

Lights, Camera, Action!

Young Burnham filmmakers hit the red carpet again.



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The STEM Of Success

Alderman Peel High School has been recognised for its high quality STEM education.

The school has been awarded a STEM Club Quality Mark Gold Level by STEM Learning as a measure of the success of its STEM offering, and particularly for running a successful STEM club since 2019.

Stem Learning Assessor, Joanne Mitchell, said: "This is a very active school providing high quality STEM Club engagement, supporting students to develop skill sets, building good quality careers awareness, and embedding the STEM club into the life of the school.

"Students can flourish across a number of club activities, try out different roles and experiences, run aspects of club provision and make choices and decisions for themselves regarding projects and are an important part of ensuring the success of the club."



With the STEM Club at Alderman Peel going from strength to strength, a new resource centre is being built at the school.

Funding secured from Norfolk Community Foundation, through the JP Blanch Fund and Dudgeon Community Funds, will help the school transform a groundman's hut into a new science, technology, engineering and mathematics centre.

Amanda Moffat, design and technology teacher and STEM coordinator, said: "This resource centre will provide much-needed space and facilities to host our weekly STEM club, along with opportunities to invite additional groups of children from Burnham Market and Wells Primary Schools to work with our existing club STEM ambassadors to build another Greenpower Goblin electric kit car."

The funding follows the students successfully building, designing and racing two F24 Greenpower electric kit cars at the Lotus Test Track.



North Norfolk Students Enter The Wonderverse!

Students from Alderman Peel High and Wells Primary Schools have featured in a film to promote STEM subjects and a new 'Wonderverse' educational game.

The game, called 'Curious City', has been funded by Equinor, the international energy company who runs the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon offshore wind farms.

Alderman Peel was selected from all the schools in North Norfolk because of the STEM work it has done in relation to the renewable energy sector.

The game, which features a town powered by renewable energy, is aimed at KS2-3 students and the film features the Alderman Peel and Wells students making up the letters to spell out 'Wonderverse'.



Spotlight On Shakespeare

Pupils from Hellesdon High School and Acle Academy performed alongside actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) when its 90-minute, adrenaline-charged production of *Romeo & Juliet* visited Norwich in February.

It was the latest of the RSC's series of First Encounters with Shakespeare productions aimed at new and younger audiences.

In a reworking of the Prince of Verona's role, ten young people from each of the schools performed as members of a Prince's counsel alongside the professional RSC actors.

Kerry Stanley-Arnold, Head of Performing Arts at Hellesdon High School, said: "It's been such an exciting opportunity for our pupils to get to work with the Royal Shakespeare Company and experience what a professional rehearsal and show process entails. Our hope is that we can continue to develop our relationship with the RSC to ensure exposure of the arts to our Hellesdon community, drawing in people who might never have been to the theatre, or who feel intimidated by seeing a Shakespeare play."





Burnham children shortlisted in national film finals - again!

Young filmmakers at Burnham Market Primary School have been nominated for another national award - this time for a film about green energy.

Their short film 'Thinking Green' has been shortlisted in the Into Film Awards which celebrates and showcases the phenomenal breadth and depth of young filmmaking talent across the UK.

The category they've been shortlisted in is the 'Time For Action' section, where filmmakers were asked to make a film about a part of the world they wanted to change - and in their case, Green Energy.

Burnham Market is the only Primary school in the category and now the children have been invited to the red carpet final ceremony, which will be taking place at the Odeon on Leicester Square in London, on Tuesday 25th June.

Teacher Ashley Williams said: "These awards are pretty much the equivalent of the children's BAFTAs so it is a pretty big deal, especially as this is the second national film award Burnham Market has been nominated for in the last two years. A pretty outstanding accomplishment!"

Staff Championed at Downing Street

The work of staff across Wensum Trust schools has been championed at a special reception at 10 Downing Street.

Daniel Thrower, CEO of the Wensum Trust, was invited to the event for Community Education Champions after being nominated by Norwich North MP Chloe Smith.

