



# RoundUp

## Summit Learning Trust News



### Also in this issue:

- The Gambia Project 2025
- Our Summit Community

*#ScalingNewHeights*

# Welcome

A huge thank you to our parents, carers, families and communities for supporting our academies to achieve so much with our learners this term and throughout this year. 2025 has been another great year for our Trust family. We have seen record exam results overall in all phases, notably in our primary schools with our SATs results at Year 6 increasing by 10% overall to be above the national average. Erdington Hall Primary, The Oaklands Primary and Pegasus Primary have all had excellent Ofsted inspections, significant improvements and additions have been made to our estate and technology, and we have continued to develop a culture of free sharing and support between schools and colleges across our region through The Education Exchange West Midlands.



This edition of the Roundup gives a small snapshot into some of the achievements secured across our Summit academies, and it has been a pleasure to see the work that takes place day in, day out with our children and young people.

Every year we focus on the true spirit of Christmas and can all be proud of the efforts made by our learners in supporting charitable initiatives, all of which help those with the greatest need in our communities. Thank you to those learners and colleagues who have completed voluntary work and raised funds for the Kids' Village Charity, our Trust's amazing chosen charity for 2025. Whilst fundraising continues right until the end of term, we have already surpassed our collective Summit target of raising above £10,000, so thank you to all involved.

Our Summit Base Camp programme has developed further, ensuring that we provide a consistent level of support for our children and young people across our schools and college to enable them to make strong levels of academic progress. Our schools and college provide a comprehensive range of support for any learner who needs it, so please do not hesitate to contact your child's academy where this is required and they will be very happy to help.

This calendar year has also seen us continue to focus on our levels of sustainability through the TREAD Lightly programme, in partnership with our West Midlands Lieutenancy. Children and young people across our family continue to initiate and lead key projects in this area and as a result, we have seen our collective energy usage decrease significantly through developing our use of solar power and utilising low energy solutions. This has resulted in us making significant financial savings which we continue to reinvest in our schools and college, all aimed at improving the educational provision and care across our Summit family.

Thank you all for your ongoing support for your child's school or college.

Have a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

Vince Green  
Chief Executive Officer

# Nothing but the best at Cockshut Hill

This autumn has been an exciting and successful first term under the leadership of our new Principal, Mr Clarke. The term has been filled with memorable moments that reflect our commitment to, learning, achievement and community.

Academic focus has been strong across all year groups. Year 11 learners approached their Pre-Public Examinations with impressive determination and resilience, demonstrating a real commitment to their studies. Once the hard work was completed, they were rewarded with a well-deserved pizza afternoon—a fantastic way to celebrate their efforts. Year 10 have also settled confidently into their GCSE options, showing maturity and enthusiasm for their chosen subjects as they begin this important stage of their learning journey.

Our newest learners in Year 7 have made an excellent start to life at Cockshut Hill. They have embraced school routines with energy and positivity, building friendships and engaging fully in lessons and extracurricular activities. Their smooth transition is a credit to their efforts and the support of colleagues and families, and we are proud they have become part of our Cockshut Hill community so quickly.

## Our Community

Our assembly themes this term have been very diverse: On World Teachers' Day, learners were encouraged to reflect on the value of education. Our Diwali celebration brought together learners, families, and colleagues in a vibrant event symbolising light and hope. The Remembrance Service was a moving occasion attended by local dignitaries, primary schools, and community members, with our Student Leadership Team proudly representing Cockshut Hill at the Stechford Parade. During Inter Faith Week, student leaders led assemblies promoting respect and understanding of diverse beliefs, and International Men's Day focused on positive role models and wellbeing.



## Learners Leading

Learner leadership has been at the heart of our activities this term. Learners sold poppies, led assemblies, and represented the school at community events. A charity bag pack raised over £500 for Kids' Village (the UK-based charity creating the first purpose-built holiday village exclusively for critically ill children and their families) with more donations still to come. Our commitment to social causes continued through the 16 Days of Activism campaign, where learners raised funds through assemblies, art competitions, and a treasure hunt. Thanks to Mrs Kosir for everything that she has done to support these learners to achieve this term.



