

RoundUp

Summit Learning Trust News



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Open Evening

Monday 8th September 2025
6pm - 8pm

X @Ninestiles

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Open Evening

Wednesday 10th September 2025
6pm - 8pm

X @LyndonSchool

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Open Evening

Thursday 11th September 2025
6pm - 8pm

X @cockshuthill

#NothingButTheBest

A huge thank you to our parents, carers, families and communities for supporting our academies to achieve so much with our learners this academic year.

2024 – 2025 has been a very special year for our Trust family. It has been very pleasing to see the ongoing hard work by our children and young people, and notably those who have recently sat public assessments, whether these be A Levels, vocational qualifications, GCSE examinations, SATs or other national assessments.

Summit Learning Trust have achieved strongly in 2025, already improving on the great outcomes our learners achieved in 2024. As a parent myself, I am aware that strong academic performance gives not only our learners but also their families, huge confidence in the levels of expertise of teachers and educational support colleagues, and Summit parents can rest assured about the quality of education and care in place. Our entire Summit family is acutely aware of the importance of these results to each of our children and young people in terms of giving them life chances to have happy and successful futures.



We look forward to sharing our Year 11 and Year 13 results in September, and we are delighted that our Primary Year 6 children have produced the greatest set of SATs results ever achieved in Summit academies. Huge congratulations to the children, and also to the expert teachers and support colleagues who have prepared them for these assessments.

This academic year has seen us receive further validation of the strong offer we provide. Ofsted have visited Ninestiles, an Academy, Erdington Hall Primary School and The Oaklands Primary School. Following these we have received very strong reports, detailing the very high quality levels of education and care at our schools. We look forward to further visits from our Ofsted colleagues during the next academic year so that we can demonstrate the highly effective provision we offer across our Summit family.

Summit Learning Trust, our schools and our college have received multiple national awards for among other areas, learner achievement, quality of teaching and support, attendance, inclusion, wellbeing and for the positive impact our work has on our communities. Congratulations to our entire Summit family on these amazing achievements.

During the whole of 2025, our academies are collectively involved in fundraising for this year's Trust charity, Kids' Village, Thank you for your support as we work towards our £10,000 target, a target that I have no doubt we will comfortably surpass in the Autumn term. This work will go some way to helping those with the greatest need in our communities. As we move into the next academic year 2025 – 2026, we look forward to further raising the profile of the amazing Kids' Village Charity with our children, families and with other schools and colleges.

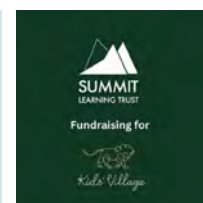
This edition of the Roundup gives a small snapshot into some of the achievements made at our Summit academies, and it has been a pleasure to see the work that takes place day in, day out, with our children and young people.

Our Summit Base Camp programme continues to strengthen, and I thank colleagues and external partners for enabling us to provide a consistent level of support for children and young people across our schools and college. This provision serves as the foundation to enable them to continue making strong levels of academic progress. We continue to work to support other schools and colleges beyond Summit to offer similar initiatives to their families too.

Thank you all for your ongoing support for your child's school or college. Have a happy and healthy Summer.

Vince Green
Chief Executive Office

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Charity Partner Kids' Village
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Baby Bull Unveiled as Part of Birmingham's Bold Bull Art Trail

Summit Learning Trust, which runs nine schools across Birmingham and Solihull, is proud to reveal its beautifully decorated calf sculpture, now complete and ready to take its place in the city's exciting Bulls in the City trail launching this summer. The baby bull was decorated by learners from Ninestiles, an Academy.

The much-anticipated art trail will showcase 40 large-scale bull sculptures, individually designed by local artists and sponsored by businesses, creating a vibrant and free public art experience for families and visitors. Complementing the main herd is a mini-herd of calf sculptures, adopted, decorated, and displayed by schools, youth, and community groups across the city.

Summit's calf, which has been designed and painted by learners as part of a bespoke Learning and Community Programme, reflects the creativity, teamwork and community pride of the trust's young people. The finished sculpture will be on public display during the trail and then returned to Summit Learning Trust as a lasting legacy. Summit's calf will be on display at the Library of Birmingham for the duration of the trail.

Importantly, once the art trail concludes, the larger bull sculptures will be auctioned off to raise funds for Birmingham Hospice, which offers vital end-of-life care and family support across the region.

Digby, the Summit Learning Trust bull will be situated at Library of Birmingham, Amphitheatre, Centenary Sq, Birmingham B1 2ND for the duration of the trail. We encourage as many families as possible to visit the Bulls in the City trail so that a real buzz and a stampede can happen across Birmingham.