The reception was hosted by the Minister of State for Schools, Rt Hon Damian Hinds, who gave thanks to the schools and trusts represented for their innovation in education and special work they provide for their school communities. Daniel said: "Whilst I was absolutely honoured to be invited to 10 Downing Street, it was also recognition for all our staff and teachers who are working every day across our trust schools. It was good to see that our strategic framework of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Learning and Achievement, and Careers and Life skills, was positively acknowledged by ministers as a way forward for schools."

Chloe Smith MP, said: "I was proud to invite Daniel to Downing Street to celebrate the champions of education in our community. The Wensum Trust has achieved a lot for pupils from Hellesdon to the coast with impressive partnerships that help students choose the right careers, and a sophisticated approach to emotion in education that means everyone gets the support they need to succeed. I have been inspired by working with Daniel and the team as a member of the Trust and constituency MP for many years, and I'd like to thank all the teachers and many others in the Trust who are so dedicated to children's potential."





Children at The Place benefit from Lovell partnership.

Students at The Place have been inspired about the future of housing and how important they are in shaping the future of our homes and communities.

Leading homes developer Lovell partnered with the Ministry of Building Innovation and Education (MOBIE) to deliver a special workshop for a group of six-year-old children.

They had a fun and engaging presentation about what homes are and the different elements of houses, whilst the highlight of the event was a creative activity where the students were encouraged to design their own development. MOBIE designed and provided cutouts of houses, trees, street scenes and furniture.

Sasha Bainbridge, Partnerships Director at Lovell East Anglia, said: "Educating children about the future of housing is essential, which is why our partnership with MOBIE is so significant. Children and young people will play a vital role in shaping the future of our homes and communities, so inspiring them from an early age is important. We are excited about the future of this partnership, and inspiring more young people in the future."

The Place lead, Anne Oakley, said: "At The Place at Arden, we aim to help children build their self-regulation skills and their self-esteem. We want children to be able to explore new experiences, to develop new interests and talents and ultimately, to re-engage them in learning. We are delighted that Lovell and MOBIE were able to plan and resource our special project day. All the children worked hard with the professionals and thoroughly enjoyed the day."

Work, rest and play!

The children at Garrick Green Infant School are having a wonderful time using their new play equipment, thanks to the Friends of Garrick Green.

They have raised approximately £5,000 over the last couple of years to make the new play area possible.

Liz Banner, Deputy Headteacher, said: “We really appreciate the effort that FOGG go to to raise funds for the added extras for the children, and of course we really appreciate the parents attending the events that FOGG arrange plus entering colouring competitions, paying for non-uniform days.

“The children will benefit from being able to enjoy reading in the outside environment and developing a love of reading. The climbing will help the children with physical development and problem solving.”



Eggs-tra Special Fundraisers

Two girls from Firside Junior School have continued their fundraising efforts by collecting Easter Eggs for charity.

Sienna Brown and Tilly Clarke collected 224 shoe boxes of gifts for people affected by the war in Ukraine just before Christmas - and at Easter they turned their attention to organising a collection of chocolate eggs for women’s refuges, children’s homes and local families



They donated a total of 97 eggs thanks to the generosity of the school community.

Their mums told us: “Sienna and Tilly have done several charity fundraising activities over the last couple of years and both really enjoy gifting to others less fortunate. They get a real buzz out of seeing how much they can fundraise. Their determination and enthusiasm towards helping others is admirable and we’re very proud of both girls for all they have achieved.”

Lovell continues to carve out futures at Acle Academy

Students at Acle Academy are continuing to lay strong foundations for their future, thanks to the Wensum Trust's unique partnership with Lovell.

Year 9 and 10 students experienced carpentry and bricklaying workshops as part of the Lovell Apprenticeship Day.

The Year 9 students who have expressed an interest in the Construction Tech Award were invited to take part, whilst the current Year 10 cohort had their first experience of bricklaying.

