

- New accident recording system boosts Partnership
- Building works remain firmly on track
- Primaries enjoy tenth anniversary celebrations
- Added dimension to latest Culture Day



Together we are stronger

## Welcome to One Trust

**CEO Richard Gill shares his thoughts** 



#### Hello everyone!

I do hope you have all enjoyed the recent weather. It's amazing what a little bit of sun can do.

We have reached that time of the year when staff and pupils are, naturally, determined to see their consistent hard work and commitment rewarded with the most successful examination results possible.

With exam season now firmly upon us, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have worked exceptionally hard to ensure pupils are prepared for their examinations and assessments during the 2022-2023 examination series.

Hundreds of our pupils have already taken their SATs and thousands more will sit GCSEs, vocational and A-Level examinations over the coming weeks. We should be proud of the efforts of both the pupils and staff.

It is important to remind ourselves, however, that examination results are only one aspect of the education we provide. Our mission is to educate pupils to love learning and help shape well-rounded young people. We strive to ensure that our schools are happy, caring and nurturing environments. Good luck to everyone!

I recently had the opportunity to showcase the fantastic work of the broader Partnership and Teaching School Hub when influential regional education leaders paid a visit to Arthur Terry.

Andrew Warren, Regional Director for the West Midlands, was among our guests who met with the ATLP's five strategic leads to discuss the journey of incoming schools joining ATLP and how the school, staff and heads have benefited from joining the Trust. It was a pleasure to discuss the strength of our Teaching School Hub and School Improvement Team. You can read more about the visit here.

On the subject of incoming schools adding to our growing family, I look forward to officially welcoming The Bridge in Lichfield to the ATLP on July 1, subject to completion of the legal formalities.

James Morris, The Bridge Head of School, said: "We are excited to be joining the ATLP and being part of a family of schools whose vision and values align to those of The Bridge. This partnership will enable us to build on the progress we are making to provide a safe and supportive environment where our children thrive."

Another special guest was in attendance when Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands, Jenny Loynton, visited John Willmott to hear about the proposed renaming of the Royal Sutton School.

Councillor Richard Parkin (Sutton Reddicap) was also present to discover the fantastic progress being made at the school, not least due to the 'Moral Virtues' launch which has inspired pupils. Read more here.

In this issue of One Trust, I hope you enjoy reading about how the Partnership is delivering Quality Services – both inside and outside the classroom - as outlined in our Strategic Plan.

It's been another incredibly busy half term, particularly in helping prepare children for examinations, so once again I thank you all for your ongoing commitment to ensuring our young people are given every opportunity to succeed.

Have a great break!



Richard Gill CBE - CEO The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership





# Cooking up success through catering revamp

Fresh from the Partnership bringing catering 'in-house' by moving staff across from Chartwells, new Catering **Operations Manager Harry** Matthews can share some more exciting developments from our

The transfer of catering staff to ATLP employees heralded the dawn of a new era in kitchens across our schools which began with the recent soft launch of the in-house catering service.

kitchens.

The catering team are currently still busily working on different projects behind the scenes to prepare for the September full launch of a new menu, which will meet our ambition of providing a high-quality catering service which has children at the heart of everything we provide.

Catering Operations Manager Harry Matthews is excited by new opportunities in our kitchens.

Evaluating and improving current structures to develop a more cohesive centralised structure is key moving forwards, as Harry outlines.

He said: "Over the next term, we plan to introduce across primary schools a meal pre-order and full allergen management system that will sync with schools' morning register.

"This will allow parents to have full access to meal choices for their children and provide all allergen information, including removing the allergenic choice of food which is unsuitable for the child.

"In line with this, we have been working with our suppliers to update all the nutritional value on the products we provide so we can pass this on to our stakeholders to allow them to make healthy and informed choices on their meals. The recipes we use will also be available for parents to download and use should they

"We are currently working on menus for next term with the help of the catering team from across the Trust. These will be ready for the chefs to analyse and suggest their own schoolspecific bespoke suggestions by May 26. We then aim to be ready for schools to receive them and distribute by June 30.

