our practice and continue learning.

➡ To find out more about our digital journey, visit our [website](#).



## Showcasing the Power of Magma Maths in Education

We were proud to feature in a brand-new video this term by Magma Maths, celebrating the transformative role that their platform plays in shaping how we teach and learn mathematics across our Trust.

This inspiring video highlights the strength of collaboration, the importance of inclusive practice, and the impact of lifelong learning. It captures how Magma Maths is helping us deliver high-quality, engaging maths experiences that meet the needs of every learner.

We're excited to be part of this journey and to share the impact of Magma Maths in action.



➡ [Read the full story and watch the video](#)

# Our Digital Journey

## Leading the Way with AI in Education

Our Director of Education, Julie Carson, was featured in Headteacher Update, offering her insights on how schools can develop and implement a purposeful AI strategy.

In the article, Julie explores the practical steps leaders can take to embed artificial intelligence meaningfully into teaching and learning, ensuring it enhances outcomes and supports both staff and pupils.

Her contribution reflects our Trust's commitment to innovation, strategic thinking, and the thoughtful integration of digital technologies across our schools.

👉 Read the full article here: [Developing a strategy for artificial intelligence in schools](#)

## Shaping the Future of AI in Education: A Collaboration with Oxford University

Following her recent publication on developing AI strategy in schools, our Director of Education is continuing to lead the way in the field of educational technology through a new and exciting collaboration.

Julie is working with AIEOU, an interdisciplinary research hub exploring the role of artificial intelligence in education. Based at the Department of Education, University of Oxford, and led by Dr Sara Ratner, the hub brings together international voices to examine both the opportunities and challenges AI presents for learners, educators, and school systems.



Through this partnership, Julie will engage with stakeholders from around the world to help shape a global research agenda that reflects the real-world complexities of AI in education. Her focus will include ensuring alignment with school vision and values, the strategic use of AI tools, and—crucially—the ongoing importance of the human element in teaching and learning.

This collaboration reflects Woodland Academy Trust's commitment to thoughtful innovation, ensuring digital strategies are grounded in pedagogy, inclusion, and long-term impact.

## Our AI Strategy in Schools

Our Director of Education also recently delivered a session for Computing at School, exploring how to develop and implement an AI strategy in schools. She shared our Trust's proactive approach — aligning AI with our values and vision, building staff and student literacy, and using AI to enhance great teaching and streamline operations. With AI already influencing education, it's vital we lead this change with intention.

Thank you to Computing at School and Ben Davies, a primary computing specialist, for the opportunity to share our journey. The session recording is available on the [Computing At School](#) website. Don't miss it!



### Discover more about our AI Strategy!

You can visit our website to view the full strategy and if you would like to know more about it, please get in touch!

<https://www.woodlandacademytrust.co.uk/learning-and-innovation/artificial-intelligence/>



# Our Digital Journey



## Our Digital Journey Featured in Jamf Case Study

We're proud to see our digital strategy and use of Apple technology highlighted in a new case study by Jamf.

The case study explores how Woodland Academy Trust has embedded the use of iPad in a purposeful and impactful way — supporting both students and staff across our schools. From enhancing classroom engagement to enabling personalised learning, our approach is grounded in ensuring technology aligns with teaching and learning goals.

A key part of this journey has been our collaboration with Jamf, whose tools have helped us deploy and manage devices in a way that meets the unique needs of our school communities. The case study also celebrates the evolving nature of our digital strategy, as we continue to refine and grow our use of technology.

We're incredibly grateful to Mat Pullen, Senior Product Marketing Manager for Education, for his continued support and guidance in helping us make the most of digital tools for education.

👉 Read the full case study here: [Woodland Academy Trust Aligns Purpose and Function with Jamf School](#)

## We are proud to be an Apple Regional Training Centre.

### Kent and Bexley

Apple Regional Training Centre

As part of our Apple Regional Training Centre for Kent and Bexley, we run a comprehensive offer of core professional development opportunities. Visit our dedicated [Apple RTC page](#) on our Trust website for more information and to book our FREE courses!

We also share news on our Kent and Bexley RTC social media page so give us a follow!

 [@KentBexleyRTC](#)

If you have any questions about our digital journey, we would love to hear from you!

Email us at [info@watschools.org.uk](mailto:info@watschools.org.uk)



## Peareswood Primary- an Apple Distinguished School

As a recognised as an Apple Distinguished School for 2024-2027 for inspiring, imagining, and impacting teaching and learning through continuous innovation, Peareswood primary can support schools on their Apple EdTech journey.

If you would like to know more about their digital journey and see Apple technology in action, visit their school website for details about their Apple Distinguished School status and how to get in touch - they'd love to hear from you.

[www.peareswoodprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.peareswoodprimaryschool.co.uk) 

# VOTE FOR US!

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We are excited to share that Woodland Academy Trust  
have been shortlisted for

## Multi-Academy Trust of the Year

*A multi-academy trust renowned for its strategic vision in harnessing technology across its schools, driving excellence and equity in education for all students.*

**at the Edufuturists Uprising Awards 2025!**

This recognition is a true reflection of our whole community's dedication and commitment to using technology to drive equity and excellence across all our schools.

**#collaboration #inclusivity #excellence #ambition**

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You can support us by casting your vote at

**[Edufuturists Awards 2025 Public Vote](#)**



We're proud to be part of this celebration of innovation in education.

