

Head Teacher's News - July 2021

I can hardly believe we are at the end of another school year. I would like to thank the entire school community, our pupils and you, their families, our staff and our governors for working together to support each other through this very difficult year. The pupils have been amazing, coming back into school wanting to learn and enjoy spending time with their friends again. As parents you should be very proud of your child.

Let us hope that across the world we are all able to live our lives in a safe, secure and uninterrupted manner from this point on.

Staff News

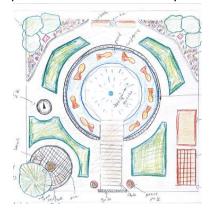
As we reach the end of another school year we will be saying a fond farewell to a number of staff who between them have committed a remarkable over 49-years to Nether Hall School. Congratulations to Simon, our Assistant Head Teacher, soon to be the new Head of School at Ellesmere College. We also say very fond farewells to Lucie, Kim, Bharti and Jamila. Lucie has taught at Nether Hall for over 10-years, she is going to use her special education knowledge and expertise at a county primary school. Teaching Assistant, Kim and mid-day supervisor, Bharti will both be able to enjoy very well-deserved retirements and Jamila, another of our wonderful mid-day supervisors is taking what we hope will be a short break from work. We will miss you all.

As we say goodbye and good luck to Simon, Lucie, Kim, Bharti and Jamila, we say hello to Rebecca, Karis, Claire our three new teachers and Jennifer, Bree, Krupa, Lucy and Jodie who will be joining our incredible team of Teaching Assistants. Welcome to the team!

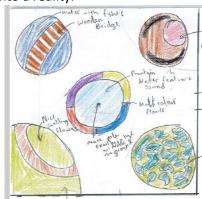
Outdoor Learning Update

Another very successful year for our outdoor learning area. We are pleased to report ALL the planned additions to the area have been completed and the space has become even more interesting and exciting for our pupils. With the glorious weather we have had, it has been used by all classes and continues to be an amazing space where our pupils can learn, explore, relax and just have some time alone if that is what they need and want.

In the Spring term we were approached by the Rotary Club to see if we would like to be involved in a sensory garden design project — we jumped at the chance! Year 7 pupils at Orchard Mead Academy created some incredible designs showing a good understanding of the sensory needs of many of our pupils here at Nether Hall. The winning design was from Abdalaziz. We are really looking forward to being able to enjoy this new area due to be built over the summer holiday. Special thanks must go to The Rotary Club who came up with the idea, Red Monkey for donating equipment and benches and Taylor Made Landscapes for turning the project idea into a reality.









We continue to work closely with Leicester City Eco Schools team and have taken part in the Meal Barrow 'Grow your own Grub' competition. This year's barrow was designed and planted by S4. They had to plan a three-course meal and then grow a minimum of five of the ingredients in the barrow. I think you'll agree it looks stunning.

We are also taking part in a pumpkin growing competition. Planted by sixth form students, these are coming on nicely.





With generous gifts and support from our friends at Dunelm and Morrisons, we have planted over 15,000 sunflower seeds. We have all planted our seeds in a ring on the field and are enjoying watching them grow. We will have more exciting updates for you shortly, but we think you'll agree, our students now have a very special space where they can explore and learn about the wonderful outdoors.

Music

It's been lovely to see our students back in music lessons this term. In May, we had a visit from Leicestershire Schools Music Service to record some of our learners singing 'Make Your Own Kind of Music', a piece in collaboration with students and members of the public from across the Leicester-shire area. Please take the time to watch the recording and share with friends and family; here is the YouTube link: https://youtu.be/8fvqmD3qJZw





Some of our learners also took part in Young Voices 'The Biggest Sing' World Record attempt in June, singing along with over 350,000 other children across the world, with nearly 100,00 singers joining on zoom screens from the 02 arena! We have a fabulous video of children across the school singing and signing this! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peOFtvGlnFw

Our 1-2-1 music teachers have also done superb work, continuing with remote sessions or face to face where possible. Sixth form pupil, Yaseen, has recently completed his preparatory exam in drumming – well done Yaseen!

Little Inventors - Space Project

Pupils were given the amazing opportunity to partner up with Little Inventors, Attenborough Art Centre and a number of other schools. They were set a 3-week challenge to explore space and create an invention that would help make life easier, or more fun, as an astronaut onboard the International Space Station. WOW did Nether Hall pupils deliver!

We entered over 25 different design ideas and a handful of these were selected to be brought to life by a team of 'Magnificent Makers'. P3's radio for a bored astronaut was chosen and more recently we found out Tanvir's Eco Rocket is also in the process of being made. Both designs will be displayed in November at the Leicester Space Centre. We currently have P3's A radio for a bored astronaut displayed in school and it looks amazing. Well Done to all Nether Hall pupils!







Finally, and most importantly, I know you will join me in wishing the 6 pupils leaving school on Friday the very best of luck as they embark on the next phase of their education.

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy summer.

Sarah Naylor Head Teacher