A Summer of Enrichment: Learning Beyond the Classroom

This term has seen an unprecedented number of enriching enrichment trips that brought learning to life and gave learners the chance to explore, grow and be inspired:

- Year 7 learners had a brilliant time at the Big Bang STEM Fair, immersing themselves in interactive exhibits and science-based exploration.
- Year 9 enjoyed an adrenaline-filled day at Aztec Adventures, developing confidence and teamwork in a stunning outdoor setting.
- A group of Year 9 learners also travelled to London to visit top law firm Pinsent Masons, gaining valuable insight into professional careers.
- Year 10 and Year 9 learners took part in a residential at PGL Osmington Bay, linking geography fieldwork with personal development.
- The school proudly welcomed Year 5 learners from Yardley Primary School for a STEM taster day, igniting early interest in Science and Technology.
- There were additional outings to South & City College for Guitar Day, and cultural visits such as a careers trip to the Birmingham Rep Theatre.
- Our partnership with the Transformation Partnership Trust, which has seen our learners perform the Romeo & Juliet ballet at Symphony Hall.

These experiences have helped learners build cultural capital, explore future pathways and enjoy practical, real-world learning—hallmarks of a well-rounded Cockshut Hill education.

We thank all colleagues who have made these experiences possible.



Strong Parental Partnerships and Progress Tracking

Family engagement has remained a real strength this term, with highest attendance in Year 7 and Year 9 Progress Evenings. Over 81% of families are now regularly using the Arbor app, allowing parents and carers to stay informed about attendance, progress and conduct. In response to feedback, further guidance has been offered to support app access and ensure all families are confident using it.



Celebrating Learner Excellence and Leadership

From GCSEs to mock exams, learners across Cockshut Hill have shown maturity and commitment. Year 11 marked the end of their journey at Cockshut Hill School with a moving Leavers' Assembly, while Year 10 completed Work Experience Week with pride and professionalism.

A huge congratulations goes to our newly appointed Head and Deputy Head Learners—a team of inspirational young leaders chosen for their enthusiasm and integrity. Learners also shone in the UK Mathematics Challenge, with two of our learners reaching the national finals—a school first.

Community Spirit, Sustainability and Giving Back

Cockshut Hill continues to prioritise inclusion and sustainability through the Summit Base Camp initiative—providing eye health checks, uniform support, and essential supplies. The school also marked World Environment Day with new water stations, recycling facilities, and a goal to become plastic bottle-free by 2026.

And finally: A Fond Farewell to our Principal Mr. Jason Bridges

As we reach the end of the year, we also mark the retirement of our much-loved Principal, Mr. Jason Bridges, who joined Cockshut Hill in 2016 and has led the school through a period of transformational growth. Under his leadership, the school achieved its first ever 'Good' with Outstanding Personal Development, Ofsted grades, reversed a declining roll, and now enjoys full capacity with waiting lists.



In his own' words:

"I know my late mother—who attended CHS in the 1940s—would be proud of the difference we've made. She always said, leave somewhere better than you found it. I think we've done that together."

From cherished traditions like Remembrance Day and the Year 11 Prom, to empowering learner voice through our Learner Leadership and House system and driving forward exceptional enrichment opportunities and gaining national recognition, Mr. Bridges leaves behind a legacy built on pride, purpose and lasting progress. His leadership has not only shaped the school's direction but has deeply enriched the lives of learners, staff, and the wider community.

We wish him every happiness in retirement—and thank him for everything he has done for our learners, families, and community.



Erdington Hall Primary School
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Exciting term at Erdington Hall

Year 2 Ballet Performers

Year 2 have spent the term perfecting their pliés and arabesques, culminating in a wonderful performance at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham. The children have had great fun discovering new ways to move to music, as well as developing their stamina, discipline and muscle strength. It was a fabulous opportunity for all of us to be able to participate in the Romeo & Juliet ballet at the Symphony Hall. We are so proud of our learners and really appreciate all the support we have had from families who came along and supported our young children late into the evening. Performing is a thrilling experience and the performance was light, airy and uplifting.



Trust Awards Evening

25 learners bursting with pride entered the doors of the Great Hall at the University of Birmingham. Awards for the most improved in Sports, English, Mathematics, Humanities and the Arts were awarded to our exceptional winners. One learner was identified as the Community Citizen who has gone above and beyond in supporting fellow learners. What a superb celebration at such an inspiring venue.



Sports Day

We are proud to be a school rooted in our community — with eyes on the wider world. We have four house teams: Fazeley, Tame, Warwick and Worcester. These are named after the historic canals that run beneath Birmingham's famous Spaghetti Junction.

We are outward-reaching, full of purpose, and always moving forward, just like our children. Used for leisure, for industry, for enterprise and filled with resilience — our canals inspire us to be aspirational, global citizens. Just like them, we aim to flow outwards into the world, recognised for our unique brilliance.

We showed great teamwork of our Interhouse Sports Days. Key Stage 2 learners had an incredible time at Erdington Academy, where we were supported by Year 10 Play Leaders — true role models who guided, encouraged, and inspired our young athletes.



Reception Class visited by Mini Beasts and more

Erdington Hall Primary School buzzed with excitement as children welcomed a real-life mini-beast expert for a day packed with discovery, wonder, and a touch of courage.