**Winners will be announced on 26th June**



# We're proud to be part of the LGfL London EdTech Hub!

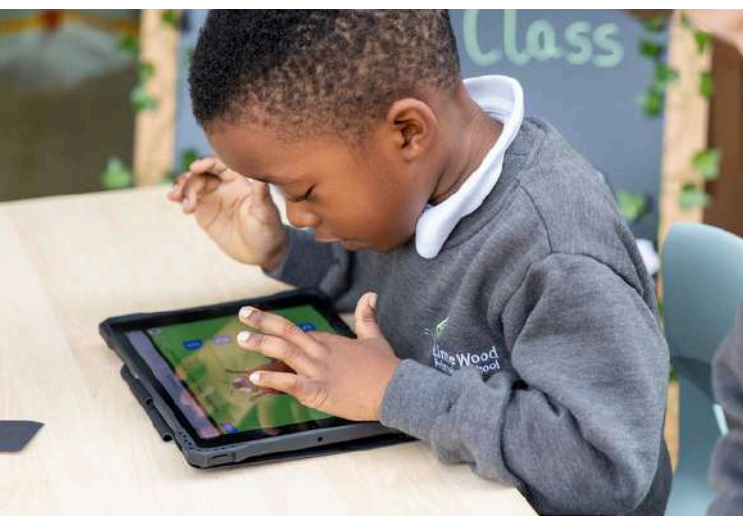


**London  
EdTech  
Hubs**  
Building the  
EdTech Community

Powered by



We invite you to join us at our  
upcoming London EdTech Hubs events.



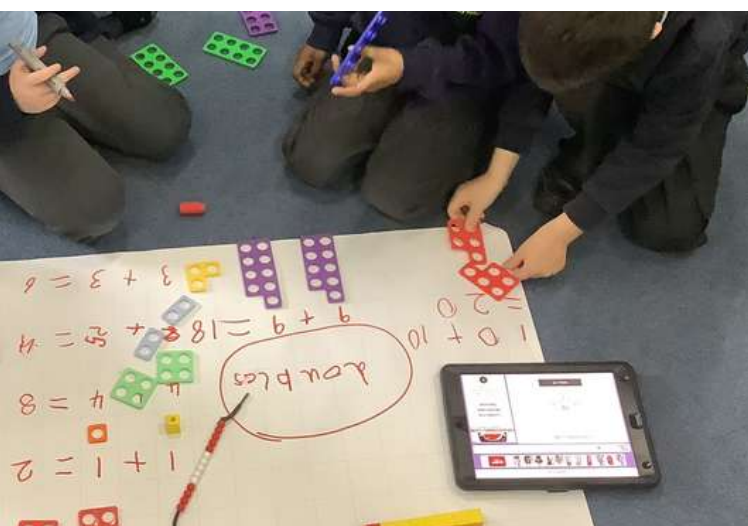
## EdTech Study Tour: iPad in EYFS



23rd April 2025  
09:30-12pm

Lime Wood  
Primary School

**Book now!**



## EdTech Study Tour: iPad in Maths



11th June 2025  
09:30-14:00

Northumberland Heath  
Primary School

**Book now!**

Scan the QR code or click the website link to  
explore the EdTech Hubs website to keep up to  
date with our upcoming Digital Discovery Days.  
[Upcoming EdTech Hubs events](#)





# JOIN US!



All our schools share the same mission; *Ignite the spark, reveal the champion*. We are an inclusive and ambitious Trust, striving to achieve the best possible outcomes for our children. Our aim is to provide the highest quality learning experiences for every child by creating an ethical culture of empowerment and growth for all.

We believe deeply in the importance of nurturing strong partnerships with our local communities and beyond. If you believe that you can make a difference to the lives of our children and families and would like to join our Trust, or if you want to find out more, then please do not hesitate to get in touch. We would love to hear from you!

All our vacancies can be found on our Trust website: [www.woodlandacademytrust.co.uk/join-us/work-with-us/](http://www.woodlandacademytrust.co.uk/join-us/work-with-us/)



You can also find our our job opportunities on My New Term! Check out our Trust recruitment page on the site!

<https://mynewterm.com/trust/Woodland-Academy-Trust/137380>

## We are proud to be a hub school through our partnership with Teach In Kent.

We offer initial teacher training through the teaching apprenticeship, working in partnership with the Tes Institute. To find out further information or to apply, visit their website: [\*\*Teach In Kent\*\*](#)



We also work in partnership with the University of Greenwich and Canterbury Christ Church to offer student placements for students following different routes of teacher training including BA 1st and 3rd year placements as well as PGCE. You will often find us delivering professional learning days for the University of Greenwich and Teach In Kent and students may even visit one or some of our schools for training. We are also regular faces at teacher recruitment fairs.

We also explore the opportunity to offer QTS assessment only route with our partners for those who are experienced teachers, looking to gain QTS.

To find out more visit [\*\*Get Into Teaching\*\*](#) or you can email us at [recruitment@watschools.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@watschools.org.uk) where we are more than happy to provide advice.



Visit our [\*\*Woodland Academy Trust YouTube channel\*\*](#) to get a glimpse into what our schools offer.



## Welcoming Our local MP to Knockhall Primary School

This term, Knockhall Primary School was delighted to welcome local MP Jim Dickson for a tour of the school and a meeting with our Headteacher, Miss Yiannadji. The visit was an opportunity to showcase the strides the school has made and to discuss how Knockhall continues to evolve to meet the needs of its pupils.

Mr Dickson was warmly welcomed by staff and pupils, and was impressed by our school's inclusive ethos, positive learning culture and commitment to continuous improvement. During his visit, he observed learning in action and spoke with staff about the school's recent developments and future ambitions.

Mr Dickson said:

*"It was great to visit Knockhall Primary School today to see the hard work being put in to create an inclusive and positive learning environment for students in Greenhithe and Swanscombe. Thank you to Miss Yiannadji and all staff for the great work they do, and for having me!"*

The visit also included a discussion about the government-funded breakfast club initiative. Knockhall is working behind the scenes to ensure the programme can be launched later this academic year, reinforcing the school's commitment to supporting health, wellbeing, and equity for all pupils.

Mr Dickson's visit highlights the growing recognition of Knockhall's efforts to create a nurturing, community-focused environment where every child can thrive.



