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# Keep up the good work

ELCOME to the fourth edition of INEOS' Forgotten 40 magazine.
Your stories have not just given other headteachers and children hope, but they have inspired us too.

As headteachers, you are giving your children the chance of a better life. And, more importantly, showing them the pathway to get there.

Dr Haim Ginott, a clinical psychologist and a former teacher, once likened children to 'wet cement'.

"Whatever falls on them makes an impression," he said.

Time and time again we see that.
And that impression can be good or bad,

The late author believed that teachers possess a tremendous power to make a child's life miserable or joyous.

"I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration," he said. "I can humiliate or heal."

He argued that hope leaves a bigger impression on a child than despair.

We believe that no child should feel weary of life and anxious in primary school.

With your support, you are proving that with the right intervention, pupils from the poorest parts of the UK can be helped enormously.

In May, we will be hosting our first conference of the year - albeit postponed from late last year - for all headteachers involved in the Forgotten 40 project.

We cannot wait to hear about the difference you are making.

In the meantime, though, please keep up the good work.

The Forgotten 40 team





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For more details and ideas to help your school, please visit the Forgotten 40 website www.ineosforgotten40.com

### Children benefit as schools seize the initiative to make a difference

# Forgotten 40 is working wonders, say headteachers

HILDREN worn down by poverty and lack of opportunity are starting to shine – and headteachers believe INEOS' radical approach to tackling child poverty could be at the heart of it.

INEOS had believed its Forgotten 40 initiative would make a difference to those in most need, but it was just a hunch.

Today, the impact of the company's £20,000 annual gift to 100 schools serving the most deprived areas in the UK is paying dividends.

"The impact that the INEOS funding has had on our children and their families is beyond words," said Claire Higgins, headteacher of Holy Cross Catholic Primary School in Birkenhead on The Wirral.

"It has enabled us to provide the most amazing opportunities and experiences for our children that our school budget would simply not enable us to do."

For a group of year 6s at Saint Catharine's Primary School in Wigan, that meant enjoying a bite to eat at Pizza Hut before watching The Railway Children at their local cinema.

"For many of them, it was the first time they had ever been to a restaurant or the cinema," said headteacher Sue Pittendreigh. "But that one gesture, which is the norm for so many middle class families, brought such joy." All 'The impact that Forgotten 40 has had on our children is beyond words' - headteacher CLAIRE HIGGINS

INEOS' headteachers face similar problems. Andrew Williams recently became headteacher of a primary school in the most deprived council estate in the whole of the Rhondda Valley in Wales.

"The INEOS project has literally been a lifechanging experience," he said. "It has enabled us to give so much to the children and their families."

The school recently bought a bed and some bedding for a child who was so grateful she knocked on the headteacher's door to say thank you.

"When that sort of thing happens, you know that the INEOS gift is being used in the best possible way," he said.

He is the school's third headteacher in the past two years.

Rebecca Warren works closely with him to help decide how best to spend INEOS' funding.

"Having the flexibility to spend the money as we see fit has enabled us to make a significant impact where it's needed most and when it's needed most," she said. She told how the school had intended to invest in a therapy dog, but realised helping their families cope during the winter was more important.

"It really is just the most wonderful thing to be able to do," she said. "We can help our pupils and their families when they need it most. Without judgement. Without pressure. Just help."

It is a view shared by many headteachers, including Louise Hill from Grimes Dyke Primary in Leeds.

"What your supporters have to understand is the power you have given school leaders to make a real difference where it really matters," she said.

"We do have government funding, but it is tied up in red tape, every penny has to be accounted for, and it is linked to academic achievement.

"The money we have received from the Forgotten 40 project has been a breath of fresh air. It is amazing to be trusted as a headteacher to know what is right for my children and their families."

Many of the teachers, involved in Forgotten 40, are unsure what they will do when the three-year project ends.

"During these turbulent times the Forgotten 40 project has enabled equality of opportunity for all our children at Saint Catharine's in so many ways," said Sue.

"I don't know how we would manage without the funding."

#### MARK NUGENT Headteacher Waterville Primary

Schools like ours are often forgotten and expected to wade through the immense difficulties that our communities face. This project allows us to explore what our pupils really need without the demands of demonstrating numerical progress.



