



Rainham Mark
Education Trust

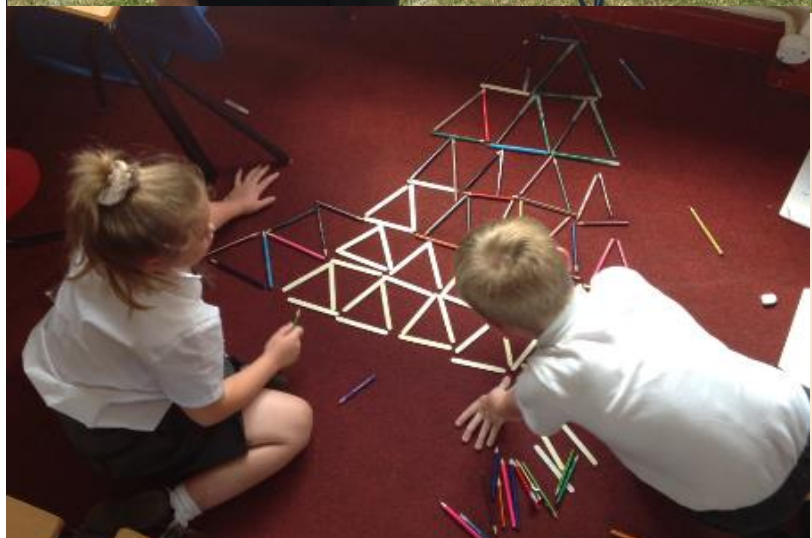
RMET Community Newsletter

Volume 2 | July 2023



Contents

| |
|-----------------------------------|
| Message from the CEO.....Pg. 2 |
| Message from the Chair.....Pg. 3 |
| Core Purpose.....Pg. 4 |
| Key Values/attributes.....Pg. 4-5 |
| Updates from RMET.....Pg. 6-7 |
| News from Twydall.....Pg. 8 |
| News from Riverside.....Pg. 9-10 |
| News from RMGS.....Pg.10-12 |
| Finding us online.....Pg. 13 |



Message from the CEO

Welcome to our second trust newsletter as we approach the end of an exciting year for RMET.

I hope by now many of our staff, Governors, pupils and families have started to make regular use of our social media pages and are enjoying hearing more regular soundbites about activities in the Trust and within each of our schools.

There is much to be celebrated this year and many exciting developments for us to look ahead to when we return, refreshed, in September. First and foremost, I would like to share the wonderful news that Twydall Primary School and Nursery achieved a much deserved 'good' Ofsted grading recently. This reflects a huge amount of work on the part of staff to adapt to improvements that have been made in the curriculum, and to provide the very best start in life for each of our children.

I am also excited to announce that we have two fantastic Headteachers joining our leadership team in September. Mrs. Hart joins as the Headteacher of Rainham Mark Grammar School, and has been spending a considerable amount of time working with the school and Trust in recent weeks to ensure a smooth transition. Mrs. Hardie joins us as the Headteacher of Twydall Primary School, bringing a wealth of leadership experience. We are fortunate to have had Mrs. Hardie's support in the Trust for several months now and as such she has already made a significant impact and set high aspirations within the school. We are thrilled to announce that Mrs. Robson is stepping up from her Head of School role at Riverside Primary School to become the substantive Headteacher. Myself and Mrs. Wilmer look forward to continuing our work with all three schools, supporting the fantastic team of Headteachers we have, as they continue to take our schools on a journey towards excellence.

This month we hosted our first prestigious Trust awards where we have celebrated the values, achievements and talents of our pupils. It is so important that all 'graduates' of RMET fulfill our core purpose and embody our values. Success, happiness and emotional well-being in the 21st century are contingent upon developing the whole person and this is our relentless ambition for each child in our care. It was wonderful to read through the breadth and quality of nominations we received across all three schools modelling how our pupils have lived these values.

I hope you enjoy reading about this event alongside the many other good news stories shared in our newsletter. I wish you all a wonderful and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you in the new term.

-Tash Hurtado, CEO



Message from the Chair

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the academic year, I would like to thank you all for your continuing support of our precious schools.

I would like to also thank the Rev'd Nathan Ward for his dedication to RMET over the past two years. He has left RMET in a much stronger position, ready to tackle the myriad of challenges that everyone operating in the education sector and the wider world faces. Nathan has an exciting project underway at St Margaret's Church in Rainham which requires his full attention and we wish him well on his journey.