## PrepWorld Delivers a Fruit-Filled Surprise to Knockhall Pupils

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In February, Knockhall Primary welcomed a generous visit from [PrepWorld](#), a specialist fruit supplier known for providing packaged fruit to leading retail chains. As part of their community outreach, PrepWorld donated an incredible 500 fruit pots to our school—enough for every pupil to take one home.

The company is deeply committed to giving back and promoting sustainable practices. In addition to the fruit pots, they are also supporting the school with further donations, including playground equipment!

We look forward to sharing more about their support soon and we're proud to be collaborating with this wonderful community-minded organisation who are working to make a difference locally.



## Teamwork to improve Road Safety at Knockhall

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Knockhall Primary School is pleased to share a positive update on our efforts to improve road safety during school drop-off and pick-up times. Following discussions with Kent County Council (KCC), the school's concerns around parking and congestion have been taken seriously and acted upon.

Thomas Mallon from Kent County Council met with the Chair of our Local Academy Committee, Carol Gale, to listen to and discuss the issues raised by the school and wider parent community. As a result of this constructive meeting, new signage has now been installed along surrounding roads—an encouraging and practical step towards keeping our community safe.

In addition, local police officers visited Knockhall to meet and greet parents at the school gates, demonstrating their support and presence in helping us maintain a safe environment. Their involvement sends a strong message that pupil safety matters not just within the school grounds, but during every part of the school day, including arrival and departure.

This joined-up approach between the school, local authority, and police shows the power of community collaboration and reflects our school value of teamwork in shared responsibility in protecting the Knockhall community.

## From the Classroom: AI in Action at Knockhall Primary



**As part of our school and Trust's commitment to empowering staff and students through the responsible use of AI, we're proud to showcase a recent reflection piece shared by a teacher at our school who has been using AI tools.**

*Earlier in the month, Good Future Foundation and Educate Ventures ran an AI Professional Development Day which I was lucky enough to attend. During the day, they highlighted that AI skills are the fastest growing essential skill being added to job adverts with 71% of employers saying they are more likely to hire a less experienced candidate with AI skills than a candidate with more experience and without AI skills.*



*A main discussion was how many teachers see using AI as cheating as they are not given training on how to use it and are using it secretly. We were shown resources to help students learn about AI and how it works, including how to spot fake images and check sources. This leads into our Computing and Personal Development sessions where we ensure children have awareness in this area.*

*Finally, we were told to think of AI like a stallion - very powerful and could help out in many ways, but you would not let it loose in the playground. We need to harness the stallion and make sure that we are in control.*

*I believe that attending this training has improved my awareness of the importance of safeguarding in the area of AI and how much we already do within the Woodland Academy Trust to ensure our children are protected, as well as utilising AI safely and effectively.*

By David Rackham  
Year 5 Class Teacher



**David's reflection aligns closely with the Woodland Academy Trust's AI Strategy, which sets out our commitment across the Trust to preparing both staff and pupils for a future where AI plays an increasing role in education and employment. The training he attended directly supports our strategic aims of raising awareness, ensuring safe and responsible use of AI, and building staff confidence through professional development.**

**As a school we are beginning to embed our principles in everyday practice—empowering teachers and strengthening our safeguarding approach in a rapidly evolving landscape.**



**Discover more about our Trust's AI Strategy!**

You can visit our website to view the full strategy and if you would like to know more, please get in touch!

<https://www.woodlandacademytrust.co.uk/learning-and-innovation/artificial-intelligence/>



Watch our [school video](#) to get insight into our school community.



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## Follow us



knockhall\_primary



Knockhall Primary School



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## Why Choose Knockhall Primary?



Visit our website to find out!

[www.knockhallprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.knockhallprimaryschool.co.uk)





# Lime Wood Primary School

## Celebrating Eco-Diversity at Lime Wood Primary

At Lime Wood Primary, we believe in growing hearts and minds, nurturing curiosity, creativity, and care for our world. This term, our Year 1 cohort have done just that through a fantastic eco-themed competition, Pollination Station – Celebrating Eco-Diversity.

Inspired by the Bexley-run Eco-Legacy Award, we launched our own in-school competition inviting Year 1 pupils and their families to get creative as part of their home learning. Led by teachers Mrs Webber and Mrs Excell, the challenge was to design a vibrant garden space that promotes biodiversity and attracts pollinators. The response was overwhelming, with a stunning array of entries including videos, drawings, 3D models, photographs, and even submissions using AI!

The creativity and passion demonstrated by our young learners perfectly reflect our school values of curiosity, respect, and kindness. As a growing school, we are excited to see how these imaginative ideas can shape our future allotment area—making it a space that not only brings learning to life, but also supports our environment and local ecosystem.

We're thrilled to announce that the Overall Design winner will now be submitted for the Bexley Eco-Legacy Award. We've got our fingers crossed, and we couldn't be prouder of our eco-conscious young designers!

This project is a wonderful reminder of how, together, we can plant the seeds of change and inspire a greener, more sustainable future.



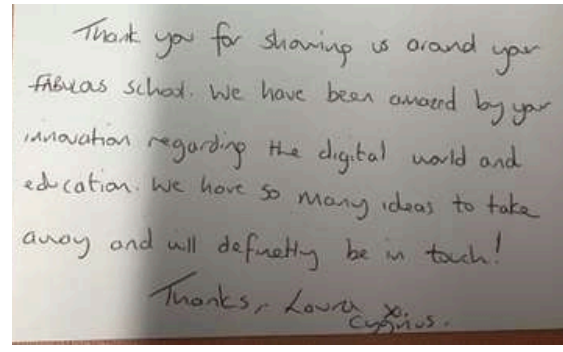
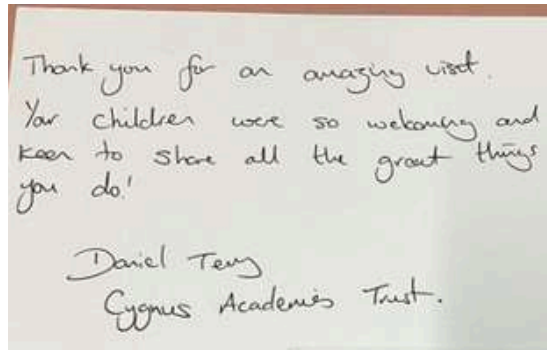


We were delighted to welcome representatives from the Cygnus Academies Trust, who visited our school as part of their journey to develop a digital strategy across their schools.