VANESSA THOMSON Headteacher Oakwood Primary

We have used INEOS' money in so many ways to help families. We have bought bus passes for parents so they can visit their child long-term in hospital, laid on taxis so a girl can train with her football team and provided SIM cards for internet connections.



**ROB SAUNDERS** 

**Ranworth Square Primary** 

In these times of uncertainty, it is projects like this that are

needed more than ever as

state of disarray and there

is a lack of clear, guided

leadership that is needed

to overcome the reality we

are in now. Forgotten 40 has

the education system is in a

Headteacher

been a lifeline.

PAUL SANCHEZ
Headteacher
St Thomas CE Primary

We feel truly thankful and blessed. We would not have been able to offer the opportunities and experiences that we have given our children through the different initiatives. We could have only dreamed of these opportunities, but you have made them a reality.



IAIN PARKS
Headteacher
St Mary and St Paul's Primary

Forgotten 40 has transformed our school in so many powerful ways. In an area that has little hope and aspiration, the opportunity to show these children that there is a better, more positive way to live has ensured that these young people don't miss out.



ANGELA WILSON Headteacher Lawn Primary

The impact of this money is hard to put into words, but the school will forever be grateful for it.

The INEOS project has had a significant impact on our school and all the things we have been able to do, and that impact will last well into the future.



# Schools use vital funding to feed growing need

Many opt to buy food for families struggling with cost of living

EACHERS are helping to feed families struggling with the rising cost of living.

Many involved in the Forgotten 40 project are now using INEOS' funding to buy food for parents and their children.

"Hungry children cannot learn," said Shona Henderson (pictured), headteacher of Blackfriars Primary School in Glasgow. "And food hunger is an ongoing problem at our school."

Her school decided to take action after teachers kept hearing children complaining they were hungry.

"The children have a place where they can express how they feel, be it angry, sad, happy or frustrated," she said. "We have added 'I feel hungry' which means children can now easily tell us if they haven't had breakfast." Those, who haven't eaten, are discreetly offered croissants and fruit and breakfast bars.

Blackfriars has also been regularly bagging up food on Fridays for parents to collect after the school forged links with local shops which donate the food.

"Unfortunately, the demand has become so great that we are now using Forgotten 40 money to buy extra food," said Shona.

"Parents can come and take what they need which has made a massive difference to their families. They are really relying on these food bags to help them through the weekends."

Ranworth Square Primary School in



Liverpool is also regularly dishing out food and at Christmas provided hampers and

"It was such a happy thing to be able to do," said headteacher Rob Saunders.

One child said it was the 'first time in ages' he had seen his mum smile.

#### Humbling

"We shared a box of Maltesers together as we watched Elf," the boy said.

Rob said it had been humbling to see the reaction of parents, with one mum saying the school's act of kindness would never be forgotten

Such acts of kindness are also being seen at St George's Primary School in

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. Every Friday a transit van containing 1,000kg of food parcels and toiletries arrives at the school gates.

"On the first week back after the school holidays, all the food was gone in 45 minutes," said headteacher Katie Barry, who uses Forgotten 40 funding to buy the food packages from charity FareShare.

As a thank you, she and her staff were recently named as Changemakers of 2023 by The Big Issue.

"These people are doing all they can to support people across the UK who are struggling to make ends meet," said a spokesman for the magazine which supports the homeless.

Katie said the award was the result of a lot of

hard work by staff. "So many of them work above and beyond to pull this off week after week." she said.

In addition to the free food stall, St George's also runs a weekly cooking school for parents. "We are trying very hard to help them learn the skills they don't yet have," she said.

At Eastcroft Park Primary School near Liverpool, the INEOS-funded 'family hub' allows struggling parents to collect emergency food.

"The current cost of living crisis has seen more families than ever accessing the family hub," said headteacher Julie Withey. "They are not only using the laundry and larder facilities, but they are also seeking advice and support." The school also recenly

started running a course to show families how to cook on a tight budget.

"All the ingredients are free, and parents and children prepare and cook the meal to take home," she said.