My name is David Valentine and I am proud and honoured to have been elected chair in his stead.

My focus is to continue to build on the success of the past few years and ensure that RMET achieves a sustainable future, providing good or outstanding education to our children and young people whilst supporting our wider community.

RMET now has three Ofsted rated "good" schools following Twydall Primary School's recent "good" in all judgement areas. This is an exciting and very welcome outcome and positions RMET as a strong trust with an established record for school improvement. Congratulations to all involved; teachers, support staff and of course the children.

We will continue to improve our provision at all our schools and our aim is to strive for continuous "good" or "outstanding" education for all our children and young people.

As a parent of two pupils within our trust, one of whom has just sat GCSE's, I understand the daily pressure that all parents and carers are under and I thank you for all the support that you provide to ensure that your children and young people not only turn up at school, but thrive through your support and our educational provision.

I wish you and your family a very lovely summer.

Kind regards

David



RMET Core purpose

Our core purpose is to cultivate **wisdom**, **character** and **strength** in students so they can understand, celebrate and shape the world in which they live.

Our Key values and attributes

CHARACTER

Our 'lived' daily values provide a platform for the development and growth of the whole person, in a knowledge rich environment, where we are equally concerned for both personal and collective ambition, and where we share responsibility for global harmony.

At RMET we have...



Curiosity ?

Happiness ☀️

Aspiration 🏆

Respect ❤️

Articulacy 📖

Community 🌍

Teamwork 🤝

Equality ⚖️

Resilience 💪



PROUD

It is one of our key priorities to ensure that each child in our care develops the best possible communication skills, and the confidence to articulate effectively. Strong communication skills help children to be successful in their studies and their future job prospects. Being able to express feelings and ideas in an appropriate way helps with emotional regulation and the ability to understand social cues, to avoid conflict. We also want our children and young people to recognise a range of means to express themselves including a strong focus on communication and expression through the arts. The five strands of 'PROUD' help us to ensure a relentless focus on all aspects of positive communication and the development of values that support our contribution to the wider world.



Philosophy
Reading
Oracy
Understanding the world
Debating



At RMET we are PROUD communicators



Updates from RMET

- All three schools within our Trust are now judged by Ofsted to be at least Good. Well done to all of our staff for their unwavering determination and hard work in ensuring that all of our children receive the best possible education whilst in our care.
- All of our schools have full Reception and Year 7 intakes for September and we look forward to welcoming our new families to the RMET school communities.
- Staff across our schools are continuing to work closely together sharing best practice, resources and facilities.
- We have secured strong leadership for each school within our Trust and look forward to continuing to grow and develop our schools next year.

Over the last term at RMET, we have been striving to increase the Trust's focus on 'CHARACTER' values and 'PROUD' attributes. These attributes and values form an integral part of our philosophy and what we aim to achieve as a Trust, so it's important to us that students become increasingly familiar with these. We also strive for an increased focus on celebrating student achievements and successes. Our students are consistently impressing us with their achievements both in class and in extra-curricular activities. As a Trust, we aim to celebrate these achievements with the students themselves, as well as with parents/carers and the wider RMET community.

What are we doing to achieve these goals?

We have recently created new 'CHARACTER' and 'PROUD' posters that will be put up in all of the classrooms across the three schools, to encourage students to incorporate the values and skills into their daily learning. These posters can be found within this newsletter.

We have just launched our exciting new social media pages for all of the schools and the Trust, which regularly post achievements, activities and important announcements. These pages aim to promote celebration of student successes, as well as increase RMET's engagement with the community.

On 13th July, we hosted our first successful Annual RMET Awards. This was a new celebratory event whereby staff nominated students from each school against 'CHARACTER' and 'PROUD' attributes, with an overall winner being decided for each letter. The event provided an opportunity to recognise excellent student work, as well as to further promote these attributes.



The Annual RMET Awards

Our Celebration Event on Thursday 13th July marked the first of what will hopefully become an annual celebration of student achievements and successes within the Trust. The event saw students of all ages, across the schools within the Trust, coming together to receive recognition for their hard work in displaying CHARACTER values and PROUD attributes, and representing RMET in the best way possible.



As well as the presentation of certificates and trophies, the night was broken up by spectacular performances, further displaying the talent of our students. Performances took place from each school, and ranged from musical numbers to spoken word performances.