# Literacy

Learning and creativity have flourished. Year 8 learners enjoyed an inspiring poetry workshop with SPOZ, exploring confidence and self-expression. Talent shone in the Modern Foreign Languages competition and the Language House flag design challenge. We welcomed the Little Sutton English Hub, which reviewed our literacy provision and provided positive feedback alongside areas for development. Assemblies throughout the term featured real-life numeracy challenges and discussions on resilience and personal values.



# Sporting Success

Sporting success has been impressive. The Year 10 football team secured a 1–0 win against KESH and a 5–1 victory over Waverley. Year 8 achieved a 4–1 win against Small Heath, with standout performances from many of our talented learners. Our Year 7 team is preparing for their first cup match, with results to follow. The girls have also shone in their performances on the netball field. Thanks to Mr Hargreaves and all of the PE Team for their work with our learners.



# Careers and Enrichment

Leadership and careers development have also been a focus. Year 9 and Year 10 learners took part in Royal Navy Resilience Workshops, developing teamwork and leadership skills through engaging sessions. House competitions added excitement to the term, with challenges such as Hang Tough, Human Knot, and the Modern Languages flag design contest.

# Seasonal Spirit

Music and performance have truly been a highlight this term. We are thrilled that Cockshut Hill learners will take centre stage at a prestigious Christmas concert on 17th December at St. Martin's Church in the Bull Ring—a remarkable opportunity to showcase their musical talent on a national platform. The celebrations continue with our Winter Showcase on 16th December, where creativity and performance across the school will shine. Earlier in the month, our festive spirit will be in full swing with the Christmas Sing-Along on 11th December. It has been a term filled with achievement, creativity, and community spirit, and we look forward to building on this success in the new year.





Erdington Hall Primary School  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

# Action Packed Term

Since September, at Erdington Hall Primary School, we have welcomed children, families into an action-packed term of learning, creativity and community — and we are delighted to share the highlights with you.

Outside the classroom, our learners have enjoyed a rich variety of external learning: Year 3 visited Pizza Express to make pizzas, while Year 6 travelled to Mary Arden's Farm for a drama-linked history workshop. Also, Year 3 took part in a history session about Past Presents hosted by Pegasus Primary School — bringing historical learning to life.

Our visits support super learning that takes place in and out of school. We are especially proud of the learning in English, where our learners are developing a love of Reading and Writing. All of our young writers take pride in their beautifully presented written work, developing these key communication skills at an early age.



# Family Workshops

Our family-friendly workshops have proved a big success: parents and carers joined children for 'Women, Words and Waffles' and 'Boys, Books and Biscuits' reading sessions. Our 'Family Space' events also gave children and grown-ups the chance to write, draw, craft and spend quality time learning together. We have just held a Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents and carers in readiness for their child's tests in June 2026. There are many keen parents and carers who will be joining their children in Phonics lessons for some fun learning in January for Workshop Wednesday.

The school has also shown outstanding generosity, contributing to the local community through its Harvest Appeal in support of Erdington Food Bank — with donations from learners, staff members and families helping those in need across the area.

As always, Erdington Hall remains committed to working in partnership with our parents and carers — we are grateful for your continued support and look forward to more learning, growth and community spirit in 2026.



# Green Fingers

Our green-fingered friends have been busy at Gardening Club. We have welcomed parents and carers to join too. They have been working hard to help make our school environment even better.



# Bikeability

Our Year 5 learners are about to take part in something very exciting. They will be completing a Bikeability Course on our school grounds to learn techniques and about moving safely.



## Physical Education

A huge congratulations to Daisie (Y9), who has been selected to represent Midland School Girls in an upcoming football tournament. This is an outstanding achievement given the incredibly high standard of girls' football across the region.

Hollie (Y8) continues to impress with her Tennis skills. She recently took part in the Junior National Championship at Bolton Arena, narrowly missing out on the last 16 after losing a tie break. Holly also came runner up in an under 16 tournament in Shropshire. Holly trains extremely hard and regularly travels to Nottingham for training, whilst still managing to balance her schoolwork.

Our PE clubs continue to be extremely popular, with strong weekly attendance across all year groups. We have also added a Year 7 and 8 Table Tennis Club on Friday mornings, and it has been fantastic to see so many learners getting involved and enjoying sports across our curriculum.

