



**LEARNING IN
TOTTENHAM
EDUCATION NETWORK**

NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

Dear LIT Community

Welcome to this edition of the Learning In Tottenham Newsletter! As we navigate another busy term, it's inspiring to see the continued collaboration and commitment across our schools. The strength of the LIT group lies in our shared purpose—supporting each other to provide the best possible education for our pupils.

In this issue, you'll find updates on key initiatives, successes to celebrate, and opportunities for professional learning and development. I hope you find it both informative and energising as we move forward together.

Thank you for all you do.

Paul Murphy
Chair, LIT Group & Head Teacher at Lancasterian Primary School



Our Vision

Learning in Tottenham (LIT) brings together our children's centres, nurseries, schools and colleges to improve how we serve our children, young people and their families.

Our collaborative work ensures academic excellence for all, nurturing lifelong learners who are successful, confident and happy.

We are invested in creating world-class educational opportunities which enable everyone to flourish as responsible global citizens.

LIT'S GOT TALENT

Throughout the spring term, students across our schools will be rehearsing and competing in their school talent shows. This is an open event for all students—whether it's singing, dancing, magic, hula hooping, or even pogo sticking, if your child has a talent, this is their chance to shine!

Each school will select finalists who will compete in the grand final on 1st July at LEAT Tottenham, with some surprise guest judges. Check out posters around your school for more details.

Community Litter Picking



One of the shared values of our LIT schools is a passion for our community, and what better way to give back while looking after our surroundings than through local litter picks? Many of our schools have already started litter-picking in the areas around their campuses, and we hope more volunteers will join the LITter Picks and LITtle Gardens group. Together, we'll carry out litter-picking activities in the local area and plant bulbs and seeds in our schools.



LIT 'loves' literature

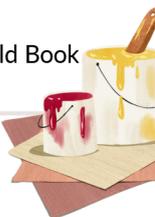
We are really lucky at LIT to have representatives from all schools, lead by Maya McKenzie, to celebrate all things literacy based and promote a love of reading.

During the week of Feb 1st - 9th, a series of events were planned for national storytelling week. The theme for National Storytelling Week 2025 was 'Reimagine your world'.

There are lots more events planned for the 6th March 2025 which is World Book Day.

LIT Art exhibition

Following on from the fantastic Make a Hat competition in 2023, all LIT students are asked to create an individual piece of Art for our Summer exhibition. Students will have the opportunity in classes to produce Art or even bring in something they have made at home.



Great Mental Health At Devonshire Hill

To recognise the importance of great mental health, The Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary School recently took part in some very creative and unforgettable events. Activities included making wellbeing hats with our families and enjoying a performance by VIP guest, rapper and mental health advocate Shocka!

Our Great Mental Health Day hat parade welcomed a sea of vibrant homemade hats. Each unique creation had its own important message aimed at raising awareness and offering words of encouragement including: 'be kind to your mind', 'mental health matters', 'follow your dreams', 'show compassion', 'connect with others'. The hats are now on display around the school, they serve as a constant reminder that mental health matters!

In addition to our hat parade, children in KS2 also attended a very powerful assembly with Streetz Ahead. During the assembly, we discussed the importance of expressing our feelings and talking to someone that we trust. British rap artist Shocka offered his words of encouragement and acknowledged the importance of being there for one another. Shocka closed the assembly with an uplifting performance of his song 'Unite'. The energetic beat and positive lyrics had the children singing and dancing along. Remember, always talk to someone and unite.



Chinese New Year Celebrations

Chinese New Year 2025 is the year of the snake. Children and families at The Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary School celebrated with a fantastic performance organised by Mr Lin, our Mandarin and Chinese Language Teacher.

To symbolise good luck, prosperity and happiness, the whole school wore red throughout the day. Our families enjoyed children singing songs in Mandarin, the language which is learned at our school.

As the 2025 zodiac is of the snake, we held a create a snake competition, the winning designs were awarded a special certificate. After eating a delicious Chinese themed lunch!



A Tudor Experience at Bruce Castle Museum

The year 5 pupils visiting Bruce Castle Museum for the Tudor Tottenham workshop stepped back in time to experience life in the 16th century. The workshop provided an exciting and hands-on exploration of Tudor history, allowing pupils to engage with the past in a memorable way.

One of the highlights of the visit was dressing up in authentic Tudor costumes. Pupils donned bonnets, ruffs, and rich fabrics, taking on the roles of Tudor residents. This immersive element helped them connect with the period, making it easier to imagine themselves in the world of Henry VIII.

During the workshop, pupils examined what a feast for Henry VIII might have looked like. They discussed the grand tableware used in Tudor banquets—ornate goblets, pewter plates, and elaborate serving dishes—and considered the types of lavish food that would have been presented to the king. This activity sparked curiosity about Tudor dining customs and etiquette, revealing the extravagance of royal feasts.

The experience culminated in a historical writing activity where pupils took on the role of Lord Compton, a nobleman of the time (who was made the new king's groom of the stool). Using quills and ink, they carefully crafted letters inviting Henry VIII to visit Lordship Manor house for an opulent dinner and a day of hunting with birds of prey. This task not only strengthened their understanding of Tudor society and communication but also gave them the chance to practice historical handwriting techniques.