Children from Reception were treated to an unforgettable hands-on experience as they met an incredible array of creepy crawlies and fascinating insects. From beetles and stick insects to giant snails and millipedes, our young learners explored the miniature world of invertebrates—up close and personal.

But the biggest surprise of the day? A very special guest: a gentle honey bear. Learners showed true bravery as they had the chance to stroke and even hug the friendly visitor. For many, this moment was a highlight they'll remember for years to come.



Year 6 to Year 7 Transition

At Erdington Hall, we grow leaders. Our Year 6 ambassadors are making a real difference, spending time in younger classes, supporting learning, and showing what it means to be role models. They have even taken part in work experience in our Reception and Nursery settings living out our 3 core values every day:

Be Ready, Be Respectful, and Be Resilient.

At Erdington Hall Primary School, we are not just learning, we are building futures, celebrating every success, and working together to become the best version of ourselves.





Kineton Green Primary School
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Kids' Village Fundraising

Kineton Green Primary School are proud to be fundraising for Kids' Village for 2025. We have hosted two fundraising events in school.

The first was an enterprise event in which all children worked in teams to make various items to sell. Items included drinks, cakes, bracelets and keyrings to name a few. We invited parents and carers to our Enterprise Event to buy items with their children. We are pleased to say it was a HUGE success.



For the second event we asked children to bring a coin in to school and then classes arranged them within the outline of a giant bee on the playground.

We are so proud of our whole Kineton Green community who have collectively raised over £1,200.



Year 6 In London

In December learners at Kineton Green were invited to participate in a Christmas card competition run by Dr Neil Shastri Hurst MP. We were delighted when Martha in Year 6 won the competition. Not only was Martha's design used on all of Dr Shastri Hurst's cards he sent out at Christmas, he also very kindly offered for year 6 to have a tour of the Houses of Parliament. The class travelled to London for their end of year trip and had an amazing time seeing the sights, learning about parliament and they even managed to fit in a river cruise before they returned home.

Summer Fayre

On Saturday 28th June, our PTA held our annual Summer Fayre. It was amazing to see so many of our Kineton Green community enjoying the event. A huge thanks to the PTA, colleagues and governors for organising a great day of fun for our families.



Public Speaking Competition

We are excited to share that one of our amazing Year 5 learners came first place in the Junior Solihull Soroptimist's Public Speaking Competition. Her speech was entitled "How I see advanced technology making the world a better place." We are very proud of Romaisa.



Celebrating Learner Achievement

We are delighted to share some of the fantastic assessment outcomes from across Kineton Green so far this year. These results reflect the hard work, dedication, and progress of our children, supported by our committed staff team.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check:

77% of children met the expected standard — in line with the national average.

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC): A fantastic 57% of children scored a perfect 25 out of 25, compared to a national average of 34%. Impressively, 87% of learners scored 20 or more — an outstanding result!

Year 6 Writing Teacher Assessment: 73% of children achieved the expected standard, compared to 53% last year and 72% nationally.

Year 6 SATS results:

- Reading – an increase of 13% from last year bringing us in line with the national average.
- Writing – an increase of 20% on last year and in line with the national average.
- Maths – an increase of 7% from last year, above the national average.
- Greater depth maths – an increase of 13% from last year and in line with the national average.
- Combined results – a 21% increase from last year.

These outcomes are a testament to the effort and determination of our children, and the high-quality teaching and support they receive. This gives us a strong springboard to build on even further next year.



Exploring the Bay of Naples

A group of 43 learners from Years 8 to 11 recently took part in an enriching residential trip to the Bay of Naples. This immersive experience was thoughtfully designed to highlight the cross-curricular connections between Humanities subjects, including Geography, History, Religious Studies, and Modern Foreign Languages.

During the visit, learners explored the ancient ruins of Pompeii, gaining a powerful insight into the catastrophic impact of Mount Vesuvius's eruption. At the volcano itself, they applied their geographical understanding of natural hazards, reflecting on how this active volcano has shaped the region's development over time. A visit to Paestum deepened their appreciation of Greek cultural influence in Italy, while local Easter celebrations offered a unique window into contemporary religious traditions.

Beyond academic learning, the trip provided a valuable opportunity for learners to embody Lyndon's core character virtues; compassion, integrity, resilience, and resourcefulness. They also embraced the chance to practice their Italian, engaging respectfully and confidently with local residents.



Sporting Success

Huge congratulations to Kayden King (Triple Jump) and Noah Latusek (200m), who both won their individual events at the West Midlands Championships 2025 earning them the title of best in the region for their age group.

Notably, Kayden set a new personal best with a jump of 13.08m, an incredible achievement and a testament to his resilience and commitment balancing athletics with end of year exam commitments. Meanwhile, Noah continues to impress and is currently ranked 4th in the country for his age group for the 200m.

Kayden and Noah will now advance to the Mason Trophy (Full Midlands), where they will aim to earn a spot at the prestigious English Schools Championships.