## Shoebox Appeal

This year's Lyndon School Shoebox Appeal has been an inspiring reflection of our Lyndon community's kindness and commitment to helping others demonstrating the lived experiences of learners on the Lyndon Learner Journey. Led for the first time by Miss Prentice, the appeal saw an extraordinary level of support, resulting in an incredible 238 shoeboxes donated to Teams4U for children currently residing in orphanages in Romania. These contributions have reached young people and families in some of the world's most vulnerable communities, offering not only essential items but also a powerful message of care, respect, and hope. Through this collective effort, our learners have demonstrated the Lyndon Character Virtues of Altruism and Compassion in action giving generously, not for recognition, but simply to brighten the lives of others. Activities such as the Shoebox Appeal help our learners understand the importance of outreach and global citizenship. Of particular note are the donations from Troop Aid via Miss Brogan, the Mumford and Dinally families and Ella (Y8).

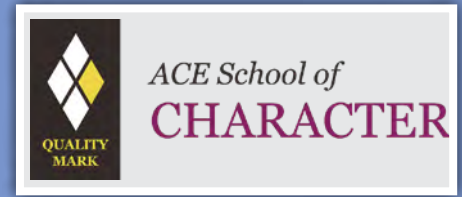


## Big Sleep – Raising funds for St Basil's Trust

Learners and staff members from Lyndon School have taken part in the 35th annual Big Sleepout in November 2025. Learners from Years 8-11 and 4 colleagues (Mr Roberts, Ms Folkers, Ms Thai and Mr Nguyen) took part in the event, which was run by St Basil's the charity and housing association, to raise awareness of the issues affecting homeless people in the region. Prior to the event, learners were introduced to the work that the organisation carries out for young people within the West Midlands, with a representation from St Basil's coming into the Year 11 and Year 9 assemblies to inform learners of her experiences of working with the organisation. Learners raised funds within their own time and also through a variety of cake and sweet sales held at Lyndon. Through compassion and resilience our learners raised over £2000.



# Prestigious School of Character Quality Mark



Lyndon School is proud to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious School of Character Quality Mark by the Association of Character Education.

A recognition that celebrates schools who place character, values, and personal development at the heart of everything they do. During their visit, assessors explored how deeply Lyndon embodies the “sought, caught and taught” philosophy that underpins character education, shaped by research from the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues at the University of Birmingham.

Their findings reflect the school’s dedication to ensuring that character is not an add-on, but a defining feature of the Lyndon Learner Journey.

In their report, assessors highlighted that “The Lyndon Learner Journey framework demonstrates that education at the school is dedicated to the enabling of its pupils to flourish. Virtue development, skills development, the cultivation of cultural capital and academic excellence are all woven into the purposeful vision for education at the school... As a result, ‘character isn’t left to chance’ and permeates all areas of school life.”

This Quality Mark represents a significant milestone for the school and affirms Lyndon’s commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals who will flourish far beyond their time here.

## Academic Advancement Programme Boosts Ambition and Metacognitive Skills at Lyndon

Lyndon School is proud to launch the Academic Advancement Programme (AAP), a new initiative to support and strengthen metacognitive skills across the school. The programme is the result of a year of research into effective strategies used in leading schools nationwide, forming part of Lyndon’s commitment to providing “challenge for all.”

### Inspiring Experiences

Learners have taken part in a wide range of aspirational opportunities, including:

- University visits to Oxford, Cambridge, and Birmingham, along with the Lapworth Museum and Christmas Lectures.
- A trip to The Guardian headquarters to create their own newspaper reports.
- A 17-week Debate Mate enrichment programme and launch event.
- A bespoke KS3 tutor programme to deepen thinking and confidence.
- The creation of a Challenge Hub, open to all learners.
- Participation in The Brilliant Club, completing university-style courses and graduating at prestigious institutions.
- An Aim Higher creative writing workshop.

The programme underpins Lyndon’s Character Virtues of Curiosity and Resilience, encouraging learners to embrace challenge, think deeply, and persevere through complex tasks.

