

TEAM TALK

DECEMBER 2024 | 03



TEAM Education Trust
Together Everyone Achieves More

As I write this message to you, I can't quite believe we have had our first snowy days and before the real Christmas festivities have begun.

This is always a busy term with our school preparations for Christmas, our performances, church services, festive dinners, staff wreath making and so much more to pack in, but also preparing our own homes and getting ready for our celebrations with family and friends.

Please do reach out if you need any support as this time of year can feel overwhelming. Please do take time to look at the summary of support available across TEAM for our children, families and you, our staff. The wellbeing hexagon can be found by [clicking here](#).

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank you for completing our twice-yearly survey. I personally read all of the commentary and prepare our analysis with Nicola Cook for Trust Board. Further I meet with our school leaders and share themes asking them to respond where I feel we could do better. TEAM is a trust that wants to involve you and we value your contributions. Thank you also to those who participated in the conversation day roundtables which looked at our review of the Trust 5-year strategy and what we need to do more of. Thank you to Newman School who facilitated a visit from the DfE to discuss the future.

Please do get in touch and share with me what is working well and any advice to support our future. I find this time of year as I prepare for our joint Trust Board meetings a time to reflect and prepare for the next academic year.

I look forward to seeing you all as I visit the schools during the festive season.

Sarah





Following Whaley Thorns' recent OFSTED inspection in October 2024, we have pleasure in now sharing the outcomes from the two day visit, undertaken by the HMI and additional inspector.

Under the most recent OFSTED framework, during graded inspections, schools are now graded against each separate area. There is no longer a single word, overall judgement. We are very pleased with the good outcome of the inspection.

During the inspection, OFSTED judged the school GOOD in all of the following areas: Leadership and Management; Behaviour and Attitudes; Personal Development; and EYFS. It is highly rewarding to staff and pupils that good practice was consistently recognised across the school.

All OFSTED inspections quite rightly highlight areas for improvement and our area links to making our pedagogical intent more consistently embedded. It was noted that leaders have an ambitious vision for teaching and learning and whilst progress towards this was seen, there is still more embedding needing to happen to ensure that there is greater consistency across all classes. Given that all of our teachers are either new to the profession or new to the school in September, with some staff absence too, we agree that our school can definitely continue to make progress towards this in the best interests of our amazing children.

We would like to sincerely thank all the Whaley staff and all TEAM colleagues who have supported the school. We would also like to thank our incredible children and our governing body for all that they do.

"Alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much!!"

Charlotte Butcher, Executive Principal, Sarah Baker (CEO of TEAM Education) and Ross Wormall, Chair of Governors)



STUDENT COUNCIL



This term's Student Council is all about celebrating diversity and inclusion. We kicked things off by exploring the words that related to diversity, and then the pupils unleashed their imaginations to whip up their own unique terms for some fabulous poster designs!

Our goal is to create a Trust community where every individual feels a sense of belonging, where differences are celebrated, and where the richness of diversity is recognized as a strength. Together, we are building a brighter future, one that is inclusive, accepting, and beautifully diverse.



REMEMBERANCE DAY

On 11 November students engaged with Remembrance Day. They have produced artwork and crafted heartfelt, poignant poems. A special reflection assembly was held, during which students and teachers came together to honor and remember those who have served and sacrificed. At 11 a.m., we collectively observed a two-minute silence, allowing everyone to reflect on the past and contemplate the impact of history on our present lives.



Pupils at Whaley Thorns created a school-wide display to honor and respect to all those affected by war and conflict. A big thank you goes to Mrs. Genders for her efforts in coordinating this and designing our Remembrance Mark of Respect banner.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Coming soon to an Awe & Wonder room, near you... From the 2nd to the 18th of December, our Awe & Wonder room will be transformed into a magical Winter Wonderland, where cutting-edge technology like VR headsets, Mac computers, and a multi-sensory floor projector bring the season to life. Explore the wonders of winter through interactive and immersive experiences that promise to captivate and inspire!

