

19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, here we are at the end of another amazing year at Temple Learning Academy...

This term we welcomed a new, very special, staff member – Amber the reading dog! Amber comes into TLA every Friday and our children just love reading to her! The impact she is having has been astounding to see, and she looks forward to her visits just as much as the children look forward to seeing her!



On the 4<sup>th</sup> July, over 600 students and a hundred staff made the annual pilgrimage to the John Charles Stadium for our second ever TLA Sports Day where we all had a great time. Just about everyone got involved and participated in at least one event. As last year, the thing that impressed me more than anything is the feeling of togetherness: of every student being cheered over the line – especially those that may have finished a little further back than the winners. TLA is a community where we look after each other and this is never more evident than at our Sports Day. Well done everyone!

Year 5 set off for a two-night residential in Whitby on 12<sup>th</sup> June, visiting the North Yorkshire Moors Railway and Whitby Museum, as well as coastal walking and fossil hunting! They also had an evening walk around Whitby listening to the famous spooky ghost stories of the town!



Our first ever TLA Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition set off on 21<sup>st</sup> June, and what beautiful weather they had for it!! Over two days, some of our Year 9 and Year 10 students completing the award walked 10 miles and camped out: being completely self-sufficient! Such an amazing experience for our students.



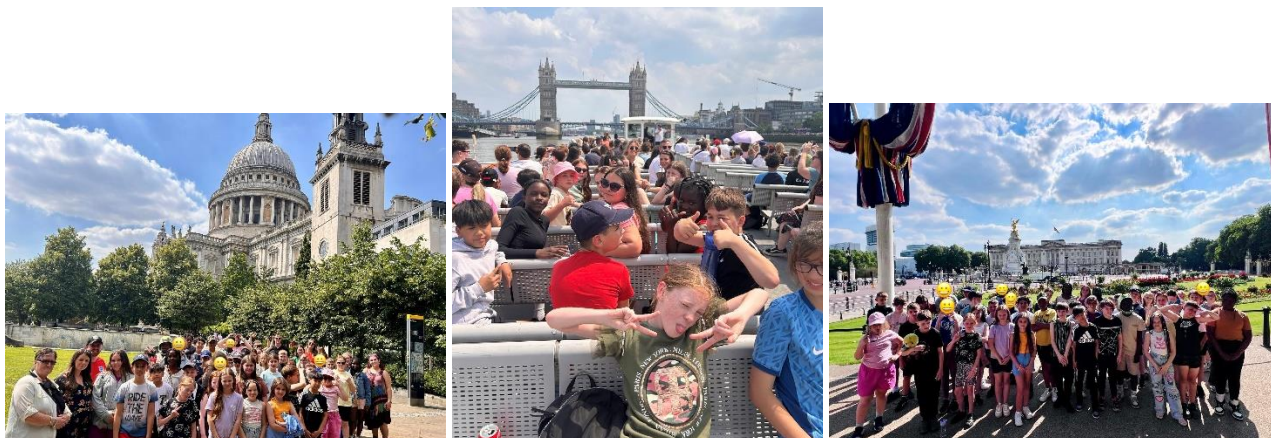
Our sports teams have been going from strength to strength this half term; our fabulous Year 5/6 girls represented our school so well at a football tournament at Whitkirk Primary School, showing their skills and teamwork and came away with some great results – particularly in the local derby match against Meadowfield! Well done too to our Year 3 boys football team who have been doing equally well! On Friday 7th June, the very first Red Kite Learning Trust Olympics took place where teams of Year 5 & 6 pupils from across the Trust took part in various sporting events and TLA came second place: a wonderful achievement considering there were nine schools taking part from across Leeds and North Yorkshire! Just last week, our Year 2 dodgeball team took part in a tournament where they remained unbeaten and came home with 2 trophies!! A massive well done to all of our sports boys and girls!

In June, our Early Years children welcomed their parents and carers in to see one of their Maths sessions. They showed off their Maths skills in CLIC (Count, Learn It, It's nothing new and Calculation) and pattern input, and then explored repeating patterns through practical activities. It was a wonderful session enjoyed by staff, parents, carers and the children. Early Years have also had a new 'trim trail' installed in the outdoor area and our children are loving developing their physical skills on the new equipment.



The Year 6 London residential departed on 24<sup>th</sup> June for two nights and three days in our capital city! Our students enjoyed visits to the Natural History Museum, Science Museum, Buckingham Palace, and Houses of Parliament amongst many other landmarks, as well as a trip to a West End Musical and a Thames river cruise. We cannot praise Year 6 enough for their maturity, exceptional behaviour and attitudes displayed during their residential. We are so proud of how you represent TLA in the most positive way. Well done Year 6!





Our Summer Fair took place last week – thanks to the generosity of all our parents and carers, we raised an amazing total of £829 which will support trips, residentials and resources for Primary!

On 24<sup>th</sup> June, our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students held an incredible event at the Royal Armouries. Students took the lead on this event working alongside professionals, from cooking the food, running the bar, making mocktails and serving our guests. They were even visited by the Lord Mayor of Leeds. What an amazing night it was....well done everybody, and a special thanks to Mr Nolan for his organisation.



Tuesday 25th June saw Year 10 GCSE Geography students visit Hornsea for the day to complete their Human and Physical Geography fieldwork. They visited the beach to assess the effectiveness of sea defences such as groynes and rock armour, before completing traffic counts, environmental quality surveys, and questionnaires with people in Hornsea town centre. Fantastic weather, fantastic day, brilliant students!

Our Arts Council have been very busy this term working with Halton in Bloom and Burley Banksy to develop their electric box designs – and they have now painted these on to electric boxes in the local community. Members of Halton in Bloom came to support them, as well as local councillors and the MP for Leeds South, Hilary Benn. The pupils had a wonderful day, bringing their ideas to life and even a change in the weather didn't dampen spirits! There is potential for us to paint more of these around the local community – so watch this space!



Our Year 11 GCSE exam season ended with a leavers' assembly on 17<sup>th</sup> June, where students said their goodbyes, signed shirts and marked the start of their summer holidays. This was followed by their Prom on 27<sup>th</sup> June. We are so very proud of our wonderful Y11 Leavers and wish them all the luck in the future. We are very much looking forward to celebrating your hard-earned successes with you on results day on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Our Primary children celebrated the end of the summer term with class parties, including tuck shops and a Prom for Year 6!

We enjoyed three 'Jump Up' days last week where our Year 6 students have gained a real taste of what life will be like in September when they graduate into our secondary phase. Hopefully, the three days provided not only memorable but also meaningful opportunities and we are confident that they are now all ready to return in September with a thirst for learning and a maturity of approach to enable the strongest possible start to the year.

Our Red Kite Learning Trust Youth Board met again on 20<sup>th</sup> May to discuss issues and initiatives that are important to our young people. Representatives from all our 14 schools collectively set the agenda for these meetings and together are helping to shape the vision for our Trust. Read an update from the most recent Youth Board meeting here: [Youth Board Update - June 2024 \(rkt.co.uk\)](https://www.rkt.co.uk/youth-board-update-june-2024)

It has been quite a final half term to cap off another absolutely incredible, busy and exciting year here at TLA, and everyone has very much earned a rest!

Please remember, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September are Staff Training Days, and school reopens to all students on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Please ensure that your child/ren are here on the Wednesday so that they do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities that will set them up for a very successful year.

I hope that you and your family have a very well-deserved, fun-filled summer and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

With my very best wishes,



Stuart Huddleston  
Principal