Lyndon Learners Champion Sustainable Travel at Solihull Council Chambers

Earlier this academic year, learners from Lyndon School showcased exceptional altruism, integrity, and resourcefulness at a series of West Midlands events held in Solihull's Council Chambers, led by Mrs Purnell. Their creative pitches ranging from car sharing and safer routes to the imaginative idea of roller-skating to school reflected a genuine commitment to promoting sustainable travel within their communities.

One standout initiative, a "raffle-for-walking" campaign designed to encourage a shift in travel habits, was successfully launched in May 2025. In recognition of their innovative thinking and dedication, local leaders awarded the group bonus funding, including a £50 donation from the Lord Mayor of Solihull to help implement a long-term strategy that will carry this important work forward.

Team Spirit on the Trails: Trek 26 Success

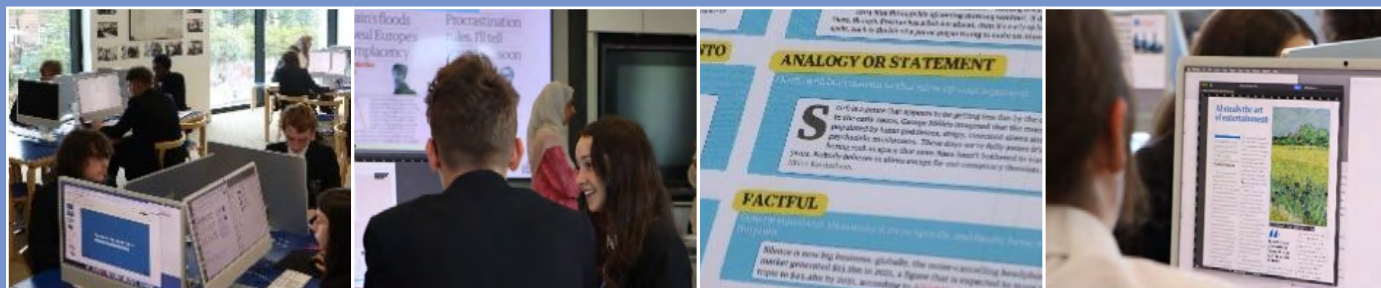


A group of dedicated colleagues recently took on the challenge of Trek 26, working together to complete the demanding 26-mile walk across the beautiful Brecon Beacons in support of the Alzheimer's Society.

Their teamwork and determination were truly inspiring, as they encouraged one another every step of the way. Congratulations to Mr Roberts, Mrs Sheldon, Mrs Prieto-Quinn, Miss Brogan, Mr Mohammed and Mr Atkinson a great achievement.

Inside the Newsroom: A Day at The Guardian

Our learners stepped into the world of professional journalism during an inspiring visit to the Guardian Newspaper's headquarters in London. Immersed in the fast-paced newsroom environment, they researched, wrote, and crafted their own opinion pieces, all while working to tight editorial deadlines, gaining real insight into the demands and creativity of the industry.



Celebrating Commitment and Community

Lyndon School was awarded the Bronze Award for 'Making a Difference - Secondary School of the Year' as part of the Pearson National Teaching Awards 2025!

This is a huge achievement, as the award recognises the collective commitment, enthusiasm and relentless hard work that each colleague brings to our school community. The journey to success and sustaining that success is built based on the day-to-day commitment, support and hard work that goes into the journey we provide for our learners.



Bringing History to Life Through Fiction

Learners at Lyndon School recently took part in the Write Your Own Historical Fiction competition, part of the Historical Association's prestigious Historical Fiction Prize. Inspired by their studies of the persecution of European Jews and other targeted groups under Nazi rule in the 1930s, learners crafted powerful and moving stories that captured the voices of ordinary people living through extraordinary times. Each piece had to meet a challenging set of criteria, including:

- Historical accuracy
- A compelling and well-structured plot
- Convincing characters and storytelling
- Effective use of historical vocabulary and literary techniques
- Creative and original perspectives

Working to these standards, our learners produced thoughtful, authentic narratives that demonstrated both empathy and deep historical understanding. Their writing not only reflected their knowledge but also their ability to imagine the human experience behind the facts.

Special congratulations to Charley, Eleanor, Amelia and Grace.

Winner of Inclusive School of the Year

One of the great highlights of this term, and truly wonderful news for our school community, was being awarded Tes Inclusive School of the Year 2025.

The Tes Awards, which have been dubbed the 'Oscars of Education' are an annual celebration showcasing the achievements of staff members and schools. Since 2009 the awards have highlighted the outstanding efforts and achievements of schools and brought the sector together to celebrate excellence in an inclusive national event. Our win was announced on 20th June at a glittering gala at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London. Our Vice Principal, Chris Guerin, collected the award on behalf of the school, from British comedian and actor, Tom Allen.

We won the 'Inclusive School of the Year' award thanks to our drive to support learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in all aspects of school life. Our award submission outlined the improvements the school has seen in the outcomes of SEND learners, how they are fully involved in all elements of the curriculum and the steps staff members take to ensure every cultural capital and external experience is inclusive and accessible to all.