By the end of the workshop, pupils were left with a deeper appreciation of Tudor history, having engaged with it through costume, discussion, and hands-on activities. The Tudor Tottenham experience at Bruce Castle Museum offered a unique and enriching way for the year 5 learners to step into the past and explore the world of Henry VIII.



Celebrating Chinese New Year at Risley Avenue

At Risley Avenue Primary, pupils in Years 2-5 learn Mandarin as part of a British Council Programme. Each year, we welcome a Chinese Mandarin Assistant to support their learning, and this year, we are joined by Ms Lui.

As part of our annual Chinese New Year celebrations, the school hosts a week of activities to immerse pupils in Chinese culture. Pupils take part in a competition to design and create the animal of the year, with 2025 marking the Year of the Snake. A Chinese Dancing Festival is performed for pupils, parents, and carers, bringing the celebrations to life.

The week also features a Chinese Market and a special themed lunch, giving pupils a chance to explore traditions and learn more about the significance of the festival.

Risley Wheelers Leading the Way

Risley Avenue Primary School is home to the Risley Wheelers, a dedicated cycling team led by our Cycle Instructor, Ms Ionie. She trains and coaches pupils during the school day and runs after-school cycling clubs, giving every child the chance to get involved.

For those who want to take their cycling further, the Wheelers provide an opportunity to develop skills and compete at a higher level. Their hard work and dedication have paid off, as the team currently sits at the top of the leaderboard.

Supporting the next generation of riders, an ex-pupil regularly joins the team at competitions and helps out with training sessions, inspiring our young cyclists to keep pushing forward.

LEADERBOARD 2024-2025	
SCHOOL	Total points to date
Risley Avenue	668
North Harringay	638
Seven Sisters	625
Stroud Green	594
St Mary's	538
Holy Trinity	522
St Aidan's	486



Leading with sustainability

Lancasterian Primary School proudly secured 2nd Place and a Silver Award in this year's Haringey in Bloom! A huge thank you to our pupils and community for their dedication to caring for our school's green spaces, plants, and wildlife.

Along with our fantastic certificate, we received tomato and wildflower seeds and a garden centre voucher, which we used to purchase two bird boxes for our gardens. We hope to see small birds nesting in them this coming spring.

Our pupils take part in environmental education workshops every fortnight, learning about growing food and plants, planting trees and wildflowers, birdwatching, and caring for our natural spaces. They help maintain the gardens by watering plants, composting, litter picking, and even making signs.

Sustainability is at the heart of our work, with a thriving wildlife pond to support biodiversity, nectar-rich wild plants to attract pollinators, and a mix of tall and short grass, hedges, and deadwood habitats to encourage wildlife. We also use compost bins, water butts, and leaf mould baskets to nourish our plants, with some planters even made from recycled tyres.



KS2 Digital Leaders - Bett EdTech fair

Recently sixteen digital leaders from Lancasterian Primary School had an amazing opportunity to visit the Bett EdTech fair, where we explored the latest innovations in educational technology.

From interactive robots to cutting-edge learning gadgets, we got a hands-on experience with exciting tools that could shape the future of learning. It was also an important chance for us to see the many career opportunities in the world of technology and imagine how we could be part of shaping it one day.

The trip was an inspiring glimpse into how technology can enhance the classroom - who knows, we may even see some of these innovations at our school soon!



North London Hospice Big Fun Art Adventure

Lea Valley Primary was thrilled to participate in The Big Fun Art Adventure in Haringey last summer, a vibrant public art event supporting the incredible work of the North London Hospice. All of our children had a fantastic time designing, painting, and naming our owls, with staff members joining in the creative fun. If you look closely, you'll even spot a special addition from David Lammy!

Meet Twinkle, our happy-maker, filled with everything that makes our school a happy place to learn and play. Hootie represents the strong sense of belonging at Lea Valley—reminding us that everyone has a place, and each of us is unique and special. He serves as a daily reflection of our core school values.

Both owls were proudly displayed at Coombes Croft Library as part of the borough-wide Owl Trail. Now, they have returned home to Lea Valley Primary, where they continue to inspire our school community.



TFL Travel for Life Gold Accreditation



We are extremely pleased to have received the GOLD accreditation in the TFL travel for life program!

TfL Travel for Life is an accreditation programme supporting the next generation of Londoners to travel towards a brighter, safer and more sustainable future.



Back-to-Back Triumphs at Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge

Mulberry Academy Woodside proudly hosted this year's Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge Regional Final, building on last year's triumph when Aleiya Francis claimed victory. Continuing the legacy, Year 10's Mawada emerged as this year's champion, securing Woodside's second consecutive win.

Mawada's speech, titled "Redefining Family," captivated the audience with its powerful message that family is not solely defined by biological ties but by the meaningful connections and support shared with those who make one feel like they belong.



STEM Enrichment Trip to Williams F1

A group of Year 10 students took part in an exciting STEM enrichment programme at Williams F1, gaining insight into careers in science, technology, engineering, and maths through the world of motorsport.

The experience included driving Esports race simulators, learning about F1 engineering and design, and exploring aerodynamics and crash test physics through hands-on activities. Students also toured the Williams museum, discovering over 50 heritage cars and key innovations in car development.

This unique opportunity gave students a real-world look at the intersection of STEM and motorsport, inspiring future careers in the field.