A GRIPPING VISIT TO GRIPPLE

Jess Godfrey from Gripple recently hosted staff and students from Newman School for a tour of Gripple's facilities. As an international company, Gripple specialises in manufacturing products for the construction and rail sectors. During the visit, students explored various manufacturing sites in Sheffield, witnessing the production process first-hand. They also had the opportunity to engage with Gripple employees, learning about the manufacturing processes and the diverse roles that support the company, including design, marketing, and communication.



This visit proved to be highly informative for everyone involved, and Newman is eager to collaborate with Gripple again for work shadowing opportunities. This will allow some of their students to gain first-hand experience in various roles within the company.

SPORTS FESTIVAL



Year 1 pupils at Model Village, students attended a sports festival at the Leisure Centre alongside several other schools. The event featured a variety of activities, such as relay races with different movement styles, a treasure hunt, and games where children rolled balls into hoops to earn points. The kids had a fantastic time and showcased the school's spirit remarkably well with their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour!



THANK YOU NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Steve Askham coordinated a visit for himself and his colleagues from the National Highways SMP Alliance, Wayne Shaw and Mark McKenna, to visit Newman School to donate essential equipment. This generous contribution includes televisions, refrigerators, dishwashers, lockers, and storage units, will greatly benefit students across all three campuses, especially those studying construction.



We are truly grateful for this thoughtful gift and will utilise these resources to help our students achieve a successful future.

AN ABUNDANCE OF OPPORTUNITY

Students from Newman School recently attended the Magna Careers Fair where they were able to approach education, community groups and employers, asking them questions about their future options.



Students also took part in a 'Dragon's Den' session as part of the day, where they were able to quiz employers directly about their businesses and their own job roles. Students had prepared questions in advance and shown real confidence in interacting with the employers. Well done, Newman Students!

SNOW MUCH FUN



We recently experienced the season's first snowfall, covering the schools in a beautiful blanket of white and turning the surroundings into a winter wonderland. Students were spotted dressed in cosy coats, scarves, hats, and gloves, happily making snow angels and building snowmen.

A KIND GIFT

Rebecca Marsh and Julie Wilson from Model Village Primary School visited their local Co-op in Shirebrook to receive a cheque for £2,971.48, generously raised by the community for the Friends of Model Village Primary. This contribution has been instrumental in helping to secure funding for their new outdoor gym equipment. Thank you.



JUMPING WITH JOY FOR JUDE

Judith Casey was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award during Unison's 'Stars in Our Schools' awards ceremony. After dedicating 36 years of service at Stubbin Wood, she earned this recognition for her unwavering care and commitment throughout her career. Known for her kindness, Jude possesses a remarkable ability to help our youngest children transition into their first school experiences. As a vital member of our Nursery team, we take immense pride in her accomplishments.





CHILDREN IN NEED

On the 14th and 15th November we celebrated Children In Need throughout the Trust. Children and staff wore non-school uniforms and Pudsey-themed outfits. Classrooms buzzed with activities, including fun competitions, all aiming to contribute to the fundraising efforts. Teachers and students worked hand in hand, showcasing creativity and generosity.

Each school had the task of filling a giant Pudsey with coins. The sight of the giant Pudsey gradually being covered in coins was a powerful visual representation of the collective effort and goodwill of the community. By the end of the event, the Trust had raised a significant amount of money, bringing smiles and hope to many children.

Children In Need is important as it helps address the barriers to children's attendance, learning, behaviour, and well-being and provides help and protection to children who are at risk due to neglect, domestic abuse, or disability. Plus, it connects vulnerable children to vital services that make an impact on their lives.



Pupils from Caunton Dean Hole got super creative and made a fabulous Pudsey out of leaves



TRAINING & WELLBEING DAY

FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE YOUR TRAINING FOR THE WELLBEING DAY ON DECEMBER 20TH.

By completing the training specified in the document below, in your own time, you will qualify for a wellbeing day off on December 20th. If the training is not completed, you will be expected in work on December 20th.

If you require assistance with your training, please reach out to your school Principal.

Your Professional Wellbeing



The Trust Inset Day on 20th December is a day dedicated to your wellbeing.