Our Headteacher Miss Ingrams and Trust Digital Development Lead Mr Davies proudly showcased how digital technology is embedded into our classrooms, particularly in Reception and Year 1. Our visitors observed first-hand how digital devices are used across the curriculum to support our universal design for learning approach—empowering all learners to engage with and access their education in ways that suit them best.

The children were fantastic ambassadors, confidently demonstrating their independence and explaining how different tools help them in their day-to-day learning. Their skills, enthusiasm and ownership of their learning journey left a lasting impression on our guests.

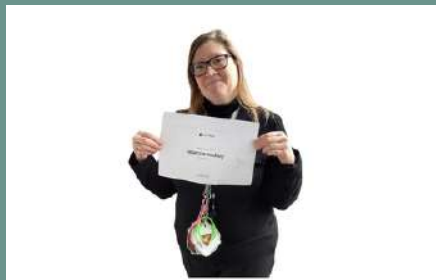
This visit is another step forward in our digital journey and we are proud to be sharing our practice with others and championing innovative, inclusive learning for every child. Well done, team Lime Wood!



Daniel Terry and Laura Chown from Cygnus Academies Trust with our Trust Digital Development Lead Dan Davies.

## Empowering Learning Through Staff Digital Achievements

Alongside the children's achievements, our dedicated staff have also been enhancing their own digital expertise. Many have signed up to Apple Education and earned their Apple Teacher badges—ensuring they are fully equipped to support and elevate learning in the classroom. It has been wonderful to celebrate achievements from this term. Our staff's dedication to developing digital skills will make such a positive impact on the children.



Well done to our Reception Teaching Assistant, Miss Mickley who has mastered all of the badges to attain 'Apple Teacher' status! Miss Mickley is looking forward to sharing her knowledge and enhancing her support of the children when using their devices.



Teamwork



A huge congratulations to our Year 1 Teaching Assistant, Mrs. Attard, for earning all the badges needed to achieve 'Apple Teacher' status! 🍏👉 Mrs. Attard is excited to share her newfound knowledge and continue enhancing her support for the children as they use their devices. Well done!



Pride



A huge well done to our Year 1 Teacher, Miss Willard, for earning all the badges needed to achieve Apple Teacher status! She is excited to put her new skills into practice and further enhance the learning experience for our children as they use their devices. Fantastic work, Miss Willard—we're so proud of you!



Well done to our Reception Teaching Assistant, Miss Price who has mastered all of the badges to attain 'Apple Teacher' status! Miss Price is looking forward to sharing her knowledge and enhancing her support of the children when using their devices.



A big congratulations to our Reception SEN Teaching Assistant, Mrs. Hanks, for earning all the badges required to achieve 'Apple Teacher' status! Mrs. Hanks is thrilled to share her new knowledge and continue improving her support for the children as they explore and learn with their devices. Well done, Mrs. Hanks!



🎉 Congratulations, Miss Attard! 🍏  
Well done to Miss Attard on achieving her Apple Teacher Certificate! This is a great accomplishment, reflecting her dedication to integrating technology into learning. 🍏👉  
A fantastic achievement—well done! 🍏👉 #AppleTeacher #EdTech #Congratulations



British Science Week was a huge success here at Lime Wood, thanks to the brilliant planning of Miss Willard, a Year 1 teacher. Our whole school was alive with curiosity and discovery as we explored the world of science through exciting experiments, inspiring scientists, and hands-on learning.

Throughout the week, each year group focused on a celebrated scientist, diving deeper into their area of expertise and conducting related experiments. Classrooms were full of wonder as children became scientists themselves—predicting, observing and investigating in true scientific style.

The science didn't stop at the school gates! Families were challenged to create and conduct their own experiments at home, with children encouraged to upload their results on Showbie. We were blown away by the creativity and enthusiasm shown—from erupting volcanoes and colour mixing to floating and sinking investigations. It was especially wonderful to see so many children confidently sharing their predictions and observations in video form, showcasing their developing oracy skills. Judging a winner for each class was no easy task!

**WE LOVE LEARNING SCIENCE WEEK WINNERS**

**Baobab Class**      **Faraway Tree Class**

**Hundred Acre Wood Class**      **Neverwood Forest Class**

Well done to everybody that took part - the judges had a tough time making the decisions and were overwhelmed with all of the wonderful experiments and hard work that went into your entries!

Wow!

TEAMWORK    RESPECT    KINDNESS    PRIDE    CURIOSITY



**Curiosity is one of our school values**



To top it all off, we connected with Climate and STEM Ambassadors through the STEM portal, and were delighted to welcome Dr Clarke, a STEM Ambassador, into Year 1 to talk about battery power and the importance of recycling.

Inspired by the visit, we've now launched our own battery recycling drop-off point in school—and one of our very enthusiastic Year 1 has already got the collection started!

British Science Week truly sparked a love of science across our school community. We can't wait to see where our curiosity takes us next!



I had a lovely time and really enjoyed seeing the children full of curiosity and interest. Thank you to Miss Ingrams and all the school staff for their help. Most of all thank you to the Y1 children for making it such a great experience.



## Around the World - Celebrating Community



As part of their core text 'The World Around Us', our Reception children embarked on a journey of discovery to learn more about each other's heritage, cultures, and family backgrounds. Children and families shared photos of special landmarks and meaningful places from countries around the world, which were proudly presented and discussed in class.