Tracey Caffrey, headteacher at St John's Primary School in Newcastle, believes food parcels are invaluable but fears they provide only half of the solution.

"Having food in the cupboard is no good if parents are worried about using the oven to cook because it uses too much electricity or gas," she said.

To help, her school has used Forgotten 40 funding to run a six-week course to teach parents how to prepare meals in an energy-efficient slow cooker.

Families worked with a chef to prepare

healthy, budget-friendly meals. "They made the meals in the morning and came back at home time to collect the food to take home," said Tracey.

At the end of the course, the families were each given their own slow cooker, an array of herbs, spices, tins and jars – and recipes to cook at home. "We've had great feedback and are running the course again throughout the spring term," she said.

'Hungry children cannot learn and hunger is an ongoing problem at our school'

> - headteacher SHONA HENDERSON



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#### RED HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL Darlington

HILD'S play is a serious business.
Research has shown that play can improve children's abilities to plan, solve problems, share, work as a team, learn and cope with stress.

And the beauty of it, is that it comes so naturally to them.

In their eyes, running, pretending and building are fun.

Teachers at Red Hall Primary School in Darlington have always understood the importance and power of play, but the need for it increased dramatically after COVID restrictions were finally lifted in the UK.

#### Wonderful

"You could tell that our children had forgotten how to play with each other," said headteacher Julie Davidson.

"They were fighting and arguing at playtime and getting upset because games were becoming rough."

Initially, children were banned from going outside and equipment, such as footballs, were locked away.

It didn't take staff long, though, to realise that that was not the answer to the problem. "We reallised that we had to get back to basics and teach them how to play again," said Julie. "How to play in different ways, how to play with different equipment and different groups of children and how to play together." COVID had also led to many chidren gaining weight due to a lack of exercise.

"During COVID, it was easier for families the

# Playing to children's strengths

to sit at home and play electronic games, rather than to get their children up and out," she said. "Some days when we did home visits during COVID, families were not even getting dressed."

Using Forgotten 40 funding, the school has not only been able to encourage the children to play again, but it has enabled staff to rediscover the joys of playtime.

Teachers no longer supervise the children. Instead they play with them. Mostly at lunchtimes, but any time during the day when they feel the children need a break. Areas that were once 'out of bounds' are now open to all. Play deemed risky, such as climbing trees and wielding big sticks, is actively encouraged.

And children can run, roll and slide down the hill whatever the weather. "Hearing

the children ask for just another five more minutes, because they are enjoying their play so much, is wonderful," said one member of staff.

In all, the school has created eight play zones where imaginations and the children can run wild. Each zone is managed by a team of pupils from the different houses in school.

"They each had £75 to spend on resources and set up their own area," said Julie. "The children in charge of the mud pit wanted forks, trowels and buckets." The school has also provided wellies for all, a change of clothes and waterproofs for the really messy areas.

Children are now spoilt for choice. There's a place they can build dens, a stage for those who enjoy drama, a quiet area, a mud pit and two outdoor mud kitchens. Teachers are also



up an archaeological dig in the mud pit by burying dinosaur fossils for the children to find."

In the woods, children built rockets to coincide with lessons in the classroom about space. And others designed and built a horse and carriage.

Earlier this year, the school went one better, setting up a muddy club for children and their parents where they can all stay and play safely until 6pm every Monday night.

"Unfortunately, there are no safe places for our children to play outside of school," said Iulie.

"The local park is dangerous, with damaged equipment, drug paraphernalia and litter."

'You could tell that our children had forgotten how to play with each other' - headteacher JULIE DAVIDSON

The school has also created Red Hall Beach with the support of one of Darlington's biggest businesses, engineering giant Cummins.

"The nearest beach is a 40-minute drive away and many of our families do not have cars," said Julie. "Cummins dug a sand pit for us and filled it with tonnes of sand. Now the children know what it's like to feel the sand between their toes."



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The power of play helps to improve relationships

# Pupils learn to have a field day .. in the mud

GRIMES DYKE PRIMARY SCHOOL Leeds

LAYTIME has also just got a whole lot better at Grimes Dyke Primary School in Leeds.

Areas that were once out of bounds are now fair game.