# Bletchley Park

Bletchley Park is an inspiring start to the academic year, all Year 7 cohort visited Bletchley Park, the historic home of Britain's World War 2 Codebreakers. This annual trip is the first for Year 7 on their Lyndon Learner Journey, reinforcing our commitment to providing learners with immersive learning experiences from the outset. The trip included a guided tour of the site, with learners walking through the famous huts where the painstaking work of cryptography took place. Learners were introduced to the fascinating history of how the Codebreakers deciphered enemy messages, contributing to one of the most significant intelligence victories in modern history.

The day was not just about history. As part of the visit, learners also participated in a bespoke programme of educational events designed to link past innovations to the modern world of technology. Workshops focused on the importance of cybersecurity in today's society, emphasising how lessons from Bletchley Park are still relevant today in our digital age. Learners explored how encryption methods have evolved and why safeguarding information in the digital world remains a vital concern for governments, businesses, and individuals alike, as well as developing their skills in problem-solving, teamwork, and the application of logic and mathematical thinking – skills that are as important today as they were during the war.



# Restart a Heart Day

Learners across Key Stages 3 and 4 at Lyndon School took part in Restart a Heart Day on October 16th 2025, a global event dedicated to raising awareness about sudden cardiac arrest and emphasising the importance of learning Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Organised by Ms Peachey, learners watched informative training videos and practised CPR techniques on training dummies throughout the day. These hands-on activities helped them develop a clear understanding of the steps involved in this vital life-saving skill.

Restart a Heart Day provided learners with both the knowledge and the emotional awareness needed to act confidently and kindly should they ever face a life-threatening situation.





**Kineton Green Primary School**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

# Music Everywhere

Christmas is an especially musical time at Kineton Green Primary School and we are so proud of all the children who have performed for packed-out audiences. Our Nursery and Reception children put on a fantastic performance of 'A Miracle in Town', while Years 1 and 2 treated their families to wonderful acting, singing and actions of some traditional Christmas songs. Confidence was certainly on display from all the children.

Our Key Stage 2 children returned to St Margaret's Church where they sang a range of Christmas songs and played a whole variety of instruments too- our new Boomwhackers, glockenspiels and guitars. Our super violinists also played confidently and some of our Year 6 children narrated the concert too.

We also hosted a solo singing competition and invited children from other schools within the trust to come along and take part, providing a lovely opportunity for parents and carers to attend too.

As always, our choirs worked hard over the Christmas period. They spread Christmas cheer at Solihull Hospital and the PTA Winter Fayre and sang their hearts out at Touchwood as part of their Christmas Choir competition. Fingers crossed we win this year. We are all so proud of your enthusiasm and commitment.



## Enrichment

We have had a variety of trips and workshops take place over the last few weeks and it has been brilliant to see the children gaining experiences that will enrich their learning.

Year 1 took part in a Victorian Toys and Games workshop, exploring lots of different toys from the Victorian era and Year 2 had an amazing time visiting Cadbury World as part of their History topic 'Influencers'.

Year 6 had a wonderful trip to Mary Arden's Farm in Stratford, linked to their learning about the Tudors. They took part in a whole range of traditional Tudor activities with a Christmas twist.

Year 4 visited the Think Tank in Birmingham and took part in a brilliant workshop in electrifying science and Year 3 visited the Botanical Gardens, they had a fantastic day exploring the grounds and getting involved in a workshop about the growth of flowering plants.

All children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm throughout, and we are very proud of how they represented Kineton Green Primary School.



**Success through Endeavour**



**Ambition through Challenge**



**Strength through Diversity**

# Sporting Achievements

In addition to lots of brilliant learning in our PE lessons this term, many children have been representing Kineton Green in external sports competitions to further develop our PE offer and the experiences we give the children. Our Year 3 and 4 children have competed in the Summit Learning Trust Indoor Athletics competitions at Ninestiles, an Academy, with the Year 3 Girls winning. A team of children from Years 5 and 6 have also competed against other local primaries in basketball, with a second night of competition coming in February. We have also been celebrating our children's sporting achievements outside of school, including in martial arts, football, rugby, dance and gymnastics. Amazing work from everyone.



# Enrichment

This year we have supported Birmingham Hospice again by taking part in the Rudolph Run. Children across the school took part in a sponsored (and very festive) run to raise money to support the incredible work the hospice does. Keep your eyes peeled for our next newsletter where we will reveal how much money was raised.