We take wellbeing seriously and as such have put together a wide ranging offer for the year ahead aimed at supporting your wellbeing.

By completing the training outlined below (which is aimed at ensuring everyone retains the high standards of professionalism required to ensure that we work in a safe and supportive environment) **in your own time** and before the 1st December you can have the 20th December off as a day for yourself before Christmas.

Your Safety & Wellbeing

Courses to be taken on Smartlog (all staff)

- GDPR for Education
- Slips, Trips & Falls in Education
- NCSC Cyber Security Training for School Staff
- Fire Awareness
- Health and Safety at Work
- DSE Users and the linked DSE Risk Assessment
- Sexual Harassment Training

TEAM knowledge

Keeping updated and working to the Trust's shared policies. Log into **Smartlog**, click on the **Documents Library & Due Documents**, read the following policies and then click the **Confirm Read** icon.

- TEAM Child Protection Policy (please ensure this is read by the 13th September)
- KCSIE 2024 Part 1 (please ensure this is read by the 13th September)
- TEAM Attendance Policy (please ensure this is read by the 13th September)
- TEAM Driving Policy
- TEAM Staff Code of Conduct
- TEAM Bring Your Own Device Policy
- TEAM Workforce Privacy

How to log in to Smartlog

Webpage: [Smartlog V5 \(safesmart.co.uk\)](https://safesmart.co.uk)

Company ID: TEAMET
Username: Your first and last name in title case, e.g. Joe Bloggs
Password: GreenLadderZebra (you will need to change it after you log in)

Declarations

Please ensure you complete the annual staff declaration form which will be shared with you via email in September

How to log in to EduPay

This is the online portal where all payslips and your employment documents are stored.

Webpage: payroll.edupay.academy
 Log in with your personal email address (registered with TEAM HR) and you will have a one-time password.

You may also be asked to log in to EduPay to make a statement to confirm that you work to the expectations set out in Trust policies (i.e., Safeguarding, Complaints, etc) or that you have completed disclosure documents.

Click Confirm Read





No access at home
your school business officer or Principal, will be able to identify a computer that you can use.

DECEMBER PAY

Please be aware that your salary for December will be disbursed on Friday, December 20th.

HAVE YOUR SAY

We value your feedback and ideas. Please make sure to use the suggestion boxes available in every school. Your thoughts are important to us, and your input helps us create a more positive and effective learning environment. Whether you have comments about the curriculum, suggestions for school events, or ideas to enhance our community, we encourage you to share them.



SAFEGUARDING QUICK QUIZ

What is the role of school staff in identifying and reporting emotional abuse?

- a) To provide counselling and support to children who have been emotionally abused
- b) To report concerns to the DSL
- c) To ignore any concerns unless there is clear evidence of emotional abuse
- d) To investigate suspected cases of emotional abuse

What should you do if you suspect a child is being emotionally abused?

- a) Keep it to yourself and monitor the situation
- b) Talk to the child and try to gather more information
- c) Report your concerns to the DSL
- d) None of the above

What are some of the consequences of emotional abuse for children?

- a) Poor mental health
- b) Difficulty forming relationships
- c) Low self-esteem and self-worth
- d) All of the above

TEAM SCORECARD

TEAMPEOPLE

Further to the Scorecard, we also announced the brand new SharePoint site called TEAMpeople. If you are a TEAM school, then you should have access to this site, if you do not, please contact Olivia Sharp by emailing o.sharp@teameducation.org

The TEAMpeople site is a central hub designed to support all TEAM members by providing easy access to a wide range of resources and information. It's a valuable tool for enhancing communication and collaboration across our schools.

To access TEAMpeople, all you need to do is open a new web browser and click the picture of the our staff members.

Have you seen these?