Inspired by these conversations, our Reception children created 3D models of these locations, learning where they can be found on the map and why they're important. The project took the children across continents—from Australia to Japan to Nigeria and beyond—celebrating the richness and diversity within our own school community.

Their wonderful models are now displayed in our atrium, offering a vibrant and thoughtful celebration of identity and belonging for everyone to enjoy.



Respect



## World Book Day - Celebrating Reading

We love World Book Day at Lime Wood Primary! It was a brilliant celebration of all things reading at our school. It was fantastic to see the children arrive dressed as their favourite fairy tale characters. From the Gingerbread Man and Jack from the Beanstalk to princesses, princes, and more—our school was filled with colour and creativity!



Our staff joined in the fun too, with themed costumes across year groups. Year 1 brought the story of Snow White to life, Reception were inspired by Red Riding Hood and The Three Little Pigs, and our Headteacher Miss Ingrams and Senior Office Administrator Mrs Cunningham delighted the children dressed as Goldilocks and one of the bears!

The aim of the day was to celebrate our love of reading and encourage children to explore new books. Staff visited different classes throughout the day to share their chosen stories and chat to children about their own favourite reads. It was a joyful, book-filled day that left us all inspired to keep turning the pages.



Watch our video to get insight into our school community.

### Our School Video



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## Follow us



lime\_wood\_primary



Lime Wood  
Primary School



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## Why Choose Lime Wood Primary?



Visit our website to find out!

[www.limewoodprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.limewoodprimaryschool.co.uk)



TEAMWORK



CURIOSITY



RESPECT



PRIDE



KINDNESS





# Northumberland Heath Primary School

## Leading the Way in Digital Learning at Northumberland Heath

This term, Northumberland Heath Primary School continued to showcase its commitment to digital innovation.

### International Delegations Explore Digital Advancements

We welcomed IT consultants, teachers, and school leaders from Denmark to observe our digital and AI initiatives in action within classrooms. They heard about our AI and digital journey and explored how we integrate education technology into our classrooms seeing first hand the positive impact it has on teaching and learning.



### Educational Leaders Engage with Digital Integration

**David Huntingford** - 1st

Headteacher | NPQH facilitator | SIAMS inspector | NAHT branch preside...  
12h • Edited •

An incredibly inspiring morning at **Northumberland Heath Primary School**, seeing how individual pupil devices can enhance teaching, learning, and the curriculum. It's great to see positive things happening in schools, such as the use of technology at Northumberland Heath and our inspiring careers focus at **William Ford School**. Thank you to **Daniel Davies** for the invitation and supporting our journey, and to **Hannah Hamid** for the introduction.

### Partnership in Practice: Sharing UDL and Digital Expertise with Future Teachers

We hosted a group of students from the University of Greenwich to explore Universal Design for Learning and using technology in the classroom.

They worked with our Trust Assistant Headteacher for Digital Development, Mr Davies, and our school's Digital Lead, Miss Ludlow, to explore how the iPad can spark creativity and remove barriers to learning.

"I found today really interesting, seeing how you can use iPads in all teaching and subjects. I have learnt lots, that I can use in my future teaching!"  
University of Greenwich Student



*"I was truly inspired by your impressive digital skills and the creative ways you use technology to enhance your learning. Your app-making projects, Magma Maths activities, reading comprehension work and green screen creations were outstanding. Well done to all of you!"*

*"Thank you so much for having me, I had a wonderful visit and gained valuable insights into your trust's innovative digital strategies, particularly your structured approach to AI integration."*

It is a pleasure to connect, collaborate, and share the innovative approaches we are so proud of and we are proud of the feedback we receive both from visitors and from our school community.

"Digital helps to bring things to life, we are learning about space and I can use AI to look at the planets as they spin."  
Year 5 Pupil

"I visited the school to specifically look at the digital journey and use of AI. It was an incredibly interesting, valuable and inspiring visit - talking to staff about their use of AI to enhance learning and reduce workload - talking to leaders about their journey and watching children in the classroom (especially SEN children) was an experience. Thank You" Sarah Y, APAT

# Introducing 'Feedback Friday': A New Way to Celebrate Our School Journey



This spring term, Northumberland Heath Primary introduced 'Feedback Friday' with our community – a weekly celebration of quotes and testimonials from pupils, parents, staff, governors, and visitors that showcase and tell the story around our improvement journey.

"I just wanted to give you some feedback on my visit today. Fantastic! Truly amazing staff! It was so lovely to see how much hard work has gone into setting the TEACCH stations up, making resources and the support they have for one another! I know some had reservations, but all of them have seen the success in TEACCH and now are converted! It's all their hard work and determination which has made this a success. I even saw their knowledge being passed onto new workers and sharing ideas with others that had not had the training. AN's new support worker and Z's 1-1 supporting P's 1-1 with gathering resources. What a pleasure today's visit was!" Kerry, Parent



FEEDBACK FRIDAY

**NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

SHARING THE FEEDBACK FROM OUR  
COMMUNITY

"This mornings arts and crafts was really good. Very easy to do yet beautiful! We can't wait to do the next one together." Parent

"I always go and talk to the teachers. They listen to us and help us." - Child

These insights highlight our school's core values and the positive relationships that shape everyday learning.

Shared each week on social media, families and our wider community can see snapshots of the joy, progress, and pride within classrooms and beyond.