# Winter Fayre

Our Winter Fayre, organised by the PTA was a fantastic success. Families came together to enjoy festive stalls, delicious treats and there were many prizes won in our brilliant tombola and raffle. The funds raised will go towards enriching experiences for all our learners and we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported.



# ITV Central News

We were recently visited by ITV Central News to showcase our successful expansion of the DfE's Breakfast Club programme. The children were absolutely thrilled to be part of the filming, and their excitement was clear as they proudly showcased their healthy start to their day. It was a wonderful opportunity to highlight the importance of a nutritious breakfast and the positive impact it creates in our school community.



# Little Wandle Workshops

We recently held two phonics workshops for parents and carers of Reception and Year 1 children. Families had the opportunity to watch a live phonics lesson followed by Mrs Handy leading a presentation introducing Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. This was a very valuable session for parents and carers which enabled them to gain knowledge and a better understanding of how they can support their child at home.





**Pegasus Primary School**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

# Digital Innovation Lab

As part of the school's commitment to developing oracy skills and bringing learning to life, we proudly opened our Digital Creativity Lab in Early September, which includes greenscreen technology, media pods, studio lighting, and a bank of laptops. Our children have used this facility to retell stories and give presentations, where they can alter the background to suit the content, work as a team, and agree on production values and expected outcomes. Our Year 1 children successfully used the Lab to retell their own version of Little Red Riding Hood, and the outcomes were fantastic. We are looking forward to developing this facility even further as the children become more confident and skilled in using the Lab.



## Parent Partnership

As ever, it is great to work in partnership with parents and carers across the school. This term, we hosted a phonics session for families in Early Years Foundation Stage, where they came into the school to see how we deliver phonics and how they can effectively support their child at home. The session was well attended, with some great takeaways. Our Year 1 parents and carers supported the end of the Design & Technology unit and came in to make the final design alongside their child. There was some brilliant work, and the final puppets produced closely matched the design briefs that the children had completed. The session was made extra special by children, parents, carers and staff members working in close partnership.

Pegasus Primary School has enjoyed a purposeful and busy Autumn Term with a packed calendar of rich curriculum opportunities and visits. We place great importance on rich experiences that support children's knowledge and understanding, and look forward to many more exciting opportunities over the rest of the academic year.



# Early Years and Foundation Stage

Our youngest learners have participated in vibrant workshops and engaged with the local community. They went for a walk around the area and visited several local businesses to learn about careers in the community. They also welcomed several visitors to class to talk about their careers, including PC Duncan and the school Site Officer, Mr Warren.



## Year 4

Our Year 4 children enjoyed an interactive and educational visit to Birmingham's Thinktank science museum this term. The children participated in a workshop all about the digestive system, sparking curiosity and inspiring them to learn even more about how the human body works.

The visit also gave the children the chance to explore some of Thinktank's most popular exhibits. From the child-sized MiniBrum city, complete with transport zones, shops, parks, and construction areas, to the immersive 'Science Garden' with over 30 interactive exhibits, the day offered learning through play and discovery.



Learners also experienced the planetarium, journeyed through the solar system, explored 'Wild Life' and 'Marine Worlds', and discovered historic engines in the Smethwick Engine exhibit and the 'Move It' transport gallery. Highlights also included the 'Spitfire Gallery', where learners learned about the science of flight.

The trip linked closely to the school's science curriculum, which encourages hands-on exploration of biology, chemistry, and physics. Learners investigate topics such as animals, including humans, forces, states of matter, and Earth and space, while developing enquiry skills, using scientific evidence, and recording observations through a variety of methods.

## Year 6

Year 6 headed off to Stratford-Upon-Avon visiting Mary Ardens Farm. They had the opportunity to find out all about what a Victorian Christmas was like. They had some great presentations mixed with practical workshops.





The Oaklands Primary School  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

# Educational experiences to enrich our curriculum

This term has been an exciting and enriching one for the children of The Oaklands Primary School, filled with hands-on learning and memorable adventures across a range of subjects.

In History, children immersed themselves in the past through a series of engaging workshops. Year 1 have explored the fascinating world of Victorian toys, discovering how play has changed over time. Our Year 3 learners travelled back to investigate life in the Stone Age. Our study of the Ancient Egyptians brought history to life once again, with Year 5 examining artefacts, traditions and the extraordinary achievements of this early civilisation.