"The children are no longer confined to the hard tarmac surfaces for their year groups only," said headteacher Louise Hill.

"They can go on the grass in all weathers and go and play wherever they like and with whoever they like.

"We have discovered that the youngest children love hanging out with the older children and vice versa."

The school used Forgotten 40 funding to bring in a team of experts from Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL).

"We could have started this journey ourselves, but OPAL gave us the research-based approach and support to ensure we were getting it right for the children," said Louise.

Every member of staff has now been trained in the importance of play.

During those discussions, staff were encouraged to share stories of their own childhood memories and the risks they took.

The school started small with 'Welly Wednesdays'. All children were encouraged to wear wellingtons or borrow some from school so they could play outside, even if it was raining.

"The children simply cannot believe the freedom

they now have to roam and they are incredibly active the whole lunchtime," said Louise.

"Even those boys who would normally play football, have been running through the meadow, climbing trees in the woods and building go-karts out of junk materials."

Staff watch from a distance.

"We no longer get involved in sorting out problems, which are now few and far between," she said. "In fact, the biggest problem is children forgetting to go and eat."

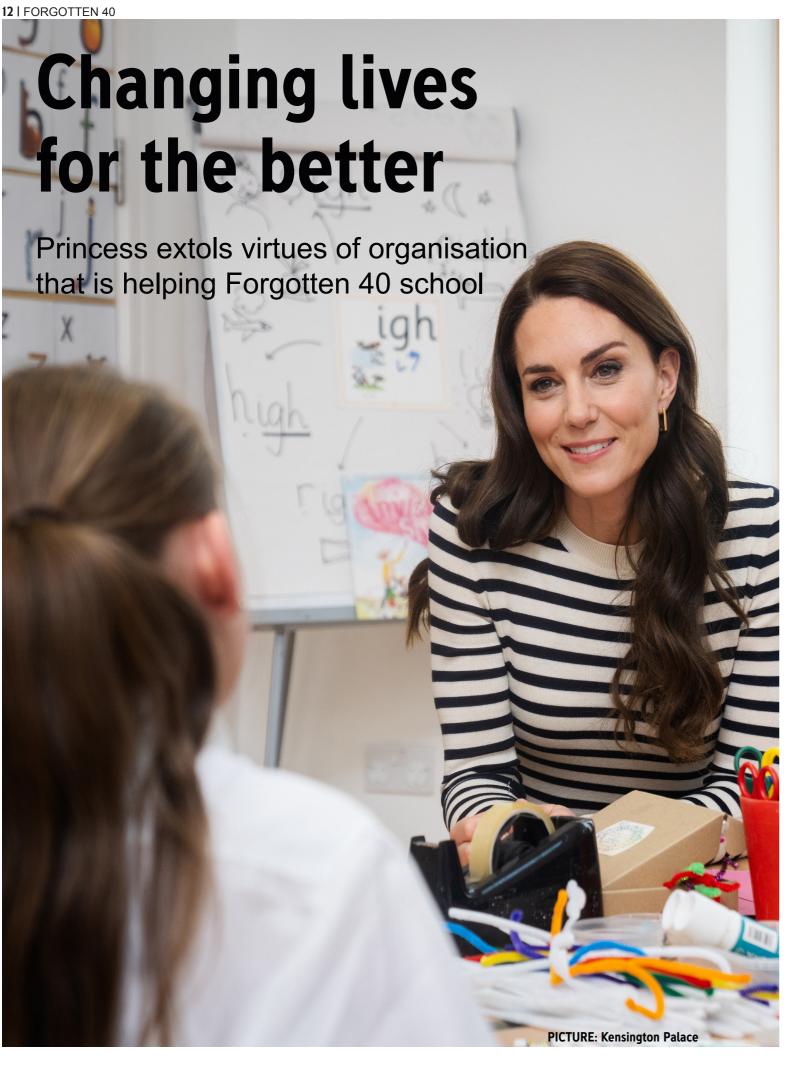
The school has now appointed a new groundswoman and has plans for willow tunnels, dens, a huge sandpit, a slide, a mud pit and tree swings.

But it also intends to leave large swathes of the school grounds uncut so the children can play hde and seek in the long grass.

