

Monday 2nd December 2024

Dear parents/carers

**Re: Trust-wide update**

I am writing to provide you with an update and information on a number of Trust-wide activities following the letter dated Thursday 12th September 2024 ([click here](#)).

- Associate membership

The partnership between Oak Farm Primary School and Vanguard Learning Trust has continued to develop this term, in particular liaising with the Department for Education (DfE) following the application submitted in September 2024 for the school to join the Trust in 2025. It is anticipated that the school will be in a position to consult with stakeholders in the spring or summer terms 2025, depending on the DfE's timeline.

- Capital works booklet

I am delighted to share with parents and carers our first booklet showcasing the capital works that the Trust has been able to carry out across the schools' estates and facilities as part of a budget of circa £620k that the Trust has received annually since April 2022 ([click here](#)). This has been a significant benefit for the Trust as part of our estates vision; the booklet has examples of capital works in all schools, showing the improvements that are being made; these have been separated into five categories as well as outlining examples in all schools.

- Environmental sustainability

Our second Trust-wide environmental sustainability week was a resounding success with an increase in participation based on a number of indicators including higher numbers of participants for activities such as the '*how low can we go*' challenge?, including completion of the daily quizzes, as well as entries in the slogan and poster competitions. There was also an increase in the number of school-based activities and a unique way to mark the opening of the week using aerial drone footage of the students making one letter in each school for the message of '*GO ZERO*'. The evaluation of the week is currently being undertaken as well as producing the special edition newsletter which will be shared with the Trust-wide community before the end of term.

- Executive summaries of policies

As noted in the letter dated 12th September 2024, one of the suggestions from parents was to have executive summaries for our new policies relating to students and families. This has been done for the following four policies:

- Attendance ([click here](#))

- Behaviour ([click here](#))
- Home-school communication ([click here](#))
- Safeguarding and child protection ([click here](#))

They will be available on schools' websites and more will be added as Trust-wide policies are reviewed and developed.

- 10-year anniversary

The preparations for the event to mark the Trust's 10-year anniversary continue with the student performances being agreed by the schools. The venue is changing due to the closure of the Beck Theatre and a decision will be made by the end of term as other options are currently being explored.

- VLT cup

It has been agreed that there will be a league in which schools can accrue points for each Trust-wide student activity they participate in with a VLT cup being awarded to the school with the most points at the end of the year. The scores for the autumn term will be shared with school communities before the end of term.

The Trust's termly newsletter will be shared with the Trust's community during the last week of term, showcasing a number of the Trust-wide activities that have taken place throughout the autumn term, including the recipients of the Trust's autumn term student awards for the Trust's value of aspiration. I am confident that the last few weeks of term will be enhanced by the festive activities, reflecting our schools' commitment to community events including fundraising and collecting items for local charities.

Yours sincerely



Dr Martina Lecky  
Chief Executive Officer