At Ninestiles, we work proactively to identify and support Young Carers through a range of initiatives, including collaboration with primary schools, awareness campaigns, staff training to recognise signs of caring responsibilities, and a central system to track support. Identified young carers can also access one-to-one emotional support, group sessions, and practical help. These efforts have led to improved attendance, reduced lateness, and better mental health among young carers, showing the positive impact of a compassionate, structured approach.

Our Principal, Mr. Hughes said:

"Everyone at Ninestiles, an Academy is thrilled that we have received the Tes Inclusive School of the Year Award. At Ninestiles we believe that every young person deserves to feel seen, supported and empowered to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background or circumstances. This recognition is a reflection of the dedication and compassion of our entire team, who work tirelessly to ensure that inclusivity is not just a value we hold, but a reality we live every day."

"We are proud of the nurturing environment we have created, where SEND learners, young carers and all learners are celebrated, challenged, and championed. Everyone at Ninestiles works hard so that learners can thrive and flourish and we are delighted to have this reflected in the academic success and achievements of our entire school community. To have Tes recognise the dedication and commitment of our staff members means so much to us."



Summer Camp to the Forest of Dean

This year's residential trip to the Forest of Dean was our biggest and best yet. With double the number of learners attending compared to last year, the excitement was sky-high from the moment we set off. We spent the week at the Biblins Youth Campsite in Ross-on-Wye, surrounded by natural beauty and the sounds of the forest – the perfect setting for a week full of exploration, challenge, and fun.

Throughout the week, learners took part in a wide variety of activities that pushed them out of their comfort zones and brought everyone closer together. We hiked to the breathtaking viewpoint at Symonds Yat, followed a scenic trail through the forest, and even walked all the way to Monmouth, where we visited the fascinating Shire Hall Museum.

One of the highlights of the trip was our visit to the local butterfly farm, followed by a fun-filled round of mini golf – a combination that brought smiles all around. Water lovers had the chance to try paddle boarding on the river, while others tested their aim in a thrilling session of archery.

Midweek brought a particularly special event - our very own Camp Sports Day. Set in the heart of the forest, this energetic afternoon featured classic games such as tug of war, the cups challenge, a relay race, and an exciting scavenger hunt. It was a great opportunity for learners to show their team spirit and enjoy some friendly competition.

The Forest of Dean trip wasn't just about activities – it was about building memories, making new friends, and embracing the great outdoors. A huge thank you goes to the staff members and organisers who make the experience possible. We can't wait to see what next year's trip has in store.



Speak Out Champion 2025

We are so proud of Ilyas in Year 10 who was crowned West Midlands Speak Out Challenge Champion 2025, at a prestigious public speaking competition run by Speakers Trust, held at the University of Birmingham in June.

Ilyas delivered a powerful and passionate speech that impressed the judges and audience alike, showcasing not only remarkable confidence and eloquence but also the strength of learner voice here at Ninestiles. Ilyas spoke about Climate Injustice and how the poor suffer the most from climate change. His success marks a proud moment for our entire school community.



The Speak Out Challenge is the UK's largest public speaking competition for young people. Each year, thousands of Year 10 learners take part, learning vital oracy skills and building confidence through workshops and public events.

Mr. Hughes said:

"We are absolutely thrilled for Ilyas and incredibly proud of his outstanding achievement. His success reflects the courage, thoughtfulness, and creativity of all our learners. Public speaking is such a valuable skill, and we're delighted to see our learners using their voice to inspire others."



Pegasus Primary School
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Makaton takes off at Pegasus Primary

This term, every class at Pegasus has begun the day with a “Sign of the Day”. They are presented with a short video on the interactive whiteboard, and learners practise the sign together. They, then use it naturally throughout lessons, breaks, and lunch. The routine only takes a couple of minutes, and it is already improving how children connect and communicate with one another.

Makaton, a language programme that pairs simple signs and symbols in spoken word order, offers an extra pathway for anyone who finds speech hard. By learning the same new sign each morning, the whole school shares a common, visible vocabulary. Children who once struggled to join conversations can now ask for help, celebrate success or invite a friend to play without waiting for an adult to interpret, and classmates are quick to respond.

A special twist is that the teaching clips feature Pegasus learners themselves. Earlier this term, learners auditioned to become “Signing Stars”, and over two lively filming days, supported by colleagues from Summit Learning Trust, the successful candidates demonstrated each sign for the camera. Working with cue cards, microphones and multiple takes, the children showed impressive professionalism. Their pride is clear every morning when a familiar face appears on screen and classmates break into smiles before practice even begins.

Staff members report that the daily focus is raising awareness, confidence and kindness across the school. Children are eager to model the signs for visitors, and playground helpers have noticed fewer misunderstandings during games. While it is still early days, the atmosphere feels more inclusive, and learners seem quicker to support one another when words alone are not enough.