"Over the course of the summer holidays, we plan to start updating all the branding relating to catering across the school estates with an ATIP **Central Services theme** that our teams can display with pride."

There is a clear focus on recruiting and retaining the best staff, as well as improving effectiveness and value for money.

Harry added: "After launching our paperless food management system, throughout the next year we will be analysing catering and looking at further ways we can become more sustainable and lower our carbon footprint and I hope to update you all with exciting news soon.

"After the initial success we had with our recruitment open days for catering, we are continuing to recruit for a number of positions across our schools with the aim of strengthening the level of service and support we offer within our schools."

# Communication is key to building literacy success

Providing guidance and issuing evidence-informed best practice are the principles which the Partnership's Literacy & English Lead Helen Bowman Dalton is using to lay the foundations for a successful future.

Helen, who began her role at the start of this academic year, has been busy evaluating current processes and using the best of these alongside her own ideas in order to implement a learning and development strategy that will enhance the teaching and learning of English and literacy across our schools.

Aware that the ATLP does not have an English curriculum, Helen has put together a writing rubric to guide our schools in addition to networking to share best practice.

Helen, an experienced Head of English and Lead Practitioner with service in London and Warwickshire schools behind her, said: "Since joining the ATLP, I have been on a steep learning curve as I have immersed myself in the daily curriculum and practice on offer to the children in our schools.

"I approach my role with the belief that there is no greater expert in a school community than the teachers and leaders who work alongside them and their families every day. My role is to provide evidence-informed support and guidance to leaders to help them make the best possible choices for the communities they serve.

"One of the most rewarding parts of the job so far has been the opportunity to bring colleagues together to collaborate on their shared goals. I try never to forget how much work it is to come out of school even for a few hours and hope to ensure that quality circles and moderation meetings are always a good use of everyone's time!"

Seeking regular feedback and communication with leaders to ensure a high quality of service is vital and Helen highlights one such example.

She added: "One particular focus of my first year in post has been Key Stage 2 writing, particularly in lower KS2 where children were particularly affected by lockdowns during the pandemic.

"Colleagues across the Trust were very generous with their time and their planning as I undertook an evaluation of writing curricula in our primary schools and investigated evidence-informed best practice to create a Trustwide rubric of agreed, aligned principles for the process of teaching writing.

"Having launched the rubric in the spring term, I am now using it as a basis for my conversations with leaders in schools and I intend that in the coming terms it will enable us to evaluate our practice with a shared language and process. I believe the most effective, sustainable improvement comes when we create the conditions for collaboration and alignment."

# Progressive Sports to provide first-class wraparound care





Progressive Sports is thrilled to be partnering with Anna Seward Primary in Lichfield to bring an exciting and enriching wraparound offer to the school.

The wrapround will be delivered under the name Progressive Kids, which provides trusted, reliable and expert childcare before and after school.

The focus is on creating enriching and inclusive activities that create a positive and enjoyable extension to the school day, whilst also providing a service that is not only safe and secure but is valued and trusted by everyone involved.

Eddie Ray, Founder of Progressive Sports, said: "We can't wait to kick off our wraparound offer at Anna Seward Primary. We're really excited about the opportunity to provide a unique, inclusive and enriching experience for every child who attends.

"The wraparound will include four zones - sporty, wellness, discovery and creative - giving children a range of activities that they can free-flow through."

Progressive Sports will also be using Scotch Orchard Primary in Lichfield to run one of its Active Camps from this summer as part of the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF).

The HAF at Scotch Orchard is provided through the DfE in partnership with Staffordshire County Council with the aim of giving free school meals children access to holiday activities and hot food throughout the summer free of charge.

Progressive Sports Active Camps will be available from July 31 to August 25 for children aged five to 13. Further information for eligible children will be available via the school or Staffordshire County Council website.





