

16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had another amazing term at Temple Learning Academy!

In November, we hosted the West Yorkshire Fire Service who came in and presented assemblies throughout the week on Firework and Fire Safety. They also held a number of workshops where our pupils had the chance to try on the uniforms and explore the vehicles used to save lives, as well as learning about what an important job firefighters do in our community.



During Anti-Bullying week we held raising awareness assemblies for all year groups. To further promote the week, our primary phase took part in 'odd socks day' and children were encouraged to speak out if they ever have concerns. Pupil voice held during the week strongly indicated that all of the systems that we have in place in school ensure that children are safe, and feel safe in school.

Our new Arts Council has been set up this term – including students from all phases who were selected for their art skills, attitudes to learning and their interest in art and design. Their first task was to design the new TLA Arts Council logo which will be displayed around school. They have also worked with our Art Club students to create the beginnings of a mural on the art room wall, which will be completed over the coming weeks of the new term. I have been so impressed with how this group have worked together and the artwork produced is incredible! Staying on the topic of Art, we submitted an application to the Leeds City of Culture on behalf of our Arts Council members for tickets to the opening event at Headingley Stadium on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The application contained some samples of work from our Arts Council meetings and images of our Primary art gallery, and I am delighted to report that the quality was so impressive that we were awarded 30 tickets to the event. The tickets have been awarded to our Arts Council members and their families and we hope that they enjoy a truly memorable experience.



As we did last year, we had an overwhelming response from all our families to this year's Harvest Festival. You very generously provided an incredible amount of food that we donated to the South Leeds Food Bank. On behalf of all of the grateful recipients I would like to say a massive thank you to you all.

Remembrance Day was marked with a special visitor from the Royal British Legion who hosted our assemblies. All pupils demonstrated exceptional respect on this day, and asked lots of relevant questions to our visitor. Primary pupils worked on making poppies to create a wonderful display in the library, as well as enjoying books to reflect the event.



Our wonderful Stars of the Week continue to enjoy awards presented in assembly every Friday, as well as a Golden Table lunch with a special guest each week. We have even had visitors from the Trust and some of our Governors joining our children for lunch this term!





Year 2 had a super day when the 'AnonyMas Carnival Leeds' came to visit! The children learned all about the history of the carnival in Leeds, learned dances and tried on all of the beautiful costumes.



November was a big month for our Year 11s as they sat their mock GCSE examinations, in preparation for next summer. They conducted themselves exceptionally well and are now awaiting their results and predicted grades which will not only help them to prepare more effectively for the summer exams, but will also assist them in applying for colleges and other post-16 opportunities.

Last week, Year 6 had a memorable trip to Leeds Art Gallery and Leeds City Museum. As expected, they were exceptional role models and represented our school so positively during the trip. This was observed by another visitor to the Art Gallery who kindly emailed me to say how impressed she was with the wonderful behaviour and manners from our children!



Christmas festivities have been in full swing over the last couple of weeks. We had our Christmas Fair on the 6<sup>th</sup> December and, thanks to all of your generosity, raised well over £1,000. In the new year, the Student Parliament will be given the opportunity to decide how this is to be spent to benefit them and their school environment. Children in Need Day was also thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff, as well as raising over £100 for the charity!

Christmas dinner took place for the whole school on 8<sup>th</sup> December and was very much enjoyed by pupils, staff, and visitors from the Trust. The Christmas Showcase on the 9<sup>th</sup> December was a wonderful show of all our talented musicians, dancers and performing arts students. Our incredible Reception children also put on an absolutely amazing Nativity show for us on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>. The Heart Space was packed with family and friends and thanks to our very own conductor-extraordinaire, Mrs Clark, we were all singing by the end of it! Fantastic times shared with you and your wonderful children.



During the final two weeks of term, we have focussed on positive behaviours and attendance. All pupils showing 'excellence' (one of our Core Values!) in these areas have been rewarded with a cinema and edible treats in school today, the last day of term.

Over the course of this term, we have had a number of visits from our Governors and partners, including the Maths and English Hubs – all of whom regularly comment on how our children conduct themselves, their confidence, their love for learning and how highly the children speak of our school community.

Please remember, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 is a staff training day. The first day we will welcome back all our pupils is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year.

With my very best wishes,



Stuart Huddleston  
Principal