Guests of the Event were also able to enjoy some excellent student artwork which was displayed in a gallery presentation, available to visit throughout the night.



All of these elements came together to form a lovely event, showing a lot of excitement and promise for the future of our Trust. A gallery of photographs taken at the Event will be made accessible on the official RMET website.



Updates from: Sarah Moriarty, Admin and Communications Officer, and Kim Wilmer, Director of Education



Twydall Primary School



Ofsted

We are delighted to share with you the news of the 'Good' Ofsted grading for Twydall following the visit in May. Twydall was last graded Good in 2012, so this is a huge achievement. The children and staff have shown resilience and positivity, through the many changes that have been necessary to ensure the school is on a sustainable journey of improvement. The inspectors recognised this and were confident in the progress made at the school. Well done everyone!



Sporting Success

The Twydall football team took part in the Mini Youth Games and achieved a fabulous 3rd place out of 62 teams! They played 8 games, won 6, drew 2 and only conceded one goal in the whole tournament. The children performed exceptionally well and showing the necessary skills and attitudes required to be successful.



Year 1 and 2

This term, the beach came to Twydall as Year 1 and 2 had a fabulous Beach Day to start off their new topic about the seaside. Children took part in traditional beach games, had a water fight, made sandcastles and enjoyed ice lollies! Year 2 also visited Gillingham Mosque as part of their studies on Islam. They learnt about the Mosque and why it is important to Muslims.

Larkin Farm

Children across all year groups have been visiting Larkin Farm in Strood weekly to learn about how to care for the animals. They have shown curiosity and respect in their visits.



Year 6

Year 6 are having activity days this term, for their last term in primary school. So far, they have been ice skating, spent a morning with birds of prey and had a visit from Creepy Claws. We have a movie and popcorn afternoon planned, Nerf Wars and many others!



Updates from: Louise Hardie, Acting Head of School, and Kim Wilmer, Director of Education

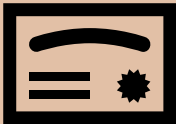


Riverside Primary School & Nursery



Personal Development and Wellbeing

Riverside has been awarded Platinum status for 'A Better Medway Schools Award' which is the highest standard that can be achieved for this award. The award covers the main areas of Personal Social Health Economic Education (PSHE) including Relationship and Sex Education (RSE), Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing, Healthy Eating and Physical Activity. The rich and varied curriculum on offer at Riverside ensures that all children are able to grow and develop beyond the academic, ensuring they build essential life skills and independence.



Summer Exhibition

Riverside Primary School had their Summer Exhibition earlier this month, where they enjoyed sharing their learning from the year with their parents and carers.



Art Workshop

Year 12 students from RMGS who have been either enjoying Art as an Enrichment subject or as an A Level option facilitated two workshops with Year 6 students at Riverside Primary School. Students were able to experiment with large - scale collaborative mark - making, painting and printmaking techniques, whilst exploring issues and challenges that they felt were relevant to them and their community.



Sports

KS1 and KS2 have both had very successful sports days, with lots of fun activities. Year 6 recently enjoyed YEE Go Karting, where they won 'Best Looking Car'. As part of our Healthy Lifestyles week, some of our classes experienced some new sports. One of the favorites was curling!



School Trips

Riverside students have enjoyed a number of exciting school trips this term! Reception spent a day at Kent Life, Year one visited Rochester castle, Year two explored Riverside country park, and Year Three visited the Guildhall museum. As well as these trips, we have had some special visitors at the school, as well as lots of time spent exploring nature amongst different year groups.



Inclusion

Following a recent assessment by the Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) team, Riverside has maintained their IQM Flagship status for their inclusive practices and the work they do to share those practices within our Trust and the wider community. Again, this is the highest standard that can be achieved and we are very proud of the whole Riverside community for embracing and celebrating differences, whilst supporting all children to achieve.

Updates from: Helen Robson, Head of School, and Kim Wilmer, Director of Education



Rainham Mark Grammar School



RMGS Community Garden

All term, RMGS students have been working hard to maintain the school's Community Garden. Eco Club have paid weekly visits to the garden to keep it in tact and create a relaxing space for students, and are currently growing over 20 different types of plants, fruits and veg.



Sporting Achievements

RMGS has had a fantastic term of sporting achievements across a variety of sports! Here are just a few:

In May, the PE department took 16 year 7 students to compete in the Super 8s Athletics tournament at Medway Park. The students did Rainham Mark proud. The girls were 4th overall and narrowly missed third place and the boys were 1st.



