

### Dear members of our Trust community,

Thank you to all of you for supporting our schools and the children and young people in them, this half term. This half term's newsletter has one of our Trust improvement foci as the main theme. We want to recognise the hard work everyone has done to ensure that we create an inclusive environment in which diversity and equality are valued so that all our students feel confident and safe in their own personal identity.

It is clear that all of our schools have put the 'Community of Belonging' at the heart of school life. This is more important now than ever before.

Through these initiatives, each school is striving to educate and challenge to reduce prejudice and discrimination. Our high expectations of students mean we continually strive to be the best we can. The sharing of expertise across the mainstream and specialist schools within the Trust is supporting the offer for all our students.

Our staff are all working hard on developments within the curriculum and creating wider, thoughtfully tailored, school resources to make sure all students feel represented.

We strive to be a community in which all can see reflections of themselves and belong to a culture which is adaptive and responsive to the wider world and community contexts.

Have a good half term holiday,

**Linda Jones, Chief Executive Officer**  
**Dave Bell, Executive Headteacher**  
**Andy Park, Executive Headteacher**

## OUR VISION FOR A COMMUNITY OF BELONGING

### TRUST VISION

- To provide exceptional education for children from any background so that they become happy, confident adults with excellent academic knowledge and qualifications.
- The Prosper Learning Trust is committed to fully comprehensive education and working in and around Greater Manchester to provide inspiring, memorable schooling for all its students.

To achieve our vision and uphold our values the Trust aims to create an inclusive environment in which diversity and equality are valued, we want all students to feel confident and safe in their own personal identity. We strive to be aware of the ever-changing challenges faced by our students both in the modern world and within the contexts of their local communities, we believe that this is critical to the student's academic motivation, success and wellbeing. We put belonging at the heart of school life. Trust Community of Belonging initiatives are focused around 6 key areas:

**Personal Identity • Anti-Racism • LGBTQ & Gender**

**Disability • Sexism, misogyny and misandry • Religion and belief**

Our schools have been working on creating a **Community of Belonging** and are embodying this in all areas of school life, we celebrate this in the 'Schools News' section of this newsletter.



**We were very proud and excited to see Grange School feature on BBC's Newsround this January!**

The team visited Grange to film a feature based on the extra curricular offer, highlighting how working with animals can support young people with autism. The BBC team met with Grange pupils Kaylem, Asia'nae, Kyle, Cristian, Liam and Terrence who thoroughly enjoyed meeting the team and explained all about how they take care of the resident animals and how this makes them feel.

***"The animals help me feel calm and happy"***

Read the full story on our website [here](#).

## MEET THE MEMBERS & TRUSTEES

This year we welcome new Members and Trustees to our board and will introduce them through the Spring editions of the newsletter. This edition, we introduce Member, Jane Durkin and Trustee, Roger Griffiths.

### Jane Durkin Member



Jane is Assistant Director for Corporate Social Responsibility at the General Medical Council (GMC). Jane took this role in May 2020 to lead the GMC's work to enhance its approach to responsible business. Early work focused on widening participation into medicine, reducing the GMC's emissions and looking at ways to be a more inclusive employer.

Prior to joining the GMC Jane was Assistant Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office in Wilmslow.

### Roger Griffiths Trustee



Roger is Head of Programme Delivery within the Group CIO function at Lloyds Banking Group (LBG). Roger has been accountable for the LBG Retail, Wealth & International Division Infrastructure Programmes as well as more recently the delivery of internal process change and Cloud platform decommissioning - this includes new service, product delivery, customer migration, infrastructure simplification,

and functional divestment. An integral part of all these deliverables is the ownership of all financial and risk aspects, on behalf of LBG. Roger looks forward to using his skills and expertise on the Audit committee.

## TRAINING TO TEACH

Promoting a sense of belonging is a high priority for the Primary SEND programme, throughout the course team building opportunities have been consistently implemented with sessions explicitly tailored to enhance **inclusion**. Taking inspiration from Grange School, a 'community of belonging' bring and share was facilitated at which trainees brought along food representative of their culture or family. Some of the dishes included Romanian chocolate, sticky toffee pudding, personalised gingerbread cookies as well as rice and peas.



The ITT trainees are continuing their phenomenal development in new placements where teaching time will be increased. Sean Doran, Professional Development Coordinator at CHS echoes the pride the Trust has for the trainees "Watching their progress always makes us look back on our own journey into teaching, finding our feet and becoming the teachers we are today. It is a privilege for both the Trust and MTSA to have such a fantastic cohort of hard working and enthusiastic trainees". We wish the trainees good luck say a huge thank you for their contributions to our schools.

Interested in teaching? Find out more via our website: <https://prospere.org.uk/teaching-school/train-to-teach>



## RECRUITMENT

We have a number of exciting roles available, including:

### ● Site Officer Apprentice

Join our skilled Trust estates team to ensure our school buildings meet the needs of the pupils, staff, and the general public. A great chance to grow and develop within the Trust. Follow the link and apply by 1st March.

