

# PATHWAY

LEADING THE WAY FOR EDUCATION



## **What a Year!**

A message from  
GARY CHOWN CEO.

## **Children's VOICE**

A photo essay of this  
terms activities.

## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

An introduction to our  
new Executive Chef,  
Rob Stevens.



## Hugh Whittaker Message from the Chair of Directors

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the Primary Academies Trust's newsletter, Pathway. We have had another excellent year as a Trust, improving outcomes, supporting school improvement, working collaboratively and sharing many skills and ideas, throughout our organisation and in schools and Trusts across the region. I am sure many of you will have read or heard various reports in the news over the last few months regarding the Government's commitment for every school to become an Academy and for every Academy to be part of a Multi-Academy Trust.

Whichever route the political establishment decide to take and to what extent, I feel it is important to let parents know that the Primary Academies Trust does not hold as a key performance measure any target for growth or for any form of "mass take-over" of schools. The Board of Directors and the Executive Leadership Team, do however, hold a strong sense of moral purpose where they will always seek to support other schools to improve outcomes for children and young people. On that note, I am delighted at the extent and level of work that has gone on this year supporting schools across the region, which are outside of our Trust and the positive impact that this work has had on those schools. Some of these schools may join our Trust in the future, but that is never the driver for our work. Central to our principles and vision, are a desire and need for us to be collaborative leaders, supporting school improvement wherever that may be.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer break.



## Gary Chown CEO Another successful year draws to a close...

As a very successful year draws to a close, our minds naturally move towards next year. As you will see from the list of our schools on the back of this newsletter, we are saying farewell to some very important people from our Trust Leadership Team.

Firstly, I would like to formally recognise and pay tribute to the amazing career that **Jan Baker** (Head of Orchard Vale Community School) has enjoyed, Jan (*left*) has been a teacher for 37 years and a school leader for 25 years and has given tireless service to children throughout that time. Jan is retiring formally from her role as Executive Headteacher at the end of this term, but I am delighted to say she will be returning to the Trust on a part-time basis to support us in setting up our Teaching School.



I would also like to wish a fond farewell to **Louise Oxenham** (*left*), who is stepping down from her role as Head of Wilcombe Primary School from the end of this term.

Louise leaves on an absolute high as Wilcombe has just received a very successful Ofsted, in which it was judged to be 'Good' in all areas. I am also pleased to report that Louise will

not be leaving the Trust but moving to Bickleigh-on-Exe C of E Primary School to support the Early Years team.

I would like to welcome to our Trust Leadership Team; (*left to right*) **Fiona Pearce**, **Rachel Olivant** and **Hannah Smith**, all of whom are taking



up roles as Heads of School at Orchard Vale, Woodwater and Hemyock respectively. I am sure they will be well supported by their colleagues within the Trust Leadership Team and will have a very successful year.

Finally, I would like to wish **Leanne Arrowsmith** (*below*) good luck as she moves from Hemyock Primary School to Head of School at St Andrew's Primary School. Leanne has done a fantastic job



of developing Hemyock as a very strong school within our Trust and I am sure she will have an immediate and significant impact at St Andrew's.



# Children's Voice

**A**cross these two pages you will see a wonderful array of photographs, which demonstrate the rich breadth of experiences that our Trust schools have taken part in over the last few months.



**Wild Night Out**  
 "I really enjoyed every second of it...my favourite thing was orienteering and working as a team".  
 Year 3: BICKLEIGH



**Embercombe**  
 "We cut all our own vegetables for toppings and made our own pizzas".  
 Year 4: WILCOMBE



**Grenville House**  
 "We had an amazing time; abseiling was scary at first, but when you got to the bottom it felt great".  
 Year 6: SIDBURY



**Shakespeare School Festival at the Queens Theatre**  
 "I felt very nervous first, then it was amazing and now I feel much more confident".  
 Year 5: ORCHARD VALE



**Alan Durant**  
 A visit by a Published children's author  
 "My highlight of year 2 is getting a golden hero. I felt really happy, excited and proud. I got a golden hero for writing a fantastic story. I wrote a story called 'Tam Lin', it was very interesting".  
 Year 2: WOODWATER





### Arsenal Soccer School

"We were trained up so well that we managed to reach the final of the PAT football tournament. We sadly lost in the final but it was a great experience".

Year 6: ST ANDREW'S



### Science Day

"The afternoon show was brilliant. I loved the way that physics, chemistry and biology all came together. I loved the optical illusions and how they trick your brain!"

Year 5/6: ST DAVID'S



### The PAT Cross Country

"It was tiring and lots of people took part. Hopefully everyone had a little bit of fun".

Year 3/4: SOUTH BRENT



### Science Morning

"We had a fantastic time when our parents came in to take part in our Science activity morning".

Year 3: DUCHY



### London Residential

"On the London trip, we went to Matilda, Pineapple Dance Studios and the Science Museum, it was so amazing".

Year 5: HEMYOCK



### We took part in the Exmoor Challenge!

"The course was a bit tough at times but we worked as a team to help each other".

Year 6: SAMPFORD PEVERELL

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT



My name is Rob Stevens and I am the Executive Chef of the **Primary Academies Trust**.

I am really excited to have taken this new role. I am initially going to focus on building a model kitchen operation at Sidbury C of E Primary School. As time progresses I will turn my attention to developing a Trust wide approach to healthy nutritional balanced school food catering and children's interaction and understanding of the importance of food.

The Trust has a vision for catering which will improve the quality of children's food, their dining experience and in the future generate income to go back into the classroom to support children's learning. The Primary Academies Trust will also focus within that vision on enhancing the community aspect of food across the Trust schools with approaches such as themed nights and family events.

## DISH OF THE DAY

### Really Heathy Pasta

- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 carrot, peeled and chopped
- 2 celery sticks chopped
- 1 leek chopped
- 1 small aubergine, chopped
- 1 small courgette, chopped
- 2 peppers, deseeded and chopped
- 800g chopped tomatoes
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 300g dried pasta
- 1tsp balsamic vinegar and pinch of sugar
- Parmesan shavings or grated to taste.



#### Method

- 1.** Heat the oil in a large non-stick saucepan and gently fry the garlic and onions. Next add the celery, carrot, courgette, aubergine and leek until soft, about 20 minutes. Add the peppers and cook for 10 minutes more, then tip in the tomatoes, sugar and vinegar. Simmer for at least 20 minutes – the longer the better.
- 2.** Cook the pasta following pack instructions. Meanwhile, blend the sauce with a hand blender until smooth, season and return to the heat to keep warm while the pasta cooks. Drain the pasta and toss through the sauce. Serve in bowls topped with shaved Parmesan if you like.
- 3.** If you want to turn this into an exciting bolognaise sauce, then fry 500g of mince or soya mince in olive oil and add to the sauce when it has been blended.



## Our Schools and Trust Leadership Team from September 2016



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## The Executive Leadership Team



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Ashley Leeson  
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