Our next step is to maintain the momentum. By the end of the year, Pegasus learners will command a bank of over 30 signs—practical tools they can carry into the wider community and future learning. Most importantly, they will have practised empathy every single day, proving that a small, shared routine can give every child a louder, clearer voice.





The Oaklands Primary School
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Sporting Achievements

At The Oaklands, we believe that learning goes far beyond the classroom. This term, we have enriched our curriculum with a variety of exciting educational visits and hands-on experiences designed to inspire and engage our learners.

One of the highlights has been our cooking experience in collaboration with South Birmingham College. Year 5 learners had the opportunity to learn essential culinary skills. From measuring and mixing to serving delicious smoothies, children developed confidence and practical life skills while exploring the science and creativity behind cooking.



In history, we brought the past to life through dynamic workshops delivered by The Past Presents. These immersive sessions allowed children to handle historical artefacts, dress in period costumes, and engage in role-play to deepen their understanding of key historical periods. Whether exploring the life of a Viking, or discovering the world of the Romans, our children were captivated by this interactive approach to learning.



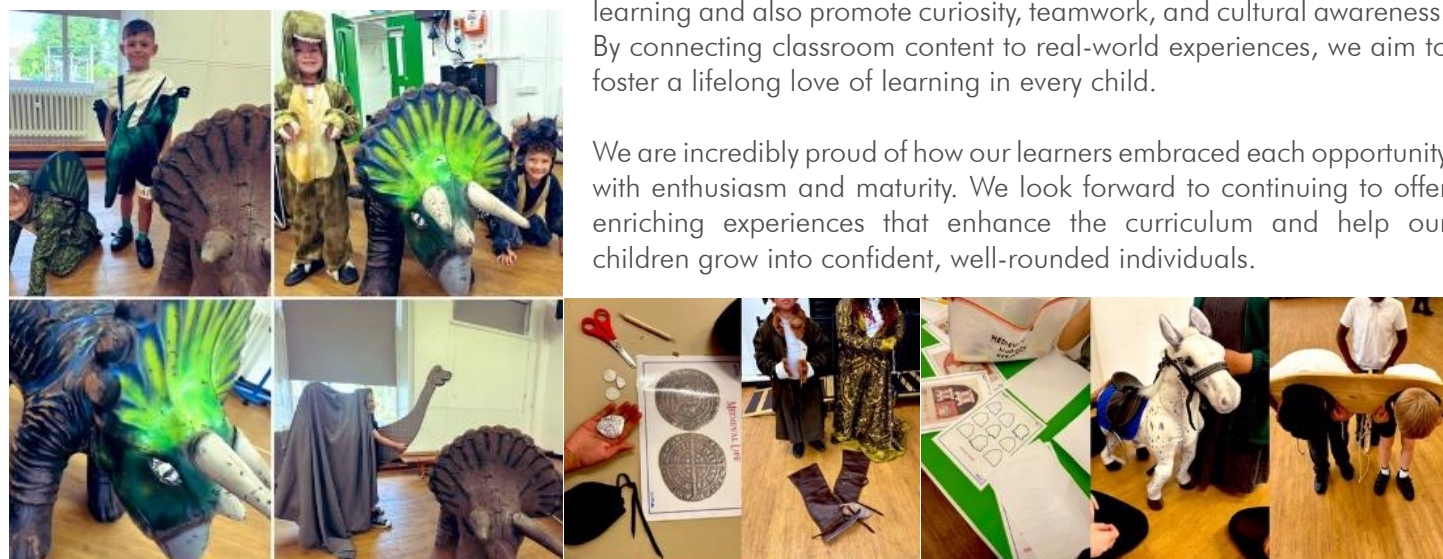
Our trip to the Birmingham Hippodrome was another memorable experience. Year 6 learners had the chance to watch a professional theatre production. This visit not only supported our literacy and performing arts curriculum but also sparked rich discussions about storytelling, stagecraft, and performance ahead of Year 6 performing their own version of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

Reception have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly by growing their own caterpillars. The children watched in awe as the caterpillars transformed into chrysalides and then emerged as beautiful butterflies. After caring for them, the class joyfully released them into the wild, waving goodbye as they flew away.



These opportunities support academic learning and also promote curiosity, teamwork, and cultural awareness. By connecting classroom content to real-world experiences, we aim to foster a lifelong love of learning in every child.

We are incredibly proud of how our learners embraced each opportunity with enthusiasm and maturity. We look forward to continuing to offer enriching experiences that enhance the curriculum and help our children grow into confident, well-rounded individuals.

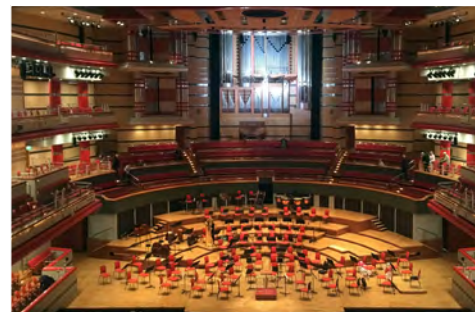


KS2 in Professional Ballet Performance

This summer term, our Key Stage 2 learners had a truly unforgettable opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of classical ballet. As part of an exciting performing arts project, the children took part in a special programme that introduced them to the discipline, beauty, and storytelling power of ballet.

