

Dear Parents and Carers, Staff, Members, Directors and Governors,

Wow! We are so proud of our children and staff this half term, it has been a whirlwind for them all and we have learnt, experienced and enjoyed so much as we race to our extended Whit Week.



Our ABBA concert was magnificent! It was a vibrant, colourful and hugely enjoyable event held in St Mary's Church, Colton Children sang beautifully with The Kings Bromley Village Harmony Choir showing multi generations enjoying timeless music together! Thank you to staff



and volunteers for making this event such a success and our children for being so awesome - Super Troopers!



Each school commemorated the Coronation of King Charles III in different ways and it has been nice to see lunches and red white and blue days – and many crowns.



Ralph and I enjoyed planting oak tree saplings, which were grown during Covid, at Anson and St Marys. The Howard also have one which will form part of a memory walk later in the year. As Richard Crosse don't have the grounds a huge, potentially 1000-year-old tree to grow, the children, Ralph and I will paint a garden ornament for the front garden. Miss



Bowring and her team are developing their outside spaces brilliantly and are connecting with The Howard in order to share forest school space.



Ralph and I thoroughly enjoyed the May Queen celebrations at The Howard, what a beautiful day. The May Queens and kings spoke wonderfully, the maypole dancing was beautiful, the history wall of pictures from all the years very was special indeed marking

this 100th year celebration of the annual event.



We continue our metacognition journey and your children are talking more freely about their understanding such as expanding their brains and memory, using prior learning, retrieving and recalling their learning. We're working hard together as a Trust to develop our understanding and practice. A staff survey of this implementation strategy

helped us plan our next professional development steps. Staff were honest and helpful in enabling us to craft our journey to help children learn well. We are really focussing on our I Do, We Do, You Do approach. This is a method of modelling that starts with some demonstration by the teacher, then moves to supported practice, before finally turning into independent work. Home examples include tying shoelaces or making a cake!



Mention of the SATS is so important as our children have worked so very hard. They have been so resilient and demonstrated just what they were capable of under tricky conditions - brilliantly taught and supported by our staff reflecting a culmination, for many children, of 7 years in our schools. Of course we recognise

and celebrate everything that makes our children special, unique and successful and the range of news centres around not only the children's academic work but their civic contributions such as charity work and links with their communities, music and sporting achievements to name a few.



We so look forward to our final half term with so much booked! Excellent learning of course with plans for our GreenPower day – you can see the progress of the designing and building of our cars on our specific 'racing' Twitter accounts. We also look forward to our sports days and trust sporting events, year 6s get ready for Borth and their leaves services too.

With regards to Trust growth we are in a similar phase to when I last wrote to you, the DfE have a regional department and they are tabling our application in June. Until then we continue to build connections with The Mease and a couple of other schools who are working with us. General feedback shows that Miss Mills has settled well in her role at The Mease and Mr Wynn is settling in brilliantly at The Howard with many community events, PTA and Governors to establish himself. Our Deputies are being amazing and taking everything in their stride. I know that Richard Crosse and Anson communities have been informed about the leadership developments and so we are pleased to reiterate that Mr. J Davies has been appointed as Deputy Headteacher at Anson from September. We are so excited for him that he is able to realise the next step in his career and know he will be excellent! We continue to be ably and professionally supported by Miss Derry as Deputy at Richard Crosse – so this is our new complement of leaders going forward.

Governance is going from strength to strength and each school with a new Local Governing Committee have held their 2nd formal meeting with a huge amount of monitoring and development work behind the scenes. I am grateful to such wonderful volunteers for their commitment and professionalism, they are impacting positively on the provision and outcomes for our children.

