



RLT Academies in Action: May and June

Our academies have remained open to pupils throughout this COVID period.

Due to the very special and unique nature of the Raleigh Learning Trust Academies, staff and pupils at Westbury, Denewood and Unity, Woodlands and Ambleside have continued with the business of learning - in a wide range of ways. While the media speculate about whether or not schools should re-open, our pupils and staff have been quietly getting on with it...

Pupils from Westbury Academy have taken part in a project to create the Nottingham NHS Art Gallery. The new fence at Nottingham City hospital's COVID-19 staff testing service area looks so much better with our pictures displayed. We are proud that we may be able to cheer people up when they come for tests or walk past.





The pupils in KS3 at Westbury have shown their caring and generous nature by making 'pamper packs' of lotions and treats to give to the carers at a local, old peoples' home. Pupils demonstrated their gratitude to the staff at the care homes for keeping our elderly and vulnerable relatives safe at this time.

They have also shown their support and appreciation to the police force, for all the hard work being done to keep our communities safe.

They were inspired to create model police cars and fill them with treats, after seeing their Teaching Assistant and DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer joining the force as a volunteer. The cars were distributed throughout the force, and serve as a reminder of these stringent times, and the way schools and the emergency services stepped up to the various challenges.



The cars were presented to 'Bodycam Squad' star PC Keith Parkes after many of the children expressed their wish to meet him having watched the programme.

Keith said he was honoured to be invited to the school: "I have been really blown away by the Academy's gesture, and the support they have shown the force by coming up with this idea. In my eyes, there are so many unsung heroes, like school staff and many other people doing work for the front line. As police officers, we are here to keep people safe and that's what we will continue to do, but each and every one of the people I have met today is doing their bit just by giving us a morale boost, and of course by taking the guidelines seriously. This is a great example of the way communities are pulling together during this difficult time -it is a positive that we can hopefully take out of this situation which will go on forever."

We are proud that our work has been recognised in this way.

Another KS3 project has been a Socially Distant Sports Challenge involving archery, long jump, throwing and ball skills. With the Olympics now postponed, it will be interesting to see how well the sporting community can adapt, and find fresh approaches to the way in which sports are traditionally played. We are proud of the way our pupils have shown creativity and determination to perform well in sports, and play together in ways that do not involve physical contact.



Woodlands' pupils have displayed their work commemorating VE Day in their reception area. They learnt about Tom Moore, the war veteran who raised over 30 million pounds for the NHS through his dedication and determination. They also made some delicious scones for their 1940's style cream teas or street parties which took place during half term.

On June 1st, Year 6 pupils were welcomed back to Ambleside Academy. Three new Y6 'bubbles' were opened in addition to the pupils in the KS1 and KS2 Rainbow bubbles, who have attended throughout. Staff and pupils were glad to be reunited; legs ached from the return to physical activity; and brain cogs could be heard whirring into action as the timers were set for arithmetic warm-ups.

Year 6 pupils were straight back to their writing targets, aiming to use all Y6 success criteria in a written piece based on a book called The Nowhere Emporium.



STRONGER  TOGETHER 



This photo from Rainbow bubble shows one of our reception pupils, shortly after her fifth birthday, following visual instructions to construct multilink models. Believe it or not, this will help with computing as it links with programming!



The Ambleside classrooms are spacious and airy, with ten pupils and two adults in each, and our fabulous cleaning team are working throughout the day to keep Ambleside clean and healthy. We hope that more parents will choose to send their children back to school, if they feel ready, over the coming weeks.

Our best wishes to you all – whether you work at home or in school, we are one big community of Raleigh Learning Trust pupils, staff and families, developing new character strengths, and building strong relationships to help us through such unusual times.

Stay safe!