## **New accident** recording system brings many benefits



A new and vastly improved accident recording system is being developed and is undergoing review in alignment with the 'Three-Year Strategic Plan for Health and Safety'.

The focus is on People, Systems and Data:

#### **People**

The system is designed to be easy to use and support school staff and teams with effective time management, whilst providing confidence in the recording of and responding to accidents in our schools.

#### **System**

Provides a Partnership-wide cloud-based system with a unified format for ease of use and provision for future development.

#### **Data**

Data is captured and secured with the aim of providing reassurance on the effectiveness of the system and reporting on the business health of schools, service and the Partnership.

The 'Online Accident Recording system' is replacing the paperbased accident forms currently used by schools to report accidents and near misses.

This has come about because currently not all required

information is being captured effectively, forms are stored insecurely and there is little ability to analyse data in real time.

#### The aim of the new system is to provide a service that is:

- · Compliant Complies with RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations).
- · Secure Data is stored securely and restricted.
- · Easy to use.
- · Fit for purpose.
- · Capturing information effectively and securely.
- · Robust and supports future expansion.
- · Provides the ability for the analysis of data in real time.

Health and Safety Manager Andrew Birch said: "The system has been undergoing a period of testing in a selection of schools within the Partnership to ensure it delivers the required objectives.

"Feedback from schools trialling the system has been positive, supportive and invaluable in ensuring the system is appropriate for the need of the Partnership and

complies with legislative requirements.

"The form has been designed to guide the person completing it to the appropriate sections they need to complete to enable a report to be submitted. This will ensure the correct information is recorded which is particularly important when RIDDOR reports are required.

"Upon completing a form, the relevant school will receive an acknowledgement of their submission and will be able to retain a record of their responses for their records.

"The other main benefit of the system is that it will support schools and central teams with the ability to analyse trends and identify areas of concern, whilst assisting with strategic development.

"By September, the dedicated health and safety pages on the intranet will provide full instructions and guidance on how to utilise the system.

# Restructuring strengthens safeguarding team

The Partnership has recently appointed primary hub Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) to support our safeguarding work.

These appointments have given us an opportunity to restructure how our safeguarding teams operate and provide additional capacity to promote the wellbeing and safety of our students.

The changes will also provide greater clarity for schools about who to approach for support with safeguarding.

Trust Safeguarding Leads will each oversee respective hubs – divided into South, North and Central – and line manage the primary hub DSLs to provide support and guidance to all schools in that hub.

Your usual 'go to' person for safeguarding will, in most cases, be the Trust Lead attached to your hub. You should contact this person in the first instance for all for support with safeguarding issues. However, as Trust Leads

continue to work on the principle of 'One Trust', they will go where they are needed.

Trust Safeguarding Lead
Amanda Caldecott said: "We are
delighted that newly-appointed
strategic safeguarding hub leads
are in place. This has further
strengthened the network of
secondary strategic leads in
position since the start of this
academic year.

"These amazing individuals are already beginning to make an impact in our schools and hubs by sharing their knowledge and expertise for the overall protection of children across the Partnership.

"With additional focus on vulnerable children, the primary hub roles will be intrinsic in ensuring equity is front and centre. The positions allow greater depth of opportunities to work within communities, develop stronger connections and identify contextual risks. We wholeheartedly welcome them to the ATLP family."

# Nov Primary Hub DSI

New Primary Hub DSL Annie Hodgetts.

#### ATLP Mental Health Network in development

Work is under way to develop a network of Mental Health Leads across the Partnership.

Amanda said: With mental health-related difficulties being the most identified safeguarding concerns among pupils and parents, we recognise the need for expertise to be developed and nurtured.

"A number of schools have already identified nominated individuals to lead in this area, but if your school has not I would encourage you to determine the right person for this role and let me know. The emotional nature of the role lends itself to people with existing interest and capacity to create the strongest network across the Partnership.