"I enjoyed a lovely visit to NHP, the highlight being meeting a selection of the prefects and the Junior Leadership Team pupils - hearing about their love of learning, the improvements at the school and the collaborative culture of students supporting each other was amazing!!" Davina, WAT Trustee

"It's so amazing – when the show started, the lights were so bright and beautiful – the dancers are so good and the special guests too. 8,000 children – wow! This was an amazing experience!" Year 4 Pupil - Young Voices Concert

"Thank you for allowing us to visit your school during science week. The welcome was warm and inviting and everyone was very helpful when I asked for assistance. Every class was engaging and excited, which is great to see. The teachers were also very good at keeping the class involved and engaged. I hope to see many children as future scientists!" Jayne, DSTL Scientist

Proud to be part of  Woodland Academy Trust

To explore more of the wonderful feedback from our community, visit:

➡ [northumberlandheathprimaryschool.co.uk/our-school/community-feedback](http://northumberlandheathprimaryschool.co.uk/our-school/community-feedback)

"Digital helps to bring things to life, we are learning about space and I can use AI to look at the planets as they spin." Year 5 Pupil

"I found today really interesting, seeing how you can use iPads in all teaching and subjects. I have learnt lots, that I can use in my future teaching!" University of Greenwich Student



FEEDBACK FRIDAY

**NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

SHARING THE FEEDBACK FROM OUR  
COMMUNITY

"I had such a great time learning from this school. It has opened my eyes to lots of different approaches and experiences to learning. And has made me want to use this in my future teaching practice." Work Experience Student

"The iPad helped as you can get real images and use them to create your own." Year 4 Pupil

"At my old school, we had to share computers, here I can work more quickly as I have an iPad to myself." Year 4 Pupil

"What a welcoming school! Super impressed with the warm support reflected from the students and the care from their teachers regarding their development!" Tim, External Examiner, University of Greenwich

"A quick note to say it has been lovely working at the school today. Staff were friendly and professional at all times and there was a warm atmosphere everywhere I went. As a supply teacher, it was very easy just to 'pop-in' and teach for the day, as the children were very clearly settled and happy, in both Year 1 and Year 5 classes where I have been today. There is consistency of approach in both classes and children were very aware with all the routines. Thank You!" Supply Teacher

"It was so nice to see my son learning so much! Thank you so much for the hard work you have put in with him!" Parent

"Wonderful to see the learning happening in EYFS - creative, inspiring and ambitious." Mr M, LAC Member

Proud to be part of  Woodland Academy Trust

## Living Our Value of Respect: Eco Club Leads the Way in Recycling and Sustainability



At Northumberland Heath Primary, the value of respect extends beyond the classroom — it's embedded in how we care for our environment too.

This term, our passionate Eco Club, has been leading by example, raising awareness about recycling and sustainability across the school. From encouraging classmates to recycle crisp packets and pens to running informative assemblies and eco challenges, pupils are helping create a culture of responsibility and environmental respect.

We were also thrilled to receive beautiful handcrafted bird boxes, kindly made by a family member of our Wellbeing Coach, to support local wildlife in our eco garden. This generous contribution will help our pupils observe nature up close and understand the importance of caring for all living things.

These efforts reflect our commitment to living out our values every day — showing respect for our planet, our school community, and the future we're helping to shape.



## A Celebration of Stories: World Book Day 2025

This year's World Book Day celebrations were packed with creativity, joy, and a real love for reading. Pupils, staff and families embraced the joy of reading through a week-long celebration filled with reading themed activities.

A particular highlight was the return of our Reading Buddies sessions. Older children were paired with younger pupils, sharing stories and forming special connections. This initiative not only encouraged reading but also reflected our core values of kindness and respect, as pupils listened, engaged and encouraged one another.

Staff joined in the fun too sharing their own favourite books with children—fostering a community-wide love of reading. We also loved welcoming families into school to read with their children. These sessions were incredibly special, with pupils beaming as they shared stories with their adults.

The atmosphere around the classrooms during the week was a heart-warming reminder of how powerful reading can be in bringing people together.



Watch our video to get insight into our school community-  
Our school video



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Northumberland Heath  
Primary School



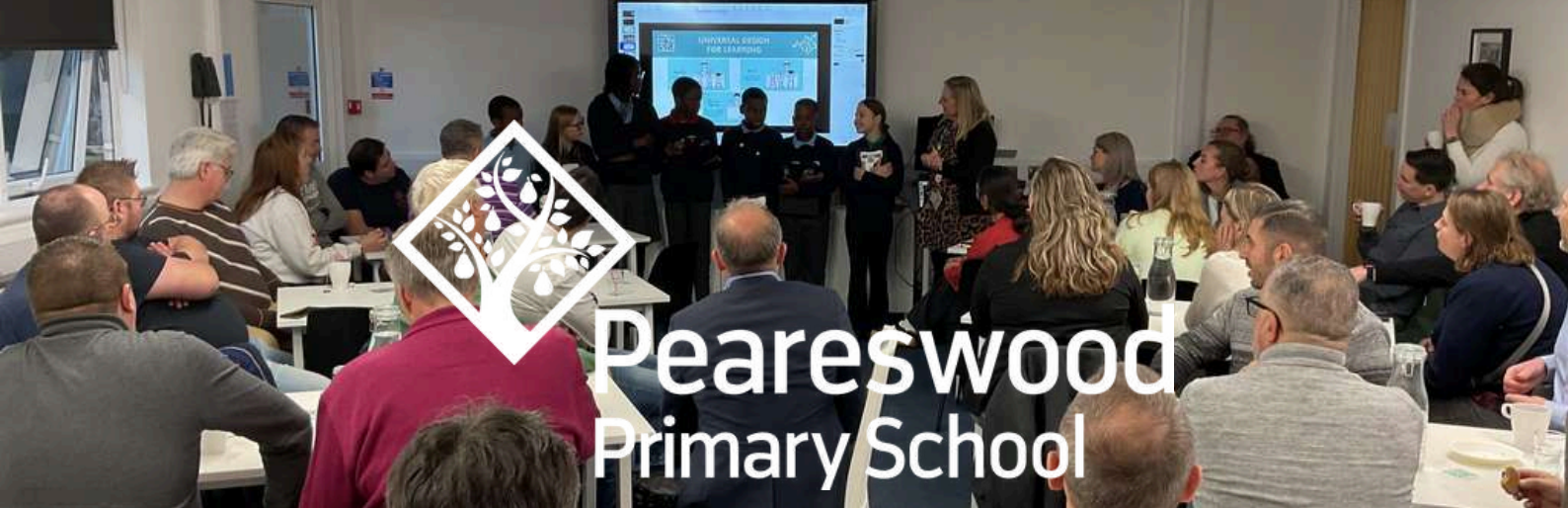
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[www.northumberlandheathprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandheathprimaryschool.co.uk)





## Peareswood in the Press!

We're proud to have been featured in the News Shopper this term as "a shining example of what can be achieved with strong leadership, dedicated staff, and a community that truly believes in its children."