Once it's complete, parents will be invited to see for themselves the benefits of freedom and calculated risk taking.

"It's always great seeing a parent watch their child climbing to the top of a tall tree," said Louise.

> 'Children can go on the grass in all weathers and go and play wherever they want and with whoever they want' headteacher LOUISE HILL





Without it, the inability to deal with adversity can lead to depression and anxiety. It's not just adults who are struggling with pressures, though. Children are too. To help, a primary school in Glasgow has invested Forgotten 40 funding in an organisation that has been transforming

young lives for more than 25 years. Place2Be believes that most children, even those with severe mental health problems, can be helped with one-to-one support.

And that's certainly been the outcome at Oakwood Primary School.

"Working with Place2Be has changed my life," said Leah Fleming, who leaves for secondary school in September.

The reason for Place2Be's success is twofold. Oakwood and the charity work together closely and because Place2Be provides professional counselling in school – a trusted place where children feel safe - it can also respond quickly to a child's needs.

"The nurturing principles, which are fundamental to the school's ethos, are mirrored in Place2Be values," said headteacher Vanessa Thomson.

"The children know there is someone else in school able to listen to them and that person, who is a professional counsellor, can give time and space, whilst ensuring complete confidentiality outside of the classroom."

She said children were actively booking appointments with a Place2Be counsellor and benefiting from the more formal, long-term, weekly one-to-one therapeutic

"On average children can wait 18 months for interventions by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services," said Vanessa.

"We can be responsive and have an assessment carried out and 1:1 sessions in place often within a four-week period and Place2Talk that week."

So far Place2Be has helped – at some point - almost every child in the school. Over the



#### OAKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL Glasgow, Scotland

past three years, 45 children have received weekly 1:1 therapeutic sessions, working with a Place2Be counsellor.

Children have been helped to cope with loss, trauma, attachment and behavourial

During that time, 218 children have spoken to a Place2Talk counsellor about, such issues, as friendships and other

Place2Be helps children to build resilience through talking, creative work, art and play. The charity's patron is the Princess of Wales, Kate Middleton.

In 2015, the charity launched Children's Mental Health Week to highlight the importance of intervening early to address any problems before they become more

The princess recently visited a primary school in London where she spoke of the importance of encouraging young children to talk about their feelings.

Oakwood Primary said it tries to focus

its attention on the very youngest for that reason, but it looks out for older pupils too. "We must help all young people to deal with these mental health issues because it will make them more resilient," said

She hopes that other Forgotten 40 schools will see the benefit of having a part-time Place2Be counsellor in school

"The long-term benefits of having a close working relationship with a therapeutic professional agency has meant that mental health is known, visible and viewed as equally important as physical health," she

"It's been so transformational for the lives of so many of our pupils."

At Oakwood, the school offers 21/2 days of Place2Be counselling to individual pupils every week.

But recently it used INEOS money to offer even more weekly one-to-one therapeutic sessions in school following an increase in the demand and need for support, identified by pupils and parents.

"As soon as pupils have completed their sessions, we have another group of pupils waiting to start," she said.



'We must help young children to deal with their mental health because it will make them more resilient' - headteacher **VANESSA THOMSON** 

Every child at Scottish school is now learning to play instrument

# Initiative adds another string to pupils' bow

BLACKFRIARS PRIMARY SCHOOL Glasgow, Scotland

VERY single child at a primary school in Glasgow is now learning to play an instrument.

Baby Strings spends a day every week at Blackfriars Primary School teaching hundreds of pupils how to play either the violin, viola or cello.

"None of this would have been possible without Forgotten 40's funding," said headteacher Shona Henderson.

The school initially launched the Baby Strings programme last year for the younger children.

But it proved so popular that Shona decided to extend the programme – again with INEOS' funding – to the entire school.

"It has been so wonderful to offer this opportunity to every child," she said. "All the children, bar those in reception, are playing instruments."

The music lessons have also been a hit with the children.

"It has given me so much confidence," said one

That confidence was on show recently when

the children performed for their parents on stage at Christmas and later alongside children from other schools in Glasgow.

"It was great to see all the children full of confidence playing all the instruments and singing," said one mum. "Please keep it going as long as you can."