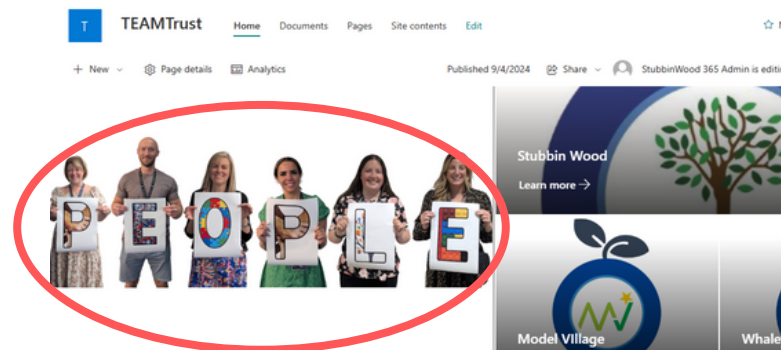
As part of our People Strategy, we introduced several incentives at the September conference aimed at supporting your well-being, including the TEAM Scorecard.

By completing all the tasks on the Scorecard and noting the completion date below each one, you could earn a day off! Make sure to track your progress and submit your finished scorecard before the 11 of December to qualify for the draw.

Beyond the chance to win a day off, engaging in these activities can cultivate a sense of community and collaboration among team members. We encourage everyone to participate and seize these opportunities for personal and professional development.

Olivia Sharp will come round to the schools to collect these on Wednesday 11 December, please ensure you have completed these by then. Winners will be chosen at random during the next CEO Chat on Friday 13 December.

Your feedback is invaluable, so do let us know how the Scorecard and other programmes are impacting your experience. Together, we can continue to create a vibrant and thriving community that supports each other's growth and success.



On TEAMpeople, you'll discover a treasure trove of information, including links to EduPay, training resources, postcard nominations, and policies. You'll also find a Trust-wide calendar, details about our flexible working strategy, and a dedicated page for schools that features essential information such as term dates and safeguarding leads.

By actively engaging with TEAMpeople, you can stay updated on the latest initiatives that enhance our collective growth.

Remember, the TEAMpeople site is designed to be a dynamic resource that evolves with your needs. We welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have to make it even more useful. Whether you're looking to connect with colleagues, find new learning opportunities, or simply stay informed, TEAMpeople is your go-to hub for all things TEAM.

CEO CHAT

Thank you to all who attended the CEO Chat on November 11. Below is a summary of the key topics discussed.

Congratulations to Whaley Thorns and Model Village for their recent Ofsted visits.

We appreciate everyone who completed the Edurio survey and a summary of results will be shared in a future TEAMtalk

We are actively monitoring staff absences and the use of supply staff, paying close attention to the associated budgets.

Regarding the Scorecard, Olivia Sharp will be visiting each school to collect these at the end of Term 2. The winner will be drawn in a future CEO chat and will enable the winner to have a day off, which will be organised through their Principal.

Those who discovered a "golden ticket" at the Trust Conference in September have been entered into a draw. This term's winner is Karen Hansen from Heritage Park.

We are in the process of aligning the five-year plan with the People Strategy.

As always, we encourage open communication and welcome any further questions or suggestions you may have.

YOUR TEAMTALK

Do you have an article or idea for TEAMtalk?

We're looking for good news stories from schools, pupil success stories, staff success stories, feedback from events and training, and an insight into the collaborative work of you and your colleagues.

Please share your stories and articles, along with photos to **Olivia Sharp, Marketing & Social Media Officer** via o.sharp@teameducation.org

SEND CONFERENCE

SEND & Inclusion Conference 2025



12 MARCH 2025 AT THE BEAUTIFUL **EASTWOOD HALL**
MANSFIELD RD, EASTWOOD, NOTTINGHAM NG16 3SS



www.sendconference.org
#SENDCONF25



CEO CHAT

The next CEO Chat is on the **13 December, 3:30pm**. Please see the link below to join.

These sessions are an opportunity for you to ask any questions and receive an update on current projects and the growth of the Trust.

If you have any questions please submit them to Carolyn Peach (c.peach@teameducation.org) before noon on 6 December.

Your participation is greatly appreciated, and your input is invaluable in fostering a transparent and collaborative environment. We encourage you to take this opportunity to engage with the leadership and gain insights into the strategic direction of our organization.

