

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2023

AUTUMN TERM

15/12/23

HTSA
HACKNEY TEACHING
& SCHOOLS' ALLIANCE



The Lobster Shack in Whitstable - Annual Leadership Conference

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The Professional Pathway



Annual Conference 2023



Partnership Group



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CELEBRATING A SUCCESSFUL YEAR SO FAR

As the autumn term comes to an end, we are taking a look at some of the collaborative events and engaging training sessions that have taken place within the HTSA over the past couple of months. Our annual conference in Whitstable was a fantastic triumph in October, and the launch of this year's Middle Leadership Programme at Stormont House School has been a great success. We have hosted sessions across schools including Mandeville, Kingsmead and Nightingale, all of which continue to benefit delegates across our alliance! Read on to find out more about what has been happening so far this year at the HTSA!



The much anticipated annual HTSA leadership conference took place in Whitstable on the 12th and 13th October this term, and whilst the weather left a lot to be desired, the conference was a huge success. On the first day, delegates were welcomed into The Marine Hotel with a lovely breakfast spread, and a day of Adaptive Teaching led by Jon Eaton. Jon is the Director of Kingsbridge Research School in Devon, and made the journey all the way from here to Kent to spend the day with us. He led discussions on what adaptive teaching looks like in the classroom, and a session on how to develop an adaptive teaching implementation plan. Leaders left equipped with extra knowledge on the subject which could be applied in their schools within their context.

WHEEL OF POWER/PRIVILEGE



Orlene Badu, racial literacy expert and former school leader, arrived on the second day to lead a workshop on antiracism within schools, based on her new book 'How to Build Your Antiracist Classroom'. Orlene sparked discussions around privilege and power and how this materialises in education. Leaders across our network found this incredibly valuable and were keen to use strategies and policies shared by Orlene in their schools. Kevin McDonnell (Stormont House) and Colin Gall (CGA) also introduced the topic of SEND and Inclusion, allowing schools to share what they do well and what is a challenge for them in order to share best practice and expertise with one another. All in all, it was a brilliant event and The Marine Hotel did a wonderful job catering to our team!



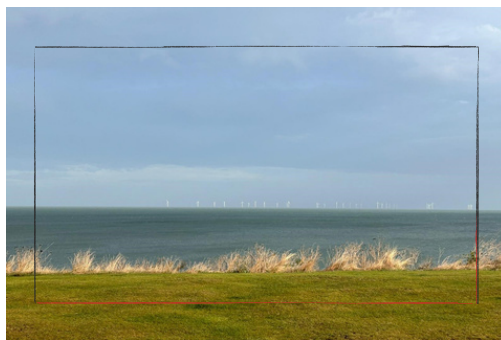
“——
Orlene Badu’s session was a real highlight. Thought provoking and immediately impactful.
——”

“——
Lots of practical ideas from both speakers which was fantastic.
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“——
Brilliant opportunities to network and share ideas, and time to reflect and consider personal work to be done.
——”

“——
It was brilliant as always! Interesting speakers, loads of ideas. I am going back energised!
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This year's Middle Leadership Programme launched on Wednesday 1st November, with 11 participants attending from schools across our network. Dez Veares from Evolve, and Kate O'Shaughnessy from the Institute of Education, kicked off the course with a session involving group tasks that allowed delegates to get to know each other, team challenges that got everyone to collaborate, and discussions around expected outcomes of the course.

Since then, we have had sessions focused on the difference between leadership and management, setting your teams up for success, and building trust within your team. Participants are finding the content of the course so far extremely beneficial, and are particularly valuing the bespoke coaching they receive from Dez as they move through the training schedule.

The programme will run right up until the summer term, with its closing session taking place on 25th June, where delegates will share what they have learnt and evaluate the impact this training and development has had on them and on their role in a presentation. We are delighted to be a part of the journey these teachers have started, and are looking forward to see the outcomes of their hard work.

Both cohorts of HTSA Early Career Teachers are doing exceptionally well this year and are successfully settling into their new roles as class teachers. Our first year cohort have been attending sessions at Mandeville Primary School, and have participated in training on English and Literacy, Maths and positive behaviour management. We have had specialists from LEAP and Hackney Education come in to lead sessions, so we know our ECTs are receiving high quality guidance that they can effectively bring back to their schools.