There have been other benefits too – in the classroom.

Teachers have noted that the children's patience, self-esteem and concentration have all improved.

"It has been so beneficial for the children to have this opportunity," said teacher Ailsa Taylor, who learned to play the violin and piano at primary school and later studied the violin at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

"It is a skill that has been invaluable in assisting me with my roles as both a class teacher and expressive arts co-ordinator for the school."

The sessions with Baby Strings have also helped the school to close the poverty gap.

"A lot of our families would not be able to provide this experience for the children if they had to pay privately for what we are able to provide them for free," said Shona.



'It has been wonderful to offer this opportunity to every child' - headteacher SHONA HENDERSON

## Ukelele lessons lead to concert

DENS ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL Dundee, Scotland

LITTLE instrument, that has been making a big impact all over the world for decades, is now proving popular – among primary school-aged children in Scotland.

It is so popular, in fact, that Dens Road Primary School in Dundee now runs two clubs a week to accommodate all the children who want to learn to play the ukelele. "We initially bought 15 ukeleles with INEOS' Forgotten 40 funding but nearly 30 children wanted to learn," said depute headteacher Martin Downie.

Both groups are now rehearsing for a performance during a school assembly.

#### 'The ukelele is not an easy instrument to learn'

"They are so excited," said Kieran Wallace, a class teacher who previously studied music.
The young musicians have been learning to strum Ben E King's Stand By Me and also plan to master Jeff Buckley's version of Hallelujah.

"The ukelele is certainly not an easy instrument to learn, and it can be painful on the fingers," said Kieran. "But I have seen a real sense of achievement from all the children in the club."

He said many of them had initally found it painful, but they had all stuck by it.

"They are extremely proud of how far they have come," he said. It is hoped to one day take the children to a concert by The Ukelele Orchestra of Great Britain, which has become a national institution, with its repertoire that ranges from

western to '70s disco.

"It is certainly something we are thinking about," said Kieran.

classical to punk, and spaghetti

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ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL / BLACKMOUNTAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL Belfast, Northern Ireland

### Schools bridge troubled waters

BOUT 50 years ago, it would have been unthinkable.

Belfast was a divided city with shootings, bombings and riots. Catholics and Protestants were at loggerheads, consumed by hatred, fear and suspicion.

But projects such as Shared Education have been doing their best to encourage children from Catholic and Protestant families to learn from each other to help iron out the troubles of the past.

Mairead Weir is principal of St Joseph's Primary School in Slate Street, Belfast.

For the past six years, pupils from her Catholic school have been working closely with Protestant youngsters who attend Blackmountain Primary School just one mile

"This isn't just about learning, it also means children with different beliefs will realise that they can be friends," she said. "It shows that difference is nothing to be feared."

Their latest combined project, which has been partly funded by INEOS' Forgotten 40 team, has focused on the sinking of the

"The story of the Titanic resonates deeply within both schools because a number of our children have ancestors who helped to build it," said Mairead.

The Titanic was built by 3,000 workers in the famous Harland and Wolff shipyard on on April 10, 1912.

Despite it being one of the world's worst maritime tragedies, though, the Titanic remains a symbol of Northern Ireland's giant

"One of the major aspects of the project was to help children understand the perspective of others, to put themselves in the 'shoes' of others," said Mairead. "The Titanic story allowed the children to do this."

The children and teachers from both schools worked in partnership to produce a short documentary film about RMS Titanic, which sank after hitting an iceberg on its maiden

The children spent several days in each other's schools, writing, producing, narrating

"We had a judge and jury set up which enabled the children to debate who they thought was responsible for the ship's sinking," said Mairead.

figures who were involved in the design and build of the Titanic. This meant that each of our child actors had to research

The film was shown for the first time at

Five days later, the luxury liner – deemed unsinkable – lay at the bottom of the Atlantic

spirit to this day.

and acting.

Belfast City Hall in March at an event hosted

Queen's Island and set sail from Southampton

"They interviewed a range of historical their character and tell the story from their







by Tina Black, Lord Mayor of Belfast, and a former pupil at St Joseph's.

"Thanks to INEOS' funding, our children felt like film stars," said Mairead.