"With support from Lisa Nelson, I will be steering this project, which will complement the work of the trauma-informed pathway as it embeds across the Partnership."

#### Safeguarding team structure:

Trust Safeguarding Lead - Amanda Caldecott	Trust Safeguarding Lead - Louise Davies	Trust Safeguarding Lead - Sue Bailey
Stockland Green	Nether Stowe	John Willmott
Arthur Terry	Coleshill	The Bridge
	West Coventry Academy	
South	North	Central
Primary hub DSLs - Jaz Khan and Sarah Long	Primary hub DSL - Ceri Cox	Primary hub DSL - Annie Hodgetts
Osborne	St Michael's	William MacGregor
Brookvale	St Chad's	Coton Green
Slade	Greysbrooke	Two Gates
Mere Green	Scotch Orchard	Curdworth
	Anna Seward	Hill West
		+ support for South as capacity allows

# Partnership's inaugural Induction Day hailed as a great success

A piece of ATLP history was created when the Trust held its first ever induction day at Harvest Fields Centre on the outskirts of Sutton Coldfield.

After being welcomed by children from across the Partnership by way of a specially-commissioned video, 29 new recruits – both teachers and support staff – listened to talks from key ATLP figures and enjoyed discussions with each other as they embarked on their careers with the company.

Among the new recruits is Veronika Green, who has just begun her second term as a TA at Slade Primary School in Erdington. She lavished praised on the induction day and said: "It's fantastic and important to meet people from across the Partnership. The feeling I get is that people's well-being is engrained in the culture of the company and this helps to provide the best environment for everyone to help our children.

"The ATLP is such a big organisation, so it's great to bring people together in this way, especially at the start of their journeys with the company. It's vital that we all know the support is there for us when we need it.

"I have hugely enjoyed my time at Slade so far. The children are engaged and there is a real sense



Veronika Green took a great deal from the induction day.

of belonging among pupils and staff, which is the case across the Partnership."

The induction sessions will now take place on an ongoing basis every September, January and around Easter time.

After many months of planning and execution, the Partnership's first intranet is now live

Whilst it is very much in its infancy, a rising number of you are now using the intranet and pages are becoming increasingly populated.

The initial aim is for it to act as a one-stop shop for information on our Support Services. In these pages, you will see an introduction to each of our services and find out who supports who.

The intranet holds various newsletters and updates and outlines what each team provides as part of their service. Over time, it will include more and more key documents and training information that can be accessed and will expand to include other areas of the Partnership including safeguarding and data.

Visit <u>Support Services</u> to explore the pages and familiarise yourself with the information included.

Your feedback would be greatly appreciated, so do please share your thoughts and suggestions on how improvements can be made for the benefit of all users.



## Anna Seward Primary works on track

Roofing works and drylining have been completed at Anna Seward Primary School, which will welcome its first pupils on opening in September.

The next phase of works currently ongoing at the Lichfield school includes brickwork, cladding, second fix mechanical and electrical engineering, ceilings, flooring and decorations, which will be completed in the next few weeks.

# Archie rises to the challenge

The Coleshill School's Archie Allsop showed top ball control to raise a fantastic sum for charity.

Year 7 pupil Archie secured £421 in donations by taking part in the 'Keepy Uppy Challenge'.

Archie said: "I took part in the 'Keepy Uppy Challenge' as it looked fun and I wanted to raise money for a good cause. I chose Bone Cancer Research Trust and practised a lot. I did 75 'Keepy Uppys' a day over two weeks."



# West Coventry Academy new-build looking good

The new-build at West Coventry Academy is looking increasingly impressive ahead of moving in day at the start of the new academic year.

Have a look at these images, including the new sports hall taking shape.







## It's a perfect ten for Hill West and Mere Green primaries





Celebrations were in the air when pupils from two schools got together to mark ten years in the Partnership.