We look forward to seeing you there and answering any questions you may have.



[Click Here to Join the CEO Chat](#)

WHAT IS TEAM FOCUS?

TEAM Focus is a new section of TEAM Talk dedicated to Teaching and Learning, and strategies for the classroom. It's also the place for us to share theory and research, to help drive improvements in pedagogy, and to create consistency across the Trust.

If you have an article or idea that you want to share in TEAM Focus, please email Matt Morris (m.morris@teameducation.org) or Olivia Sharp (o.sharp@teameducation.org).

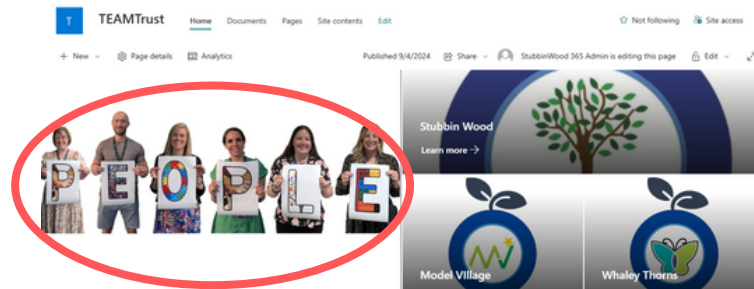


BOOKABLE TECHNOLOGY

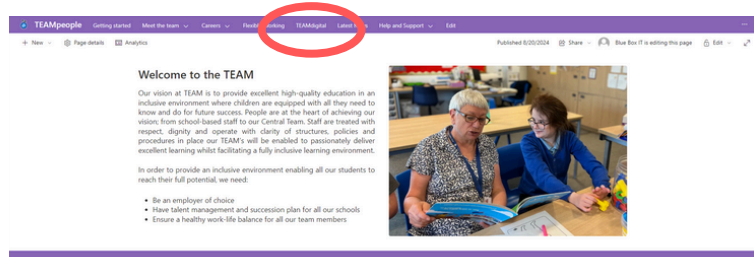
Explore and Book Awe & Wonder Technologies!

Did you know our Awe & Wonder room offers a range of bookable technologies to enhance learning experiences? From robots and iPads with pencils to VR headsets, these tools are available to hire for use in your classroom or within the Awe & Wonder space.

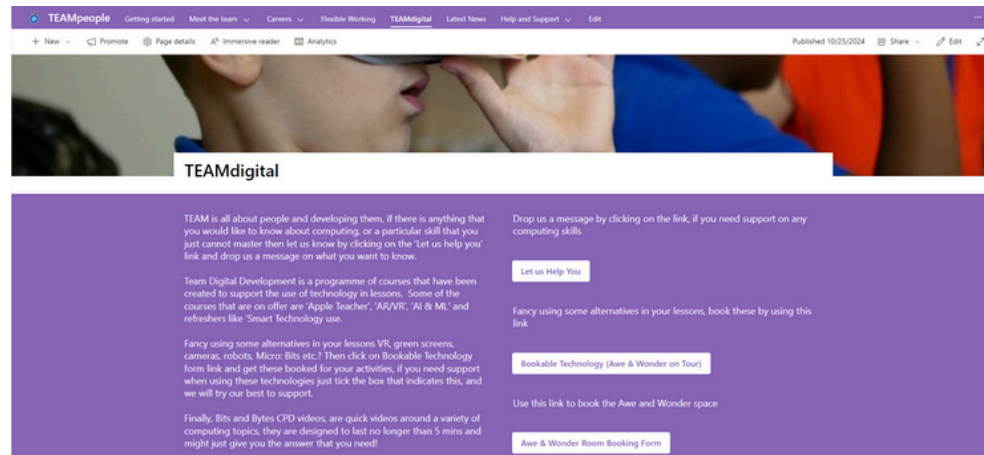
Booking is easy—simply click on 'Team People



then go to 'Team Digital' to access the booking form.



Whether you need support from our computer specialist or prefer to use the equipment independently, we'll help tailor the experience to meet your needs. Don't miss out on these incredible resources.