The article celebrates our pupils' love for learning, our innovative approach to education, and the nurturing environment we've created together.

Here are a few highlights from the feature:

- Our children described as "happy, engaged and thriving".
- Praise for our digital innovation as an Apple Distinguished School.
- Recognition of our inclusive ethos and high aspirations for all pupils.
- Comments from parents celebrating our staff's "exceptional care and support".

Want to read more? See the full article on the [News Shopper website](#) and celebrate this proud moment with us!



Children 'love learning at warm and friendly' Erith primary school  
[newsshopper.co.uk](http://newsshopper.co.uk)



## Living Our Values: Football Team Champions!

We're incredibly proud of our Year 5 and 6 girls' football team, who have been crowned winners of the Alex Chalmers Cup 2025 after a brilliant performance in the final!

The team, who train alongside the boys team at Peareswood, have shown outstanding teamwork, commitment, and determination throughout the competition. Representing Peareswood with pride, they've demonstrated great skill and sportsmanship in every match.

Their hard work has paid off — and we couldn't be prouder of their incredible achievement! Well done team — Bexley champions!



#pride #ambition #collaboration





Peareswood Primary, proudly recognised as an Apple Distinguished School, had the pleasure of hosting a group of teachers from Austria in January.

Accompanied by an Apple Education lead, the group explored our innovative digital practices and saw them in action across the school. It was a fantastic opportunity to share expertise and build global connections. We hope our visitors enjoyed experiencing Peareswood's digitally immersive environment as much as we enjoyed welcoming them.

As an Apple Distinguished School, we are proud of the digital innovation happening every day at Peareswood — and we're excited to continue sharing our journey with others. To find out more about our digital journey, visit our [school website](#).

We also had a brilliant time with international visitors from the Netherlands and Denmark, sharing and celebrating the digital learning that makes Peareswood so special. 🌍 🇺🇸

We were proud to host a delegation of IT consultants, teachers, and school leaders from Denmark, organised by COMM2IG and polkadot. Our visitors explored how we integrate education technology into everyday classroom practice and saw first-hand the positive impact it has on teaching and learning.

It was a fantastic opportunity to connect, collaborate, and showcase the innovative approaches that we share not only in our school, but across all the schools in Woodland Academy Trust.

Thank you to everyone who visited. It was a privilege to connect, collaborate, and celebrate the power of digital innovation together.



### Feedback from Our Austrian Visitors

Thank you very much for having us. It was really interesting. I really liked the atmosphere of the school.

Very impressive and great to see that iPad is a tool that builds on great ideas to improve students learning.

It was really inspiring. Thank you so much for all the effort you put into our visit. It was great to see how you really care about the learning of your students.

Thank you so much for sharing your journey with us. It was wonderful experiencing how change and digitalisation positively influences your school and its kids!

Wonderful to see such passionate teachers and engaged kids. Great to see what impact technology can make for teaching and learning.

Congratulations for the marvellous job you all do.

Thank you for all the time and effort you put into this.



### Feedback from Our Dutch Visitors

Be proud of what you have achieved as a school. A big thank you to all the children for their fantastic effort and to the dedicated team of teachers and staff for making it all possible.

Amazingly good, organised school. Very sweet and amazing children.

Amazingly good organized school. Very sweet and amazing children.

What a nice school with enthusiastic teachers and pupils. Very good to see how you work and use Tech in the classes to help pupils with learning and reducing workload for teachers.

Loved seeing the kids work and the presentation from the headteacher. It was a good programme for us to follow, I've become very enthusiastic and inspired.

We truly loved visiting your school.

What nice people and a school to be proud of, a treat to be here.







At Peareswood, we proudly took part in Children's Mental Health Week with Place2Be, embracing this year's uplifting theme: 'Dress to Express'.

Children and staff came to school dressed in outfits that made them feel happy and confident. From cultural clothing and hobby-inspired looks to favourite colours and comfy styles, it was a joyful celebration of individuality and self-expression across the school.

We also explored the powerful message of 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself', with each class taking part in activities that supported both mind and body. From mindfulness yoga to circle time discussions and breathing techniques, children were encouraged to tune in to their feelings and develop tools for emotional wellbeing.

Our Wellbeing Champions did a fantastic job visiting classrooms to celebrate everyone's expressive outfits and capture the special moments for social media.

The week was a valuable opportunity to shine a light on the importance of mental health and to remind each other that how we feel matters — every day.



## Celebrating World Book Day: Reading the Peareswood Way! 🇬🇧🌟

This term, we marked World Book Day with a week full of creativity, storytelling, and a celebration of reading for pleasure—reflecting this year's theme: 'Read Your Way'.



Every year group had the opportunity to design and present a diorama based on their favourite story. The standard of entries was outstanding, and our brilliant Reading Ambassadors worked together to judge the winners, looking carefully at effort, presentation, and how well each creation captured the essence of the chosen book. Each child received a gift voucher and some chocolate!



Our Reading Ambassadors were at the heart of the celebrations. As well as recording videos of themselves reading books to promote the Read Your Way initiative—shared with classes via Showbie—they also spent time in the Nursery, reading with our youngest pupils and encouraging a love of reading from the very start.

Parents also played a key role by sharing photos of where and how their children enjoy reading at home. These were proudly displayed and discussed in class, sparking conversations about the many ways we can enjoy books. It was a fantastic celebration of books, imagination, and the joy of reading in all its forms.