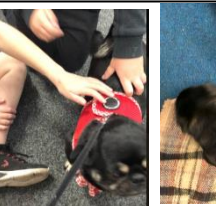
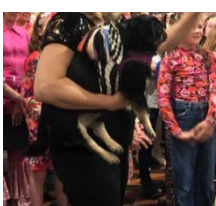
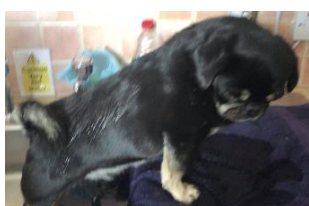
As we mark the end of 'Mental Health Awareness Week' we reflect on our work to care for children and staff, across the trust to support their workload, wellbeing and mental health. Whilst as a Trust and schools we are passionate about wellbeing and it is high on our agenda (indeed is a key driver for our people strategy for 2023/2024), we are perhaps not as good at articulating what we do. Additionally, we continue to learn and grow to improve our practice and so do watch this space for further developments as we audit and improve our provision. Our first worship back across the Trust is 'thankfulness,' our value of the final half term. Having gratitude and thankfulness is one strategy to support mental health and is something we teach our children. There are some tips for daily gratitude, a thankfulness poem and scripture on the final page which you may like to use.



I hope you have a wonderful couple of weeks for Whitsun, also known as Pentecost - can you believe it's been 50 days since Easter? This is a time which marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' disciples which happened after his ascension from earth to heaven on Ascension Day and is also known as Whitsunday. Enjoy!

Kind Regards, *CS Gethin* Charlene Gethin
(CEO) and Ralph.

Don't forget you can see photos and details about what is happening in your school blogs on the website and [@TSSMAT1](#) on Twitter.



A bath at Richard Crosse

ABBA

Visiting St Marys

Visiting Anson May Queen at The Howard

I write and share in a text a daily 3X3 with friends and they share theirs with me too. This is a short list about the day and is 3 Gratitudes, 3 Intentions for the next day and 3 affirmations. It only takes a couple of minutes.

Be Thankful

*Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?*

*Be thankful when you don't know something,
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.*

*Be thankful for the difficult times.
During those times you grow.*

*Be thankful for your limitations,
because they give you opportunities for improvement.*

*Be thankful for each new challenge,
because it will build your strength and character.*

*Be thankful for your mistakes.
They will teach you valuable lessons.*

*Be thankful when you're tired and weary,
because it means you've made a difference.*

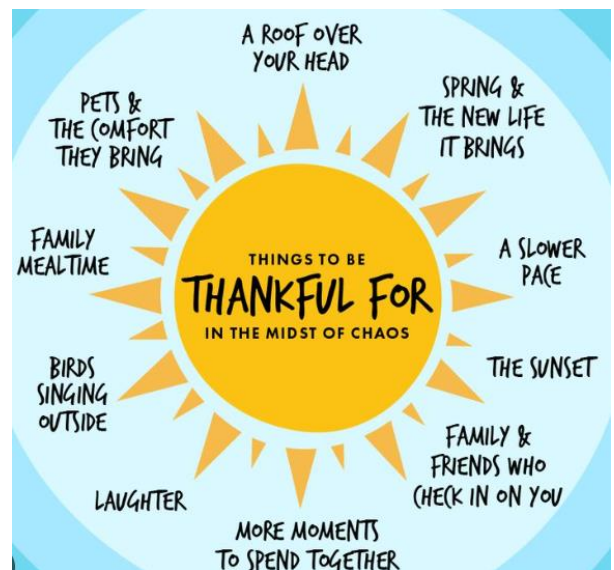
*It's easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfilment comes to those who
are also thankful for the setbacks.*

*Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,
and they can become your blessings.*

5 IDEAS

To help kids practice gratitude meditations

- 5 fingers - think of one thing per finger to feel grateful for
- For every letter of the alphabet - think of something to feel grateful for
- Say thank you to each part of the body - and say why (eg legs - to run/skip/walk)
- Think of 1 thing to feel grateful for... then for 10 breaths really feel/imagine it!
- Think of the word 'grateful' and imagine it has a colour - then surround you/others in this



CULTIVATE GRATITUDE EVERYDAY! 5 Fast Tips

- At breakfast, visualize what you anticipate will be **the most stressful part of your day**. What is one positive thing that could come of that situation? What is **one aspect** you can **look forward to**?
- Once a day, **express appreciation** for something a loved one has done but **without using the word "thank you."** Sentence starters: "It made me ___ when you ___ because ___."
- Freeze!** Sometime during your day, freeze and quickly list **20 tangible things around you** that you can be grateful for. Then move on.
- At dinner, think of **the worst situation you encountered** during the day and **one tiny reason** you can be thankful it occurred.
- Keep a gratitude journal** and record three things you give thanks for at the end of each day.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