These workshops were complemented by two fantastic educational visits. At the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford-upon-Avon, our Year 6 learners stepped into the world of Shakespeare, learning about Tudor life at Christmas and the enduring legacy of his stories. Meanwhile, at Cadbury World, our Year 3's followed the journey of chocolate from bean to bar and the influence of the Cadbury brothers—an experience that was as informative as it was delicious.

Reading has also been a key focus this term. Classes enjoyed library visits to Acocks Green Library, where they explored new authors, developed research skills and celebrated a love of books.

Finally, our Year 4 Geography trip to Dovedale in the Peak District provided a wonderful opportunity to study rivers, landscapes and natural features first-hand. It has truly been a vibrant and inspiring term of learning at The Oaklands Primary School.



# English curriculum developments

This term, we introduced our newly designed English curriculum, created to inspire confident, enthusiastic, and skilled young readers and writers. The updated curriculum places a strong focus on rich texts, purposeful writing opportunities, and the explicit teaching of vocabulary and language skills. Through engaging lessons and high-quality literature, learners are supported to develop deeper comprehension and a love for reading that will benefit them across all subjects.

Our classrooms also feature high-quality working walls, showcasing key vocabulary, model texts, and examples of strategies learners can use to develop their writing. These walls evolve alongside current learning, giving children a clear visual reference that supports independence and builds confidence.

We are already seeing exceptional outcomes in childrens' work. Learners across the school are producing thoughtful, creative, and well-structured writing that reflects their growing skills and pride in their learning.

We look forward to seeing this success continue throughout the year.



As we come to the end of a busy and joy filled term at Yarnfield, it has been wonderful to reflect on the many enrichment opportunities our learners have enjoyed. Children across the school have embraced new learning, hands on experiences and memorable adventures that have brought our curriculum to life and strengthened our community spirit.

Our Year 1 learners stepped back in time during their visit to the Black Country Museum. They explored old fashioned shops, traditional homes and historic transport, helping them understand how everyday life has changed over the years.

Year 2 enjoyed a delicious and informative day at Cadbury World. As well as discovering how chocolate is made, learners learned about the Cadbury brothers and the history of the company. They especially enjoyed finding out how the brothers' ideas changed working life for many families.

Year 3 visited the Thinktank Museum, as part of their science project, Let There Be Light. The hands-on exhibits and scientific demonstrations helped them deepen their understanding of light, shadows and reflection, making it a perfect enrichment opportunity for their current learning.

In Year 4, learners took part in a reflective and informative visit to the church. They learned about symbolism, sacred spaces and the important role a church plays in the local community.

Year 5 visited a local Gurdwara where they were warmly welcomed by members of the Sikh community. Learners learned about key beliefs, traditions and values such as equality and service, helping to broaden their understanding of different faiths and cultures.

Year 6 rounded off the term with a memorable visit to Mary Arden's Farm. Immersing themselves in Tudor life, they explored historic buildings, tried traditional crafts and deepened their understanding of this period in history. We now look forward to many more exciting opportunities planned during the rest of the academic year.



# History Workshop

Across the school, learners have also taken part in a wide range of history workshops. These sessions allowed children to handle artefacts, meet historical characters and learn through drama and role play, helping them develop a deeper understanding of the past.



# Choir

We are incredibly proud of the launch of our new Yarnfield Choir. Learners have shown great enthusiasm and talent and it has been wonderful to hear them singing together and representing the school with such joy.

# Sporting Spirit

Our learners also took part in our Trust athletics tournaments this term, demonstrating great determination, teamwork and sporting spirit. We are incredibly proud to share that the Year 4 girls at Yarnfield achieved first place in their event. Their hard work and enthusiasm shone through and they represented their school brilliantly.

# Christmas

Our much-loved Christmas Fayre brought together learners, families and colleagues for a day of festive fun. The stalls, games, music and treats created a warm and joyful atmosphere and helped us end the term with a real sense of community.

To bring the term to a close, our Early Years Foundation Stage children delighted families and staff members with their heartwarming Nativity performances. Their confidence, singing and storytelling were truly impressive and offered a perfect festive finale to the term.