<https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/site-officer-apprentice-manchester-1554417>



- Community Leisure Assistant (CHS/CHS South)
- Admin and Finance Officer (Grange)
- Finance Administrator (Trust)
- Teaching Assistant Level 1 SEN (Prospect House)

All our vacancies are advertised through TES, you can view positions with all schools and begin the application process here:

<https://www.tes.com/jobs/employer/prospere-learning-trust-1169268>



The Trust also promotes recruitment through LinkedIn. You can follow our company page here: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/prospere-learning-trust>

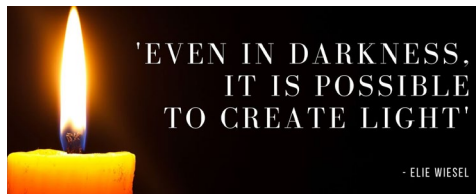




## CHORLTON HIGH SCHOOL

### I AM LEISEL CARTER

*"I survived and was saved by the kindness of people I did not know".*

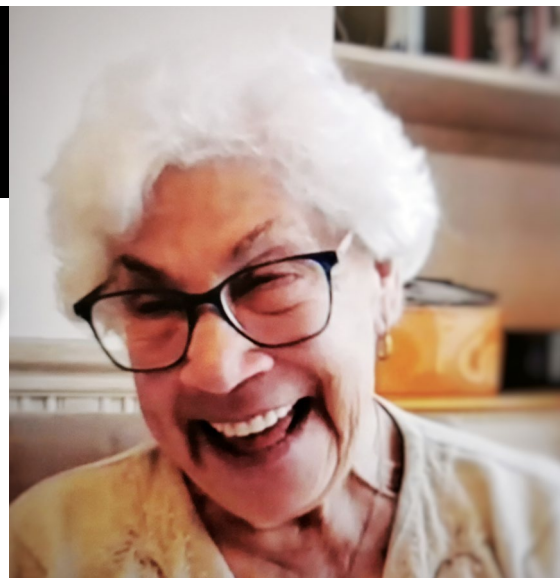


Students and staff warmly welcomed an **inspirational** guest for Holocaust Memorial Day 2022. Leisel Carter, was four when her young life was changed forever by the onset of World War 2. Her father killed, brother missing, and her mother forced to flee Germany for Great Britain, Leisel was left completely alone. She escaped, but only thanks to the kindness of strangers, fleeing across Europe, her future unknown, with a label around her neck.



*'My name is Leisel, I'm going to Newcastle'.*

Moving throughout, Leisel's words were deeply touching, providing a special opportunity for all involved to celebrate life and community together.



## CHS SOUTH

CHS South have worked closely with theatre company Odd Arts and support their goals to combat hate, and build cohesive communities. Most recently, Year 8 and Year 10 worked on the 'Through My Eyes' project, watching an award winning interactive theatre performance and being involved in a workshop 'Blame & Belonging' which explored extremism, radicalisation and creating **community** cohesion.

This work culminated in a conference called 'Festival of Unity' whereby five Manchester high schools came together to showcase their work at the stunning Whitworth Art Gallery. CHS South are proud that Year 10 now have ambassadors who will continue their great work both in school and in the wider society.

## MEA

There has been a buzz of excitement about the opening of the new Learning and Cultural Resource Centre at Manchester Enterprise Academy. Students and staff have access to a wealth of new fiction and non-fiction books and special attention has been given to creating a diverse range of collections including wellbeing, staff CPD, Environment, Graphic Novel, an **accessible** range of LGBTQ+ texts as well as larger print texts and texts for visually impaired readers. There is something for everyone to enjoy! An induction programme has welcomed all students into the space and taught them how to use the Library Catalogue to locate books, eBooks and audio books whilst writing reviews and creating a Personal Reading Profile.



## MEA CENTRAL

Music Month at MEA Central celebrated the diverse school community, exploring music from many cultures and genres, made particularly special because of the teamwork displayed by staff and students. To mark the end of Music Month a 'Lip-Sync Battle' was held, which was also a House competition. Students completed extensive research on a chosen influential black artist or band, including the likes of Bob Marley and Whitney Houston, and created a pre-recorded music video followed by a live performance. The students really made their songs come to life and their **enthusiasm** and passion really shone through as the whole school came together. The energy and joy in the room was phenomenal, with each house battling it out to win the famous crown.





## PROSPECT HOUSE

Prospect House held a 'Cultural Appreciation Day' which celebrated their **diverse** school community. Pupils shared aspects of their cultures including traditional dress and participated in a variety of activities that celebrated and encompassed the 'Community of Belonging'.

Pupils and staff collaborated in creating a school quilt based on the famous black artist, Faith Ringgold, each decorating a quilted square that joined together to create a 'belonging tree' with leaves to represent identities and the names of each class. The work will be used towards evidence in achieving the Rights Respecting School Award.



## PIONEER HOUSE

Digital Advantage is an award-winning charity that delivers **high quality** innovative work experiences to young people of all ages and abilities. In January they visited Pioneer House to help kick start the new year with a fantastic project. Over the course of a week, 10 students planned, researched, created and recorded ideas for a Community Café. The foundations have been laid for intergenerational community engagement through a 'hub' designed wholly by students. MCC neighbourhood officers, local governing body members and proprietors of local businesses have all been involved in this exciting project. We can't wait to see the finished business launch officially later this year!



## GRANGE

Grange have been working towards embedding Community of Belonging values across school with staff taking part in diversity training focusing on Anti-Racism, Disability and Sexism. In the café, Brewhog, there is now a range of diverse texts available for students, parents and staff to read and refer to. These texts are directly linked to the Collective Worship topic of the month, and reflect the school community as a whole.

To bring students together and encourage teamwork and **leadership** skills, a new Student Leadership Team has been elected. The student body elected the team members and the very first, productive meeting was held this term.



## PIPER HILL

Piper Hill benefits from its diversity and are committed to ensuring inclusivity and promoting **equality**. The aim is for students and staff to feel a strong sense of belonging within a caring and supportive school so that they can achieve their full potential. To facilitate this, there is a fantastic elective offer in place for enrichment, students can pick from a large selection of clubs and visit with friends from across school.

In addition, there are a wide variety of initiatives taking places across school to bring staff together. This includes: Meditation, running club, fitness club, cooking club, flower arrangement. Staff also benefit from a morning slot each week for 'Feel Good Friday,' this provides an opportunity for staff to socialise and re-connect.