"They have worked with a director and a media expert and have created something together that they can treasure forever."

During the premiere of Who Sank The Titanic? it wasn't just the children who were able to mingle.

Parents from both schools also had chance to

"Whilst people in both communities, on the whole, have vastly different political and religious beliefs, they also have a shared history which they can celebrate," said

Mairead. "We want to help build trust and friendships." Over the years, the two schools, which are separated by the infamous 'Peace Walls' erected to keep the communities apart during the Troubles, have recognised that there is more that binds, than separates,

"Work, health and education matter to all," said Mairead. "Those are pertinent for all

She believes it is essential that both communities continue to try to understand and respect each other.

"What better way to do this, than with our children who have had no experience, thank God, of the Troubles," she said.

'This wasn't just about learning. It was about showing children, who have different beliefs. that they can still be friends' principal MAIREAD WEIR





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size, but one ugly bird," said Iain.

The trip had been paid for by INEOS through its Forgotten 40 initiative.

"Our children would never have experienced this without INEOS' support," said Iain. "Many may never get to go again, but we need to inspire children so that they know what is out there and that they will need to push themselves if they want to succeed in life."

The funding also meant the children could tour the 550-acre parkland, where the animals roam freely, in a 'baboon bus' instead of their school bus.

The baboons regularly jump on to vehicles driving through their enclosure, often pulling off windscreen wipers. On one occasion, many years ago, about 20 baboons emptied the contents of a driver's roofbox. "I'm sure our school bus would have been taken apart bit by bit because the baboons

didn't disappoint the children," said Iain. "They were climbing all over the bus and knocking on the windows."

After the safari drive, the children explored another part of the park on foot, where they met giraffes and meerkats.

Later they were introduced to Steve, a redlegged Seriema who stole the show with his ability to kill a plastic snake.

The performing sea lions, Arthur, Roger and Louis, were also a hit

"Without these opportunities many of the children in our care would never get to experience what the wider world has to offer," said Iain. "The children have been talking about this trip ever since we got back."

The visit has also inspired families to

revisit the safari park at weekends and during the school holidays.

"For many of our families, leaving the estate around school is challenging," he said. "It is usually down to transport but it's also because of what they know. They now know what's out there."

The school is now planning to take all 235 pupils on a day trip to Chester Zoo.

> 'We need to inspire children so that they know what is out there' - headteacher IAIN PARKS



### Pupils pass the time by going back in time ...

**DUNN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL** Tyne & Wear

#### **UPILS** from a primary school in Tyne & Wear stepped back in time and had the time of their lives.

Many had never heard of Prenton Park . Museum – despite it being just 37 miles away. But by the end of their visit, the year 5s had not only had a great day out, but they also had a greater understanding of what life used to be like during the Victorian era.

"It brought learning to life," said Chris Mackley, headteacher at Dunn Street Primary School. "The children were able to appreciate historical events from a new perspective, which deepened their understanding and led to further discussions when they got back to school." The children had visited prison cells, learned how crimes were punished, watched a master blacksmith at work in his forge and gleaned some advice about how to treat a whole host of ailments at J Walker Chemist.

"It was wonderful to see how the children's confidence increased as they chatted to the volunteers who work at the museum," he said.

During their visit, the pupils also got a taste for old-fashioned sweets such as bonbons and pear drops and played with traditional toys.



### Artist offers pupils the chance to picture a different world

# Hugh draws a crowd of enthusiastic children

ST CLEMENTS PRIMARY SCHOOL Manchester

NE of the most influential painters of the 20th century believed every child is

The problem, Picasso said, was staying as one. Often children, as they get older, become more constrained by society's view of what art is and down tools.

Hugh Templeton refused to allow life to stamp out his love of art – and today he spends hours in classrooms talking about his passion and teaching children how to express themselves in pencil, charcoal and watercolours

"Art is so vitally important in primary schools because it gives a child belief in themselves and a brighter future while helping them to withdraw from the cares that will not withdraw from them," he said.

He recently spent time at St Clements C of E Primary School in Manchester thanks to funding from INEOS' Forgotten 40 initiative.

"It was a wonderful experience," said headteacher Jane Parker.

