

The Chelmsford Teaching Schools Alliance

'working together to be better together'



Issue 2—Summer 2019

Dates from our 2019/2020 CPD training programme

RQT Programme begins 13th November

Secondary NQT begins 18th September

Paediatric First Aid 9th & 10th July

Termly updates

Science Subject Leader Session 1

9th October

Computing Subject Leader Session 1

16th October

School Assessment Leader Session 1

14th November

Early Years updates Session 1

2nd October

Maths & English Session 1

18th September

More information can be obtained via the alliance website

<http://www.chelmsfordteachingschoolsalliance.co.uk>

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Susannah Edom Baker

What a year! There are so many highlights it's hard to know where to start. However the overriding moment for me was seeing over 100 smiling faces at our first ever Young Persons' Conference reinforcing for me the reason why we all do what we do. Our commitment to their learning should always underpin the work the Alliance does; our many projects, training sessions and network groups are merely vehicles for delivering the very best education we can provide for the many children in our care.

The Alliance continues to go from strength to strength with membership now at 38 (27 Primary, 9 Secondary & 2 Special Schools). We are also delighted to confirm that, as of the start of the 2020-21 academic year, schools from the Chelmsford Education Network (CEN) will be joining the CTSA.

Whilst I am looking forward to the many exciting projects all ready underway for next year I do hope you will all find some time over the holidays to have some rest and relaxation!

Essex Primary SCITT

Congratulations to our class of 2019 !

A fantastic group of trainee teachers who approached the programme with great enthusiasm and commitment. We are delighted to confirm that over 90% of our 2019 trainees have already secured positions with 75% of them being in partner schools. Well done and our very best wishes to them all in their future careers.



Essex Primary SCITT

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National Teaching School





Mantle of the Expert

Over the last year, 9 CTSA schools have been working closely with Luke Abbott, renowned international Mantle of the Expert (MofE) specialist as part of a project to develop MofE as a whole school approach. Teachers and some senior leaders have worked together to develop their understanding of this concept and the implementation of this approach in their schools.

Under Luke's guidance, this bold yearlong experiment, aimed to shift teaching pedagogy from instructive practices into inductive ones using the constructs embedded in the techniques of drama and of MoE.

The alliance can now boast the availability of a significant number of certified practitioners who can support the development of the 'Mantle' approach in other schools.

Young Persons' Conference 2019

In June the CTSA staged their first ever Young Persons' Conference. The event was attended by over 100 children from 17 primary schools, 29 teaching staff, 15 sixth formers from Chelmer Valley High School, the Mayor of Chelmsford, the Right Honourable Vicky Ford MP, Eddie the Eagle from Colchester United and Dawn Wood, one of only three women to row single handedly across the Atlantic Ocean.

The afternoon was underpinned by five key areas for discussion, the Environment, Education, Community, Aspiration and Infrastructure. The children brought ideas and results with them following pre conference discussions they had had with their peers in their own schools. These results were then collated from all the schools to provide an overall summary of outcomes that have now been communicated with the participating schools.

The afternoon proved to be a great success and the children from the 17 schools were superb ambassadors. They entered into the spirit of democracy and debate fantastically showing an overriding passion and concern for environmental issues like plastic pollution and recycling.

Dawn Wood recounted tales of her Atlantic Adventure and her work on raising awareness of plastic pollution, particularly in our oceans. Her commitment and dedication to this cause is astonishing and she continues to fund raise for the Marine Conservation Society so their important work can continue.

More informing regarding Dawn's adventure can be found on her website

<https://rowaurora.co.uk/>)

and donations to this worthwhile cause can be made via her fundraising page

(<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rowaurora>).



Paul Hamlyn—Targeting school readiness through musicianship

We have now launched our collaborative project with Essex Music Services and London Music Masters (a charitable trust with Essex connections). We have secured funding from the Paul Hamlyn Teacher Development Fund for 2 years to support us in developing the use of musicianship to improve 'school readiness'.

This project will focus particularly on the development of the EYFS framework prime areas of Learning and Development: Personal, Social & Emotional Development and Communication and Language Development with additional benefits in Expressive Arts & Design. It will also develop teacher skills in using music to develop key skills such as self-confidence, collaboration, turn taking, listening and attention as a foundation on which to build successful learning throughout the curriculum.

Watch this space for updates and news from the 7 CTSA schools involved.



Creating Real Writers & Real Mathematicians

This CTSA funded year long programme designed to challenge some common assumptions in the teaching and learning of writing and maths reached its pinnacle recently with a presentation day. Participating teachers shared their experiences and described how learning behaviours in the classroom had been impacted. They talked of increased writing stamina and excitement for learning plus children taking ownership and displaying resilience and perseverance in mathematics and writing.

As well as making their presentations to representatives from a range of schools, the participant teachers have also created case studies that will be shared with all Alliance schools. These case studies will also be available via the CTSA website

<http://www.chelmsfordteachingschoolsalliance.co.uk>

"I have really enjoyed taking part in this project – very though provoking and impactful – thank you"