Thank you to all our colleagues, families and community, who have supported these experiences. Enrichment plays a vital role in broadening our learners' horizons and this term has been a fantastic celebration of learning beyond the classroom.

# Malvern Hills Charity Walk

On 22nd November, fourteen colleagues braved challenging weather to complete a 6.5-mile hike across the Malvern Hills. Starting at British Camp, the group climbed eight peaks before reaching Worcestershire Beacon, the highest point at 425m, then descended into Malvern town.

Much of the trek was above the cloud line, unfortunately hiding the stunning Worcestershire views. Cold temperatures, rain, and fast-moving clouds added to the challenge, but despite these conditions, the team showed incredible determination and resilience to finish strong.

The walk was in support of Kids' Village, this year's Trust-wide charity, adding an impressive £1,500 to the fundraising total already achieved by Ninestiles this year. A huge thank you to everyone involved and those who sponsored us for making such a difference to a wonderful charity. <https://www.kidsvillage.org.uk/>



# Year 11 Learners Explore Pathways into Medicine and Dentistry

In October, our Year 11 learners were given an excellent opportunity to take part in a specialised workshop on 'Getting into Medicine or Dentistry', designed to inspire and guide those considering careers in healthcare. Our learners arrived on the Saturday morning with lots of enthusiasm, a few doubts and myriad questions around the life of a doctor and their next steps.

The one-day event was delivered by Medology, a global organisation of doctors and dentists, dedicated to nurturing future medical professionals.

## **Medology's mission is:**

*"We're on a mission to nurture future and current doctors, dentists, and leaders — providing guidance and community that help them flourish in who they are and what they do."*

Learners gained valuable insight into a day in the life of a doctor, explored the skills and qualifications required, and discussed the challenges learners may face on their journey into medicine or dentistry.

This workshop was more than just an introduction to healthcare careers - it was a chance for our learners to see what is possible when ambition meets opportunity.

Learners left with a clearer understanding of the dedication required to pursue medicine or dentistry, as well as the inspiration to aim high and achieve their goals.

We are proud to continue opening doors for our children and young people and raising aspirations for their future.



# Hard-Hitting Drama Showcase

Aspiring actors showcased their talent in a powerful devised drama performance for friends and family this term.

Second-year A Level Drama and Theatre learners presented a piece entitled "She's Just a Girl", which traced the journey of a woman from birth through adulthood. Each scene explored a different challenge faced by women and girls in today's society, tackling hard-hitting issues such as drink spiking and sexual violence. These themes were approached with sensitivity, using the distinctive style of The Paper Birds, a contemporary theatre company known for addressing socio-political topics through non-naturalistic performance.



**Drama Teacher, Nadia Kouhi commented:**

*"This was an assessed performance for our Year 13 learners. Practical work forms a significant part of their final A Level grade, so the pressure was on to deliver something exceptional. It was inspiring to see our young people collaborate so effectively to create a piece of theatre that truly moved its audience."*

# Heartfield Wharam & Best Bands Competition

Talented musicians put on a show this term when the Heartfield Wharam and Best Bands Concert took place. The concert was staged in two parts with solo musicians performing for a scholarship fund and then student bands playing to be crowned Best Band.



Kiyan Chear won the solo accolade for his performance of "Die to Live" by Steve Vai on electric guitar. Rayhan Ishtiaq's vocal performance of Sam Smith's hit "Not the Only One" earned him the runners-up spot. Meanwhile, Malleus were judged the best band for their performance of "Unholy Confessions" by Avenged Sevenfold. The band was made up of learners Joe Grimley (vocals and electric guitar), David Rudcov (electric guitar), Florence Douglas (bass) and Asher Burley (drums).

The performances were judged by experts, with Dr Simon Hall from the Birmingham Royal Conservatoire and Andrew Miller from Brum Radio in attendance. They enjoyed 10 solo recitals and four band performances. Participants varied, some were A level Music learners, while others took part in musical activities as an enrichment activity.