Children at Hill West Primary welcomed guests from nearby Mere Green Primary to enjoy party games, music, tasty treats and cake. Respective Headteachers Dr Beth Clarke and Kristal Brookes oversaw the celebrations and Director of Education (Primary) and former Mere Green Headteacher Anna Balson also took part in the fun and games.

Both schools joined the ATLP in 2013 and have had much to celebrate during that time.

Dr Clarke, who joined Hill West in 2004 as Deputy Headteacher and became Headteacher in 2006, said: "Being part of the

ATLP family as a headteacher and a senior leader means you're not alone. You have amazing colleagues supporting you to make the very best decisions for the children in your school.

"There's a sense that in some small way you're shaping the life chances of children in our other schools too and with that comes a real sense of pride and satisfaction; to know that you are contributing to an education system beyond your own school.

"Being part of the ATLP has improved our leaders and teachers exponentially because it's meant we have opportunities to network far more closely and share best practice. This has paid dividends for our pupils not only in terms of their teachers excelling in the field but also in terms of collaborative ventures -

our annual student awards being just one example of this."

Mrs Brookes, who joined the ATLP as Deputy Headteacher at Mere Green in 2015 before becoming Headteacher in 2017, said: "The ATLP is going from strength to strength. A great example of this is the recent residential in France. Taking around 160 children from multiple schools shows that our young people are not defined by postcode and that doors and possibilities are opened for all.

"At Mere Green, we played a key role during the launch period of Learning Futures which will see every child in an ATLP school having their own device (Apple iPad) and it's been fantastic to see how the project has grown at such an impressive pace across our schools."

# John Willmott take debating event spoils





Image above: Hunor Veres and Tatenda Mutonga from John Willmott School with chairman Gary Phelps and judges Tina Swani and Dennis Kennedy.

Talented John Willmott School students claimed victory in Sutton Coldfield's annual Sixth Form School Debating contest, which served up a fascinating evening of argument and ideas.

The event has been organised by Sutton Coldfield MP Andrew Mitchell for more than 20 years and returned after a three-year break caused by the pandemic.

John Willmott had been the only school never to lift the Best Debating Team trophy, but Hunor Veres and Tatenda Mutonga changed all that with a powerful performance in the competition held at Arthur Terry School.

The duo impressed the judges with persuasive debates on Post-Brexit Britain and the Royal Family.

Mr Mitchell was unable to attend the debates for the first time in years, due to urgent ministerial duties brought about by the crisis in Sudan, so head judge Gary Phelps stepped in to chair the event.

Mr Mitchell said: "Many congratulations to Hunor Veres and Tatenda Mutonga. Their success is a clear sign that John Willmott School is on the up and I know everyone in the audience was hugely impressed by their debating skills."

Delighted John Willmott Headteacher Nicola Gould said: "We are so proud of Hunor and Tatenda for winning the debating competition. The quality of the competition was, as always, incredibly high."

Arthur Terry's Isla Bergin-Smith picked up the award for 'Best Speaker', after passionately talking about Brexit and the sale of human organs.

Plantsbrook School, Bishop Walsh Catholic School, Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Sutton Coldfield College, Fairfax Academy and Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls also competed.

## Latest careers event inspires budding journalists

Building upon the foundations of February's collaborative careers fair, it was another wonderful occasion at Arthur Terry where pupils from 11 Partnership schools enjoyed an ITV journalism careers live spotlight.

Pupils either attended in person or via live stream to listen to ITV News Central presenter Ravneet Nandra's university graduate route into the profession and Sam Hughes' degree apprenticeship pathway to his work as an ITV producer.

Both speakers engaged our young people brilliantly and the potential next generation of journalists were inspired as they enjoyed one-to-one conversations with the media professionals.

Osborne Primary's Assistant Headteacher, Lorraine Adolphe, said: "The media career pathways talk was awesome and we look forward to more opportunities like this."