We were also incredibly grateful to receive a generous book donation from the Children's Book Project. With a wide range of titles—from picture books to chapter books—every child was able to choose two books, a bookmark, and a sticker to take home, reinforcing the message that reading can be personal, joyful, and for everyone.



As part of their ongoing work, the Reading Ambassadors meet regularly with Mrs Down our Reading Lead to plan exciting reading initiatives across the school to promote reading. We are proud of their enthusiasm and dedication to their role. #pride #collaboration



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# Willow Bank Primary School

## Tree Planting with Peabody – Making a Lasting Impact

A group of Willow Bank pupils had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a tree planting workshop at Southmere Park, in partnership with Peabody. The site is known as ‘Tiny Forest’ in Southmere Park as part of the Thamesmead Making Space for Nature and CLEVER Cities programmes.

During the session, the children explored the vital role that trees play in urban environments—learning about their benefits for the climate, biodiversity, and community wellbeing. Guided by environmental experts, they were taught the practical steps of planting trees and got their hands dirty making a tangible difference to their local landscape.

One of the most memorable moments was spotting the trees they had planted during a previous visit and seeing how much they had grown—a powerful reminder of the lasting impact they are making within their community.

This experience brought several of our school values to life. Pupils demonstrated respect for the environment and displayed real resilience as they got stuck in with enthusiasm and care. Above all, their work reflected kindness for their community and aspiration to help create a greener future.



## Year 6 Create Thought-Provoking Artwork for Holocaust Memorial Exhibition

Children in Year 6 were inspired by fingerprint portrait artist Cheryl Sorg to create a powerful piece of collaborative artwork for the Holocaust Memorial Exhibition at Greenwich University.

Working alongside our local artist Amy Bairstow, the pupils used their own fingerprints to symbolise both individuality and unity—coming together to express the exhibition’s central theme, ‘For a Better Future’.

As part of the project, each child wrote a personal reflection, sharing the values they believe are essential for building a more compassionate, respectful, and inclusive world for all humanity. These reflections were compiled to form the shape of a fingerprint, resulting in a deeply meaningful and visually striking final piece.



Please accept a small token of gratitude for working in partnership with us for the IHMD exhibition 2025 at the University of Greenwich. We highly appreciate the time you have taken to help us continue to highlight the importance of this learning, and to share the wonderful contributions you and your children have made to make this a successful event. We hope you have also found it a valuable and rewarding experience. Many thanks,  
The Team at Greenwich



## Staying Safe, Speaking Up: Empowering Pupils Through Awareness



At Willow Bank, we are committed to equipping our children with the knowledge and confidence they need to keep themselves safe. As part of National Child Exploitation Awareness Day, we welcomed two specialist organisations into school to deliver impactful, age-appropriate workshops for our Year 5 and 6 pupils.

**Growing Against Violence** (GAV) led a powerful session called Friends versus Friendlies, supporting pupils in exploring the difference between healthy friendships and manipulative behaviours. The workshop empowered them to recognise red flags and make safe, informed choices in their relationships—both online and offline.

Year 5 also took part in a workshop with **Youth Unity**, where they learned about Katie's Story—a real-life case study used to sensitively highlight the dangers of exploitation and its impact on young people. Through discussion and reflection, the children explored how to spot signs of unsafe situations and how to seek help from trusted adults.

The day formed an important part of our safeguarding and personal development curriculum and linked to many of our school values, helping pupils build critical awareness and strategies to stay safe. These sessions also sparked mature and thoughtful conversations across the school, reinforcing our shared responsibility to protect and empower every child.

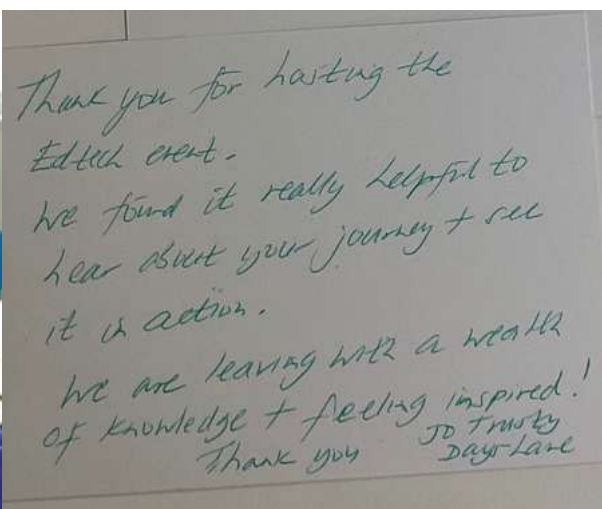


## Hosting an EdTech Study Tour for Days Lane Primary

Willow Bank Primary recently welcomed staff from Days Lane Primary School as part of an EdTech Study Tour organised through LGfL.

The visit focused on how iPad devices can enhance accessibility in the classroom, particularly by empowering pupils with special educational needs (SEN) to develop greater independence through technology.

Throughout the day, the staff from Days Lane Primary engaged in thoughtful discussions and took part in a range of hands-on learning opportunities, gaining insight into how digital tools are embedded into everyday teaching and learning at Willow Bank.





Willow Bank was bursting with excitement this term as we welcomed the Living Eggs programme into school. Children were able to watch eggs hatch in real time and care for the chicks during their early days of life.

This hands-on experience provided a fantastic opportunity to explore the life cycle of chickens while also nurturing a sense of responsibility and empathy for living things. From spotting the first cracks in the shells to seeing the chicks take their first steps, the experience sparked curiosity and joy across the school.

Before returning to the farm, the chicks were showered with love and care from our pupils—giving them the very best start in life. If you would like to know more about the programme, you can visit <https://www.livingeggs.co.uk/>

You can watch some of the magical hatching moments on our Facebook page: [Watch the chicks hatch](#)



Watch our video to get insight into our school community.  
[Our School Video](#)



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