**Creative Arts Curriculum Leader Zoe Maksymiw commented:** *"Well done to all the young people who performed. It is a nerve-racking thing to stand up in front of a live audience and perform, but they did so well and everyone who attended the concert was thoroughly entertained."*

# Team Gambia 2025

A group of determined students from Solihull Sixth Form College have returned from an unforgettable, life-changing trip to The Gambia, having raised over £11,780 this year to support a local school. This marks the tenth visit to Africa as part of the College's Team Gambia project, which has raised an amazing £103,780 since its launch in 2013.

Back in February, 29 learners signed up for this volunteering initiative and began fundraising for Abuko Nursery and Lower Basic School, located near Serrakunda—the country's largest town. Their efforts culminated in a week-long visit to The Gambia in mid-November, where they saw first-hand how their contributions are improving education and life chances for the children in The Gambia.



During their stay, the learners spent every morning at the school, teaching children aged 4 to 6 in small groups. To overcome language barriers, they focused on active and visual activities such as singing, crafts, word and picture matching, and plenty of outdoor games.

**Vice Principal Janice Hamilton commented:** *"It has been a privilege to be part of the Team Gambia project for the last ten years. I'm proud of the difference we're making for the children, and equally proud of the growth I see in our young people. I saw this demonstrated again with this year's group of learners, who gained cultural awareness, whilst developing teamwork and leadership skills. Over the years, our learners have also delivered vital resources, including medical supplies, sports kits, reading glasses, and stationery."*

## Paris Field Trip

Visual Arts and Modern Languages learners explored Parisian culture this term when they undertook a 4-day fieldtrip. During the half-term break, Year 12 A Level Fine Art, Graphics & 3D Design and Photography students were joined by Year 12 BTEC Art & Design Practice and A level French learners for a 4-day residential fieldtrip to Paris.

Their itinerary featured iconic landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, Sacré-Cœur, Montmatre and the Arc de Triomphe, alongside visits to world-renowned museums and galleries including the Louvre, Musée d'Orsay and Rodin Musee. They also immersed themselves in the arts and Parsian culture.

Students were tasked with assignments during the trip, designed to inspire and inform their creative development. For Visual Arts students this work will directly contribute to their A level Unit 1 assignments or their BTEC B2 Creative Industry Response in Visual Arts, while for A level French learners, it will boost their conversational experience.



At Summit, we believe every child deserves the essentials to learn, grow, and thrive. That's why we've created Base Camp – a programme designed to make sure learners have what they need for success.

## What we can support with:

- Healthy meals
- Smart, comfortable uniform
- Hygiene and health care support
- A safe place to sleep
- Equipment and revision materials for exams
- Books for learning and enjoyment
- Digital tools for learning
- A warm, welcoming school environment
- Safe travel to and from school
- Cultural experiences to broaden horizons

## Why It Matters

### Research shows children do best when they:

- Feel safe and supported
- Stay healthy
- Achieve academically
- Build strong friendships and networks

## How Can we Help

We are here to work with families to make sure every child has what they need. If you think your child could benefit from Base Camp support, or if you would like to learn more, please get in touch.

 *Contact your school or college if you require support.*

**Together, we can make sure every child has the best start in life to thrive.**



# Where Young Voices Shine Bright – A Magical Christmas Concert at St Martin’s

The evening at St Martin’s Church in the Bullring sparkled with music and joy as we celebrated the season with a very special Christmas concert. In partnership with the Transformation Partnership, we have worked to bring the life-changing power of classical arts education to children and young people in our communities.

This term, hundreds of learners from **Summit Learning Trust** discovered the magic of choral singing under the guidance of Britain’s finest directors. They join professional musicians to perform music of the **highest calibre for distinguished guests and their families** -a true celebration of talent, dedication, and festive spirit.

Together, we are proving that when children and young people are given the chance to experience excellence, they rise to it—and create something extraordinary.



## Kids Village

Our collective fundraising efforts has surpassed our target for 2025. We look forward to the total continuing to rise with fundraising events planned to the end of the term.



**£13,448**

raised of £10,000 target by  
150 supporters

Give Now

Share





Summit Learning Trust, Hartfield Crescent, Acocks Green, B27 7QG

Phone: 0121 624 9010 Email: [enquiry@summitlearningtrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@summitlearningtrust.org.uk)

Website: [www.summitlearningtrust.org.uk](http://www.summitlearningtrust.org.uk)



@Summit\_LT