

Children First Learning Partnership



Summer Update 2023



Message from our CEO of the Children First Learning Partnership, Mrs Abigail Rourke

The school year is almost over and as we look back not only over this term but the whole academic year I feel an immense pride in all that we as a family of schools have achieved. As this newsletter demonstrates, the offer to our pupils of a rich, happy and supportive learning experience is certainly something we can all be proud of.



Highlights of the year have to be the development of our SEND Hub to ensure our pupils access the support and funding they deserve quickly. Alongside this, the continued investment in training for our leaders and staff to provide a curriculum of the very highest quality has been recognised by others outside of our Trust. Finally, the opening of CFLP schools to their valued communities via opportunities such as the creation of a community hub at Castlechurch, to the provision of parental engagement opportunities and the careful planning of opportunities to meet people from a huge and exciting range of jobs from soldiers, to forensic teams to hairdressers and engineers during recent careers weeks must be commended.

We still await the formal membership of Springhead into our team and it is hoped this will now take place on 1st October 2023. Our work together this year continues and important connections and relationships are beginning to blossom.

May I take this opportunity to thank our Headteachers and staff for their commitment and determination throughout the year to **INSPIRE EXCELLENCE TOGETHER** for our pupils and each other. I wish you a safe and happy summer and look forward to working with you all in the next academic year.

CEO Support

This term Mrs Rourke as CEO has provided strategic leadership support to all schools to identify their priorities for the 23-24 academic year.



This was informed by questionnaire responses and the scrutiny of a whole range of evidence from a range of sources. This culminated in a leadership away day during which all school leaders wrote their next school development plan and began to plot out opportunities for staff training and development over the coming year. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**



Time to Celebrate!

Congratulations to all our schools for their exceptional achievements in national assessments this year which are above 2022 national figures, this includes at the end of Reception, Year 2 and Year 6, along with end of year 1 phonics screening results and end of year 4 multiplication checks. The culmination of a great deal of hard work by pupils parents and staff. **Well done!**

Governance

Thank you to all of our governance teams for your continued dedication, challenge and expertise this year. As a group of volunteers, many of you unrelated to our schools, the time and effort you give preparing for our meetings, attending interviews and events is very much appreciated.



New Appointments

Mrs Carolyn Hodson will be joining Kingsfield as the new Headteacher in September. She will be leaving her position as Assistant Headteacher at Knypersley in the summer.

We wish to welcome Mr Jim Flowers to our Directors Board. Mr Flowers is leaving his position on Knypersley Local Advisory Board and will be joining the Directors Board from September onwards.

Vacancies

We have a vacancy on the Trust's Board for a Director with a strategic, educational background and good knowledge of curriculum or inclusion.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact our Chair of Directors, Nicky Chell by emailing director-chell@cflptrust.co.uk

At Knypersley First School there is a Governor vacancy on Local Advisory Board. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Mrs Taylor in the office by emailing k.taylor@cflptrust.co.uk



Chief Operations Officer Appointment



After a rigorous recruitment process we are delighted to inform you that we have appointed a new Trust Chief Operations Officer (COO).

Congratulations to Miss Victoria Mills who started with us in June. Miss Mills has been visiting all our schools, meeting staff and pupils and is working on some very important projects.

Top Secret Project

Some of our staff and school's have been busy helping Mrs Rourke and Miss Mills to design our new logo which we can't wait to reveal in September.





Reginald Mitchell Ofsted Inspection

Congratulations to Reginald Mitchell Primary who had their Ofsted inspection at the end of June. Words such as optimistic and aspirational belief in every child were spoken by the lead inspection Mr Mike Cladingbowl which recognise the love and care shown to every single child who attends this school.

Congratulations and we look forward to sharing your final report in September once published.



Emergency SEND Funding

Through a bidding system the CFLP provides its schools with emergency funding to support pupils who may well be in great need of additional interim support whilst County Council Funding is secured.

This term both Kingsfield First and Castlechurch have benefited from this funding. Their headteachers reported that the funding has enabled success such as pupils making positive visits to their next classes, increased access to lessons and improved interaction with their peers.

Staff Team Building Day

On Monday 4th September we are hosting an exciting event at the Britannia (Bet365) Stadium where Trust Members, Directors, School Governors and all the staff in the Trust, will be getting together for the first time for a whole day of networking and team building.

We are delighted to confirm that our conference will be opened by Mr Andrew Warren the Regional Director for the West Midlands and this will be followed by a day led by the Art of Brilliance Team ([click link here](#)) on areas around resilience, mental and physical health.



Congratulations



A huge congratulations to Miss Barnett at Oxhey and Miss Rasool at Reginald Mitchell for completing their 2 year ECT period with flying colours.



Our MAT finance team have procured yet another great service for our schools and their families. After comparing different photography companies for cost and quality we are pleased to say we have secured a contract with Academy Photography who we believe offer the best value for money for parents. Thank you to our finance team for spending time on this project to ensure we chose the best deal for our families.

Thank you to Miss Sarah Lloyd at Castlechurch who has spent a lot of time comparing the different suppliers and packages.





CFLP Enrichment

Our pupils across the CFLP schools have enjoyed Health and Sports Week in addition to all the other activities they do. Some of the highlights have been:

- Playing football ● basketball ● hockey ● cricket
- rounders ● dodgeball ● orienteering ● zumba
- skipping challenge ● archery ● flash mob dance

They really enjoyed creating lots of healthy snacks and joining in on Sports Day.



What have our Year 4 and Year 6 leavers been up to?

Year 6 at Castlechurch had a brilliant time at Ninja Warrior!

Our Year 6 pupils at Reginald Mitchell had a fabulous week at Standon Bowers and have enjoyed bowling.

Kingsfield Year 4 have their leavers' performance to look forward to.

Oxhey had a blast at their festival themed leavers' party.

Knypersley Year 4's had so much fun at their sleepover!

There have been so many treats for our leavers. Thank you to our wonderful staff for making this happen!



The Children First Learning Partnership would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Rebecca Butler, Headteacher at Kingsfield First School a very happy and long retirement.

Becky started her career at Kingsfield First on 1st September 1993 and has taught throughout the school.

After 30 years of service to the school and the community of Biddulph it goes without saying that she will be hugely missed. Her kindness and genuine love for Kingsfield is evident in all that she does and her knowledge of the area, the school site and the families she has served so warmly is immeasurable.

Thank you Mrs Butler for your friendship, service and dedication to those you have worked with and educated.

Love and best wishes from Team CFLP.



Across our schools we have members of the CFLP family who will be leaving us so we would like to say goodbye and good luck.

We wish you all every success in your new adventures!

We hope you find this information useful in getting to know how our multi academy trust works with it's schools.

If you would like to find out more please visit www.childrenfirstlp.org.uk. There you will find our previous newsletters as well as information about our schools, policies and governance team. Have a wonderful Summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Mrs A Rourke, CEO of the Children First Learning Partnership.