A Coleshill School pupil added: "It's inspired me to want to be a journalist. It was the best talk I have ever been to."

Schools who took part were Arthur Terry, Coleshill, John Willmott, Nether Stowe, Stockland Green, Coton Green, Hill West, Osborne, Scotch Orchard, St Chad's and Two Gates.



T 0121 323 2221

Sam Hughes and Rayneet Nandra with some of the captivated pupils



Staff including Slade Headteacher Jenny Maskell serve food.

# Slade's first Iftar highlights fantastic community spirit

In a world that often seems divided, it is heartening to witness moments of unity and understanding which transcend cultural and religious boundaries.

Such an occasion occurred at Slade Primary School where pupils, parents, staff and members of the local community came together to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan with a joyous school Iftar - the first in the school's history.

The excellent community spirit was evident throughout the event, which not only fostered a sense of communal harmony but also highlighted the school's commitment to diversity, inclusivity and mutual respect.

Mohammed Minhas, a teaching assistant at Slade and proud member of the local community who led the organisation of the Iftar, was keen that all cultures were included and opened out the Iftar to all of the families at Slade.

Slade's Head of School Danny Jones said: "The hall was transformed into a vibrant and welcoming space for the Iftar celebration during which our families and staff could enjoy a wide range of food. Prayers were held in the school studio and were led by a parent of Slade.

"The school Iftar at Slade Primary was a shining example of how a diverse community can come together in celebration and solidarity. It demonstrated the power of education in promoting empathy, understanding and respect for all.

"By embracing diversity and fostering an inclusive environment, Slade continues to nurture future generations of compassionate individuals who will contribute positively to society.

The Iftar brought many members

of the community together.

"This memorable event will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the hearts and minds of those who participated, reminding all of the beauty of unity in our diverse world."







Fareedat Onakoya won a culture catwalk award.

## Food and fashion are celebrated at **Stockland Green Culture Day**

Stockland Green's latest Culture Day had an added dimension with the introduction of the school's first ever culture catwalk.

**Pupils from the Diversity** group organise and host the established Culture Day **Food Festival which brings** together children, teachers and the local community to showcase the incredible array of flavours, ingredients and cooking techniques that define different cultures.

The festival offers a platform for pupils to share their family recipes, traditional dishes and personal stories to create a melting pot of gastronomic experiences and ignite a sense of curiosity and appreciation for global cuisine.

This time around, fabulous food was matched by fantastic fashion as more than 60 pupils entered the culture catwalk event. At lunchtime, pupils took to the catwalk to show amazing clothes from at least ten different cultures.

The four culture catwalk judges measured the outfits against originality, confidence and pride; attention to detail with accessories; and appreciation of current fashion trends.

Award winners were: Georgina Butler (Year 8); Rebecca Ashenhurst (Year 8); Billy Tetley Baillie (Year 11); Camila De Blas



Rondon (Year 7); Hosna Anwari (Year 7); Daniel Iyiloa (Year 7); Fareedat Onakoya (Year 7).

Charlotte Vernon, Associate Assistant Headteacher and Head of Humanities, said: "Culture Day encourages cultural exchange, fostering understanding and respect for different traditions.

"The food culture show is a true celebration of the universal language of food - bringing people together through their shared love for culinary delights.

"We would like to give a massive thanks to The Original Patty Company for supplying 96 Jamaican curry pasties for our students to indulge in on the day! They were able to pick from a mix of vegetable patties, lamb or chicken and these went down a treat!"



# Meet Julie Whitehouse

### **Arthur Terry Chef Manager**



## "It is great to officially be part of the family."

That is the view of Julie Whitehouse, who is one of many catering staff to have recently transitioned from Chartwells and become an ATLP employee.

Julie boasts a wealth of experience in the catering industry and beyond and is relishing the chance to play her part in launching a new era of dining across our schools.

She said: "I manage a team of 13, providing a catering service across three outlets serving 1,700 pupils per day, as well as hospitality.