Our second year cohort continue to visit Nightingale Primary School for their sessions, and whilst they have gained more experience and knowledge, they still continue to learn more from trainers Kate Roberts and Meret Stokes, and share best practice with their peers and colleagues.

We are extremely grateful to both Mandeville and Nightingale Primary Schools for letting us host sessions, providing delicious snacks and refreshments and helping with the smooth running of these courses!



COURSE FEEDBACK

I appreciate the realistic approach on this course. Fully aware and supportive of the issues and barriers we're dealing with.

I value the thorough explanations and varied viewpoints of everything we talk about in these ECT sessions.

Really enjoyed the first MLP session! Tutors were both great in their delivery. Thank you very much.

There was a clear rationale and use of models to demonstrate best practice in planning, and great opportunities to practise techniques and discuss/interpret results.

I really enjoyed the session on behaviour! Very interactive and informative.

Having a look around at receptions and nursery have given me some amazing ideas to take back to school!

INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING



The teaching apprentices we have on board this year have made a fantastic start in their respective schools. Their first training session and introduction to the programme was at Hackney School of Food, where they were able to get to know each other, take part in essential safeguarding training run by Kate Roberts and Lisa Clarke, and familiarise themselves with the HTSA and what we do here.



They were also able to have a tour of Hackney School of Food and its beautiful garden with Tom Walker, Head Food Educator, who made some delicious food for them to enjoy during their visit. The Winter holiday has now arrived which means our apprentices have successfully completed their first term and are really starting to understand their roles as educators in Hackney. We are so excited to see them continue to flourish in their roles!



TAPP RECRUITMENT

We have officially begun recruiting teaching apprentices for next academic year (2024-25). Our first round of interviews took place at Mandeville Primary School on 22nd November where we managed to secure three promising candidates for LEAP Schools. Thank you to Marc and everyone at Mandeville for hosting and helping out on the day.

Please get in touch if you are interested in hiring an apprentice next year and we can begin the search for you!



at Randal Cremer Primary School

The last Partnership Group meeting was at Randal Cremer Primary School where there was a presentation and learning walk with Jo Riley (Headteacher) and Priscilla Boonin (DEI and Maths lead).



Priscilla gave a short presentation describing the school's involvement with the NCETM Mastering Number Programme.

This programme aims to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to Year 1 and Year 2. The aim over time is that children will leave KSI with fluency in calculation and a confidence and flexibility with number. Attention is given to key knowledge and understanding needed in Reception classes, and progression through KSI to support success in the future.

This programme focuses on the key knowledge and understanding needed in Reception classes, and progression through KSI. Randal Cremer staff in R, Y1 and Y2 have received central training (online and face-to-face) and pupil-facing resources. The staff taking part in the training are known as lead teachers.

The resources available provide teaching materials for four short sessions each week, aimed at developing children's fluency and flexibility with number. Lead Teachers in schools also contribute to an online community to share practice and engage in critical reflection.

HTSA Heads were able to tour the school and watch the Mastering Number lessons being taught in Reception, Y1 and Y2. Pupils were using Rekenreks to aid their understanding of number – for example in Y1 they were exploring the composition of 6. It was valuable and inspiring to see the impact of this programme on the children's understanding.

Thanks to Jo, Priscilla and the staff and pupils who shared their work and learning with us.

<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/maths-hubs-projects/mastering-number-at-reception-and-ks1/>



GALLERY

Here are some of our favourite images from this term!



Year 1 Nativity at Kingsmead Primary School



Children in Need Day at Randal Cremer Primary School

Mug Painting Workshop at Clapton Girls' Academy



Panto comes to Mandeville Primary School



Celebrating World Mental Health Day in yellow at Gayhurst



Decorating the tree at the Blossom Federation

We hope you have enjoyed this issue of the HTSA newsletter. Please get in touch with Katie with any feedback, potential features or general thoughts. It's very much welcomed!