TEAMFOCUS



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TEAM WELLBEING

WELCOME

Although the lead up to the festive season can be joyous and exciting, especially with all the activities in the calendar, it can also be stressful, tiring and a worrying time for some. Overcooking the turkey, burning the stuffing, rushing to buy gifts, and balancing finances, the festive season is a busy time. It's also a time where loneliness can impact on mental health and wellbeing. Whatever your plans, it's important to remember that you need to still look after yourself. If you are in need of support, remember Vivup offers 24/7 advice all year around. We hope that you enjoy the festive season, have quality times with loved ones and rest and relax as much as you can.



Kirsty Evans

MONEY SAVING IDEAS

You do not need to spend a lot to enjoy the Christmas build up, here are a few suggestions:

- Instead of buying all your friends a gift, or even some family members, you could do a secret Santa and set a budget that works for everyone. They're lots of fun and you can use 'Draw Names' to secretly choose who you're buying presents for. Nothing like watching someone's face when they're opening their gift and trying to work out who it's from!
- Crafting your own decorations, maybe something fun to do with your children or grandchildren. Maybe an opportunity for a 'you' activity too – Pinterest has lots of ideas
- Teachers and some support staff can now apply for a Blue Light Card and access a wide range of discounts in stores for extra savings. If you haven't already, it's worth registering and taking advantage all year round... a Blue Light card isn't just for Christmas!

- Share the purchasing, prepping and maybe cooking of Christmas lunch – many hands make light work!
- For festive gatherings, no need for a new outfit, you could take an outfit you already have and make it festive
- Christmas jumper day is almost upon us. Rather than getting a new one, why not upcycle a jumper you already have. Send your pictures in to show us your wonderful creations...we can share these in the next edition of TEAMtalk
- Look on Vivup for those savings on food shopping and presents.



SHARE AND SPREAD THE FESTIVE CHEER!

We always like to hear and see what you've been up to, so please feel free to send in any (clean and sober) pictures that capture what you've been doing.



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TEAMWELLBEING

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

There are some wonderful Christmas markets within a short travel distance. Train tickets are quite affordable for a day return, eliminating the hassle of parking. Discounts are available for children and those with rail cards. If you enjoy train travel, rail cards can be an excellent way to save money; while there is a fee for the card, you'll quickly notice significant savings after just a few trips.

- Nottingham Winter Wonderland 2024 – 13 November – 31 December 2024
- York Christmas Market – 14 November – 22 December 2024
- Birmingham Christmas Market – 1 November – 24 December 2024
- Manchester Christmas Market – 8 November - 22 December 2024
- Local areas often have a smaller Christmas Markets and events, so it's worth taking a look what's in your own area.
- If you are a National Trust member, [click here to see what's on offer.](#)



Christmas films are a great way to get in the spirit of the festive season and have some quality time together as a family. There is something for everyone to enjoy. I've listed my top 5 favourites, what are yours?

- The Santa Clause
- It's a Wonderful Life
- Home Alone 2 : Lost in New York
- The Grinch
- Polar Express

You can't beat a festive quiz to bring family and friends together. [Here's a link to a quiz](#), or if you're feeling creative, you could always create your own.

We all like a good bit of Christmas TV to snooze to. "Oh...what's occurring" For Gavin and Stacey fans, the eagerly awaited Christmas special airs on Christmas Day. Why not have a look at what else is going to be on over the festive season by [clicking here](#).

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF THIS WINTER

- Take leisurely winter walks and observe the changes brought by frost.
- Keep in touch with family and friends, as this season can feel lonely for many; reaching out can mean a lot.
- Indulge in hot baths and enjoy a long soak when temperatures drop outside.
- Slip into your cosiest pyjamas or wear fluffy socks to stay warm.
- Aim to drink plenty of water and maintain a healthy diet, even though it can be challenging during this time.
- Make the most of the long nights by going to bed a bit earlier and diving into those books you've been meaning to read all year!

VIVUP

Free telephone helpline, available 24/7, 365 days a year: **03303 800 658**