Over the term, the children worked with professional choreographers to study ballet technique and explore the famous story of Romeo & Juliet. They learned how to express emotion through movement and how to bring characters to life through dance—all while developing coordination, confidence, and teamwork.

The experience culminated in a spectacular live performance at Birmingham Symphony Hall on Monday 7th July 2025. In an extraordinary collaboration with world-class professional dancers and a full 44-piece orchestra, our learners took to the stage to perform alongside seasoned artists in front of a large audience. The atmosphere was electric as they danced scenes from Romeo & Juliet, supported by the powerful live music and stunning choreography.



This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for our children, and they rose to the occasion with professionalism, passion, and poise. Their hard work, dedication, and talent shone through, and the audience responded with thunderous applause.

Birmingham's 'Bulls in the City'

We are incredibly proud of each and every child who took part. This experience not only enriched their understanding of the arts but also gave them memories and confidence that will last a lifetime. A huge thank you to all the staff members, dancers, musicians, and families who supported the children throughout this incredible journey.

We are thrilled to announce that The Oaklands has been selected to take part in Birmingham's Bull in the City – a city-wide art trail celebrating creativity, community, and compassion. Our successful application has led to an amazing opportunity for our school to design and decorate one of the iconic calf sculptures that will be displayed across Birmingham this summer. Even more inspiring, we raised over £2,000 for Birmingham Hospice as part of the project, supporting the vital work they do across our city.



Our calf design is a vibrant celebration of the outdoors, reflecting our school values and our LEAF vision – Learn, Experience, Achieve, and Flourish. Every learner in school has had a hand in bringing our calf to life. From painting the colourful background to designing the inspiring words and creating the beautiful minibeasts that adorn its surface, this has been a true whole-school effort. The design showcases how our learners learn through nature, thrive through creativity, and grow together as a community.



We are incredibly proud that our calf will be displayed in a prime location inside Birmingham Library, where thousands of visitors will be able to admire the creativity and teamwork of our learners. It stands as a symbol of the imagination, effort, and unity that defines The Oaklands.

This experience has been a wonderful example of learning beyond the classroom—bringing art, community, and values together in a meaningful way. A huge thank you goes to all children, staff members, families, and supporters who helped make this happen. We can't wait for everyone to see our bull in its full glory and celebrate the difference our school has made through this special city-wide event.



Yarnfield Primary School
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Rising to the Challenge



This term at Yarnfield has been all about rising to the challenge. Our amazing learners and dedicated colleagues have certainly done just that. Whether it's tackling key assessments, diving into exciting enrichment experiences, or pushing for personal bests on sports day, we are incredibly proud of how everyone has stepped up with resilience, enthusiasm, and ambition.

A huge congratulations to Year 1, who have now completed their Phonics Screening Check. Their progress in early reading has been outstanding, with learners applying their phonics skills confidently across the curriculum. The support from families at home and the consistent hard work of our staff team has made a real impact.

Year 4 also completed the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) and we have seen a fantastic increase in speed and accuracy across the board. Learners have shown real perseverance, and this strong foundation in mathematics will continue to support them as they move through Key Stage 2.

Meanwhile, Year 6 have tackled their SATs with determination and maturity. We couldn't be prouder of how they prepared themselves — showing focus, determination and pride in their achievements. They are leaving Yarnfield ready for the



next stage of their learning journey, and we know they will continue to rise to whatever challenges come next. Our Year 6 learners have ended their time at Yarnfield in style, celebrating their journey with a fantastic Prom and our very own YarnFest, a joyful celebration, where memories are made. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved and wish them every success and happiness as they move on to their next chapter.





Beyond the classroom

Our learners have been broadening their horizons and building cultural capital through an incredible range of enrichment opportunities. History has come alive this term with visits to The Tower of London, Tamworth Castle, and Warwick Castle, where learners walked in the footsteps of monarchs, knights, and rebels. These trips have sparked rich conversations and deepened historical understanding. Visits to the zoo, Umberslade Adventure Park, and the cinema added to the variety, ensuring that every child had the chance to experience learning beyond the classroom; building confidence, curiosity, and a love of the wider world.

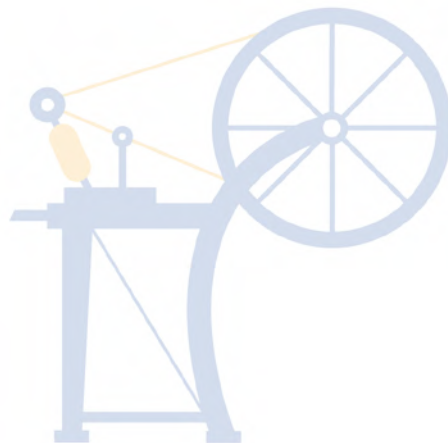
Our history workshops have been another highlight, offering hands-on learning that allowed children to explore different periods through drama, artefacts, and storytelling. These experiences have brought history to life and given our learners powerful memories to support their learning.