"My duties include ordering, stock-taking, producing daily, weekly and monthly accounts, costings, menu planning, hospitality, HR and also ensuring that the unit complies with all legal and company legislation. This includes all food and nutritional standards, food safety, health and safety, allergen and food labelling."

As you can tell, Julie has a lot on her proverbial plate!

However, she has never been fazed by a challenge and is excited at the prospect of cooking up tasty and nutritious meals, particularly when a new menu launches in September.

Julie, who lives with her "better half" Dave and has two beautiful daughters and a precious two-year-old granddaughter, said: "Everyone in the catering team cares passionately about the food that we produce for both staff

and students. We all share the desire of the ATLP to work as One Trust and provide both quality food and catering provision, whilst being mindful that we have purchasing restrictions and allergen legislation to work within.

"Both my team and myself have always felt part of the team at Arthur Terry School. Most of us have been at the school for some years so have watched the growth and development of ATLP and know a number of people that make up the senior team, so it's great to be part of that family officially.

"The role can be both challenging and rewarding. It's challenging due to time and purchasing constraints but rewarding when you see the children grow and develop from starting school to when they leave.

"School catering has evolved so much over the years and long gone are the days when children were offered just two choices and mainly processed foods.

"It's now more like a restaurant offering with up to 32 choices of nutritional foods from around the world. We have a team here who are all passionate about the food they serve so seeing that is certainly something to be proud of."

Julie has worked and studied in the catering industry for 42 years - firstly training and working as a chef before being promoted to Catering Manager and then Facilities Manager. She explained: "I love learning so whilst working I studied and gained a HND in Food Safety, a BA (Hons) in Catering and a Masters in Facilities Management. I've worked as a chef, catering manager and catering financial and safety auditor for six campuses across the University of Wolverhampton and also as facilities manager at a 72-bedroomed residential training centre in Birmingham."

Julie believes the switch of catering to 'in-house' across the Partnership will be a successful one thanks to the great deal of groundwork that has already taken place.

She added: "It's only been a month or so since transferring from a contractor to in-house catering, so as you can imagine it's been quite challenging having to implement new systems for purchasing, accounting and ensuring that we are complying to all legislation with regard to food safety, health and safety and allergens, whilst at the same time continuing to operate a very busy service.

"The success is in the planning. Coupled with the skills and passion we have across the catering team, the future for school dining looks extremely positive."

Away from the kitchen, Julie enjoys travelling, gardening, doing anything creative and learning which proves, as she says, that you are "never too old to learn".

# **Meet Tom Manners**

# Trust Mathematics Lead and PGCE Tutor for Mathematics in the SCITT team



You will be hard pressed to find anyone more passionate about sharing their mathematics expertise than the charismatic Tom Manners.

Birmingham-born-and-bred Tom worked in radio for many years as a presenter and producer and was a well-known voice on numerous stations including BBC Radio West Midlands, Touch FM and BBC Coventry & Warwickshire Radio.

However, deep down, the keen Aston Villa fan knew that teaching was for him.

A father-of-two, Tom, who has previously held a couple of Assistant Headteacher roles and been a Trust Maths Lead elsewhere, said: "My mother was a headteacher in a primary school and I always knew that one day I'd follow in her footsteps, so I trained in Key Stages 2 and 3.

"By 2013, when I left my first school, I had decided I wanted to teach teachers. I want to have the biggest impact in the widest way possible and that's why I love my two roles within the SIT and SCITT so much."

Prior to joining the Partnership, Tom earned a distinction in his Masters at the University of Birmingham in 'School Improvement and Educational Leadership'. He produced his dissertation on 'How membership of a MAT can improve maths teaching', so there can be no doubting he is an expert in his field.

Tom, the proud owner of an impressive vinyl collection which helps him unwind, said: "I have been creating a network among the Maths Leads in our primary schools driven by the use of the Frayer model which highlights conceptual variation and requires unambiguous descriptions. I like this clear model because all schools can use this regardless of what curriculum they are using.