Harry W in Year 9 competed in the Combined Events London and Kent Schools on Wednesday 24th May and finished in 5th position out of 57 boys: an amazing achievement. Harry got three personal bests from the five events he competed in.

The Year 9 netball squad have been undefeated in all matches in their 2022-2023 season! Matches have been played against all Medway schools in all weather conditions finishing off the season recently with a phenomenal performance to seal their victory at Fort Pitt Grammar School. The squad look forward to continuing to play even more matches together.



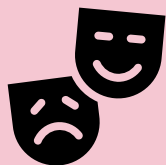
Rainham Mark had the largest number of students from any Medway School representing the District of Medway in the Kent Schools Track and Field Championships. They were a credit to the school and they did not disappoint. Results included William and Thomas C winning gold and bronze in the Year 7 javelin with William achieving a personal best of 42.90m, (this is now ranked number one in the country!)

Maths Challenge

RMGS Maths Department saw a record number of Year 7 to 8 students put their names forward to take part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge this year. Twenty students were rewarded with Gold, Forty-Eight with Silver and Ninety with Bronze Certificates. Six of the Gold Certificate Holders are through to the next 'Kangaroo' round and have received an academic half colour award for their achievements. Mrs. Napier, Miss Nistor and Mrs. Rothery were delighted to present students with their certificates!



Music and Drama



The Rainham Mark Music and Drama departments have thrived this year. The Year 7 band programme has been especially successful providing students with the opportunity to play classical instruments. The department has also celebrated retaining their Prince's Trust Award.

The Drama department gained its Gold Shakespeare Schools participation award having participated in the Festival in excess of the 7-year benchmark. Students from Year 7 performed their rendition of 'The Comedy of Errors' at The Woodville Halls earlier this year.

The Music and Drama departments staged their first full scale post pandemic musical with a record number of students taking part. They 'rocked the house' for three sell out audiences to standing ovations! The students single-handedly co directed, choreographed and ran the show, as well as seeing many tread the boards for the first time.



D of E Bronze Expedition

The weekend of Friday 19th to Sunday 21st May 2023, forty-seven Year 9 students took part in their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition assessment. Students rose to the challenge of walking between 12 and 16km each day with a ruck sack on their back. Furthermore, camping and cooking for themselves. They all demonstrated resilience and teamwork to learn how to navigate and read a map, use a Trangia to cook and dig deep to walk the distance.

World Languages Day



On Wednesday 21st June, 31 Year 8 students were invited to partake in World Languages Day at The University of Kent, Medway Campus. On the day, students were able to take part in African drumming, puppet making, The Big Debate, Japanese, Swedish as well as a few other activities. Students from RMGS were confident, engaged and really got involved in all the activities they took part in.



World Environment Day

Pupils & staff celebrated World Environment Day in the school's Herschel Garden with Jay, a local community artist, Emma Sutton, Teacher of Art & Design & Emma Milne, Head of Geography on 5th June, by painting eco bunting with natural dyes made from fruits, roots & berries. The event saw an amazing turn-out, with people joining this year's campaign to beat plastic pollution!



Updates from: Head students Steph and Marco, RMGS 'Weekly Bulletins', and Helen Macken, Head of Drama



Thank you for a wonderful year!

We would like to thank everyone from the RMET community for making not only this term, but this academic year as a whole, such a successful one. This year has been full of achievements and all schools within the Trust have really shone. Keep up the good work for the final week of term, and have a lovely Summer!

Finding us Online

For more information, you can find each of our schools, and our Trust, on the website links below:

Rainham Mark Education Trust: www.rmet.org

Twydall Primary School: www.twydallprimary.org.uk

Riverside Primary School: www.riverside.medway.sch.uk

Rainham Mark Grammar School: www.rainhammark.com

We have also recently launched our new social media sites, where you can find regular updates about each of the schools and the Trust. These pages can be found on the usernames below:

Rainham Mark Education Trust: **@RMEdTrust**

Twydall Primary School: **@rmet_tps**

Riverside Primary School: **@rmet_rps**

Rainham Mark Grammar School: **@rmet_rmgs**



Rainham Mark Education Trust: **@RMEdTrust**

Twydall Primary School: **@rmettps**

Riverside Primary School: **@rmetrps**

Rainham Mark Grammar School: **@rmetrmgs**