Reading has remained at the heart of everything we do. One of the most exciting moments this term was the arrival of the Reading Book Bus, which parked up in our playground to create a magical world of stories. Learners browsed books, met characters, and reignited their passion for reading. It's been fantastic to see children of all ages recommending books to each other and growing in confidence as readers.

The school was filled with music and joy as Year 4 learners took to the stage for their steel pans and ukulele concert, performing for a proud audience of parents and carers. After months of dedication and practice, their hard work truly paid off as they delivered eight fantastic pieces with rhythm, energy, and flair. Their incredible musical talent shone brightly, making it a performance to remember and a celebration of creativity, confidence, and teamwork.



This term has shown that when challenges arise, whether academic, physical or personal, our Yarnfield family rises to meet them together. Thank you to every learner, colleague and parent or carer for your continued dedication, encouragement and support.



Careers & Higher Education Fair 2025

The 2025 Careers & Higher Education Fair took place at Solihull Sixth Form College at the end of June, offering Year 12 learners the opportunity to talk to a host of universities, training providers and employers all under one roof.

In what is one of the biggest careers fairs in the region, exhibitors took over the Sports Hall and Studio, with more than 80 stands for learners to visit, including universities such as Aston, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Warwick. They were joined by employers, which included BNP Paribas, Howden Insurance, Jaguar Land Rover, KPMG, the RAF, Solihull Council and many more.

A programme of presentations saw visiting speakers come in to talk on a range of topics from Architecture and Pharmacy to Law and Artificial Intelligence. More than 1,200 bookings were made to attend careers talks, as Year 12 learners made the most of the opportunity to explore their post-College options.

Assistant Principal Trevor Irving, who is responsible for Careers at the College, commented:

"This is massive event to organise and I congratulate the Careers team for making it such a big success. We are very grateful to all the universities, training providers and employers for giving up their time to help our learners. The event offered our young people the chance to meet with representatives from a huge range of further education and training providers all under one roof, so that they could be as informed as possible about their progression opportunities. This event is just the start, and we will continue to work with our young people as they move into Year 13 and decide on their future career path."

Many of these young people will be applying to university and they will be making their UCAS applications in the Autumn. Academic Coaching and Careers staff members will be supporting those learners to make the best applications they can.



Visit to Poland and Malta

A group of BTEC learners from Solihull Sixth Form College have just returned from three weeks undertaking overseas work experience, thanks to a government scheme.

One group of learners visited Poland and another went to Malta as part of the Turing Scheme, which is the UK government's programme to provide funding for international opportunities in education and training across the world. The BTEC Level 3 courses that the College offers require learners to undertake work placements in both the first and second year of study. By taking advantage of the Turing Scheme, funding was awarded to enable learners to do one of these placements overseas.

Young people from across our BTEC provision attended the trips, including those studying Applied Science, Sport and Health & Social Care, who went to Poland, while those on the Business and IT courses went to Malta. Each learner had a different work placement, with the businesses they were working for including water sports, school camps, farms, IT services, science labs, nurseries, care homes, restaurants and retail.

Vice Principal at the College Janice Hamilton commented:

"The Turing Scheme is a fantastic opportunity for our young people, because it offers not only valuable experience in the workplace, but also the chance to travel abroad and experience a different culture. It is fully funded and offered 37 young people from our College the chance to take part. All the learners who travelled have learned a lot from their three weeks away and have developed both their confidence and their employability skills."

As well as working up to 40 hours per week, learners also had some free time to explore the countries they were in, taking in sights in Wroclaw in Poland and Valletta in Malta.



Summit Base Camp

Partnerships That Change Lives: Summit Trust Celebrated at Education Awards



Summit Learning Trust, which runs nine schools across Birmingham and Solihull, is proud to announce that it has won the 'Transforming Lives Through Partnerships Award' at the highly regarded 'Education Awards 2025.'

This distinguished accolade celebrates educational organisations that have significantly enhanced life chances for young people through powerful partnerships with community and charity organisations.



The award recognises the impact of Summit's innovative Base Camp provision, trust-wide initiative ensuring that every learner has their basic needs met so they are fully equipped to thrive academically and personally.

This achievement highlights the extraordinary commitment of the Summit Community Leads and the trust's many partners, who together deliver holistic support to learners across all Summit schools.

Summit's Base Camp programme goes beyond the traditional education offer and provides essential free support with food, uniform provision, hygiene products, digital access, transport, and cultural capital experiences. The trust also works closely with local charities, food banks, and national initiatives to ensure every child and young person receives what they need to thrive, both inside and outside the classroom.

This award reinforces Summit Learning Trust's mission, to deliver exceptional education and enable young people to lead successful, happy lives while making a positive impact on their communities.





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