The day was even more special as two former Acle students, who went on to a Lovell Apprenticeship, returned to their old classrooms to take part in the event.

Helen Watts, Principal of Acle Academy, said: "It was brilliant to see Alfie Tate and Alfie Walker, two former students, excelling within their sponsored Lovell Apprenticeships and offering advice, support and inspiration to current Acle Academy students." "Thank you to the Lovell team for the fantastic opportunity and a special mention to EDN Kitchen Installations & Carpentry Services who kindly donated ten panel saws to the Creative Industries faculty." industry."





Simon Medler, regional managing director at Lovell, said: “Our team always looks forward to visiting the students at Acle Academy, giving them hands-on experience in construction and inspiring them about careers in the industry. The students are always hugely enthusiastic and enjoy getting creative as they come together as a team to take on the tasks we set. A big thank you to EDN Carpentry & Kitchen Services for joining us on our recent visit and so generously providing some new tools for the students.

“Our partnership with The Wensum Trust is something we are passionate about, creating opportunities, getting them outside the classroom on site visits and giving them practical skills for the future. It’s about sparking that excitement at a young age and showing them the support and pathways on offer for them to reach their potential in the industry.”

PERFORMING ARTS

They're Creepy and They're Kooky - It's The Addams Family!

Hellesdon High School was transformed into a whimsical world of macabre melodies, mysterious characters, and unforgettable moments for its production of "The Addams Family Musical".

With the support of the Performing Arts department, the talented cast and crew brought the eccentric Addams family to life, leaving the audience in stitches.

Kerry Stanely, Head of Performing Arts at Hellesdon High School, said: "The dedicated efforts of our students, truly shone on stage. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended, supported, and contributed to the success of "The Addams Family Musical." Your enthusiasm and participation made this event truly special"



SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

Celebrating numbers at Heather Avenue Infant School



Pupils at Firside Junior School created potato book characters for World Book Day



Learning about WWII at Kinsale Junior School



African Land Snail, Buddy, visited the children at Garrick Green Infant School



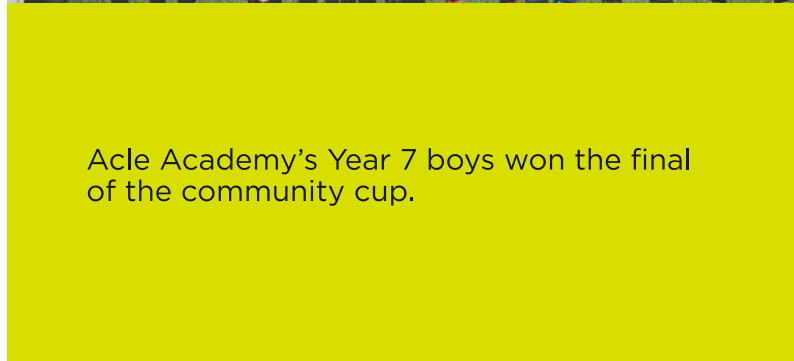
Lodge Lane Infant have been spotting newts in their pond



Children at Arden Grove spent a day dressing up as what they want to be when they grow up



Acle Academy's Year 7 boys won the final of the community cup.



Do you run a group or club?

Are you looking for somewhere to meet regularly? Or somewhere to host a one-off event?

Many of our schools have facilities which you can use as your base.

Whether you're running exercise or antenatal classes, slimming world sessions, adult education classes or drama groups, we can help accommodate you.

If you're interested in talking to us about using our facilities, please get in contact with Kris Hart by emailing k.hart@wensumtrust.org.uk or call 01603 254327.

Alternatively you can visit our website www.wensumtrust.org.uk to look at all the facilities we have on offer across the Trust.



“We are delighted to have access to the great facilities at the Wensum Trust. As a grassroots football club, they have been able to support us in providing good quality facilities at each of the formats we need; 5, 7, 9 & 11 a side, at prices that mean we can make football accessible for the children of our community.

Dan Henry Costessey Youth

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