"My goal going forward is to create ideas and resources which can be used in all schools. I believe in collaboration and it's vital that our schools don't become islands. The most successful MATs are the ones with schools working together and that's why I am intending to develop resources on problem solving which all staff in all schools can use and benefit from.

"I always thought I would go down the Deputy Head/Head route, but the creation of my role has allowed me to focus on leading maths pedagogy, which I hope will allow me to share my passion and have a greater impact.

"So far in the Trust Maths Lead role, I have offered both in-person and online sessions and meetings to all of our schools as I am trying to ensure Maths Leads know that they are constantly supported. I have a number of ideas that I really want to introduce to further develop that support and utilise the many champions we already have in the Trust."

Such is Tom's commitment to helping others, during lockdown



he launched his own website - tommanners.co.uk - which provides CPD, research, videos and interviews on all things maths teaching.

Tom is also hugely proud of his role in the SCITT team and the impact it has on teachers.

He said: "As a School Improvement Team, we want to be a good ancestor and plant the seeds which will grow to bring results for generations to come.

"Our SCITT was rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted last summer and deservedly so. I improve every year because of my colleagues and I'm not afraid to make mistakes as I feel challenged, yet supported and listened to. As we continue developing and working with other SCITTs, we will continue to improve further still!"

## **New Starters**

We have been delighted to welcome many new faces to the Partnership this term. We wish all of our new colleagues all the very best in their roles.



Saoirse Lawlor Kennedy Teacher of Maths

#### **Hill West Primary**

Alison Yau Lunchtime Supervisor

#### **Slade Primary**

Amelia Wallen Teaching Assistant

#### **Osborne Primary**

Meganne Lakin Teaching Assistant

#### **Scotch Orchard Primary**

Alison Cunningham Lunchtime Supervisor

The Coleshill School

Carla Walker

Midday Supervisor

Emma Averley

Teacher of English

Samantha Foster

**SENDCO** 

#### **Brookvale Primary**

Trevelle Robinson Teaching Assistant

West Coventry Academy

Roula Mizen

Teaching Assistant (EAL)

David Pritchard

Science Technician

Kofi Royale

English Academic Mentor

Nuzrath Shaheed

Maths Academic Mentor

Jody Watson

Attendance Officer

#### **ΔΤΙ Ρ**

#### Marcella Coniff

Catering Assistant

#### Ceri Cox

Primary Hub LDSL and Vulnerable Children Lead

#### Susan De-Costa

Finance Manager

#### Hannah Gormally

Catering Assistant

#### Annie Hodgetts

Primary Hub LDSL and Vulnerable Children Lead

#### Sarah Long

Hub LDSL & Vulnerable Children Lead

#### Stella Ricketts

Catering Assistant

#### Stephanie Field

SENDCo - Primary Hub

#### John Willmott School

#### Barbara Walton

Attendance Assistant

#### Deborah Bell

Associate Assistant Headteacher

#### Natalie Sturmey

Associate Assistant Headteacher

#### **Stockland Green School**

#### Kamisha Blanchette

Pastoral Leader

#### Hayley Bourne

Lead Practitioner - MFL

# **Internal promotions**

#### **ATLP**

#### Jasbir Khan

Primary Hub LDSL and Vulnerable Children Lead

#### **Stockland Green School**

#### Hayley Bourne Lead Practitioner - MFL

Kamisha Blanchette Pastoral Leader

#### **John Willmott School**

Elizabeth Standring Second in Maths

# What did you think of issue four of 'One Trust'?

If your school has a great story to share, or there is a teacher or member of support staff who is championing our One Trust ethos, then please get in touch about potential coverage in a forthcoming issue.

Share your thoughts and feedback with Communications Officer Liam Moakes by emailing **liam.moakes@atlp.org.uk.** 















































Together we are stronger