"We really noticed how those pupils who were less academic, loved the opportunity to use a pencil for something other than maths and English."

By the end of their creative sessions with Hugh, every single child at St Clements – all 240 of them – had produced a piece of artwork worthy of merit and praise. "When a child successfully creates a beautiful painting, they feel in control of their often chaotic world," said Hugh.

"They can look at their picture and see that all is safe and perfect in their world. Of course, that sense of calm is temporary, but it works long enough to help a child to feel calm, successful and happy."

And that is what staff noticed too during Hugh's visits.

'The classroom was really quiet and the children were really relaxed'

"The children were so focused on what they were doing," she said.

"The classroom was really quiet and the children were really relaxed."

The children's works of art are now on display. Among them are pictures inspired by For Hugh, who grew up in a deprived part of Manchester, it was another job well done.

"Being creative helps children to cope with their feelings and fears," he said.

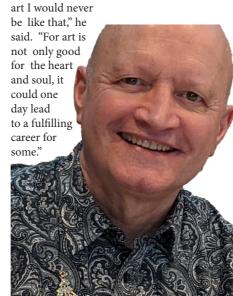
"My siblings and I didn't have a lot growing up, but although we were often cold and a little hungry, we were loved."

He remembers using chalk to sketch pictures on the pavement near his grandparents' home in Moss Side. "The pavement was my free canvas," he said. "And I filled it eagerly with patterns until the rain washed it all away." Art, he said, was his 'saviour'.

"Having experienced depression since early childhood, I found the release and relaxation of watercolour painting invaluable," he said.

But it is a passion that was almost crushed by an art teacher who had no interest in teaching the subject.

"I vowed that when I became a teacher of



www.hughtempleton.co.uk



'Those pupils who were less academic loved the opportunity to use a pencil for something other than maths' - headteacher JANE PARKER









### Mood music ...

IT was a school trip that not everyone fancied.

As the year 4 children boarded the coach to take them to The Bridgewater Hall in Manchester for a concert by the world-beating Halle symphony orchestra, there were a few glum faces.

But after taking their seats inside the magnificent 2,355-seater auditorium, the mood changed.

"As soon as the music started, they were mesmerised," said headteacher Jane Parker. "They were dancing along and pretending to play the instruments."

Not only that, but when they got back to St Clements C of E Primary, many expressed an interest in learning to play a musical instrument – and those, who already did, were motivated to practise.

For many it had been the first time they had attended a concert.

"Although we live in a city that has a proud musical history, many of them had never been into the city centre to listen to live music at one of the many venues," said Jane. "It was such an invaluable experience."

Thanks to INEOS' Forgotten 40 funding, pupils in years 1 and 2 also enjoyed a live show of Aliens Love Underpants.

Pupils find a brighter way of living .. in the dark

# Mother Nature turns teacher

'It's important we don't just tell children about the world. We need to show them it too'

> - headteacher ADAM LASKEY

ST THOMAS MOORSIDE PRIMARY

OTHER Nature is a great teacher. That's why executive headteacher Adam Laskey invested in an outdoor classroom at St Thomas Moorside in Oldham so pupils could enjoy the benefits of Forest School.

"It's important we don't just tell children about the world," he said. "We need to show them it too."

But the school wanted to do more to encourage pupils to play games in the woods, tackle the mud slide, swing in the trees and explore nature. And, thanks to INEOS' Forgotten 40 funding,

t could.

Today the school offers free Forest School sessions to all its 200+ pupils during the holidays and every Thursday from 5pm to 7pm.

"It's a very popular club," said Adam. "The numbers are always high whatever the weather.



It doesn't matter to the children if it's raining."

During the sessions children are free to discover things for themselves in a safe environment.

The sessions are run by the staff and the children love them.

"It's so much more exciting than playing on the Xbox or watching TV," said one child. "And our parents know we are safe."

Each Thursday evening session is rounded off with a nice warm cup of soup and a bread roll. "It's really yummy," said one.





## School starts new chapter in playground

ST THOMAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL Stockport

HEN word got round that school was planning a surprise, the children were excited.

And those who would rather read at breaktimes and lunchtimes were especially excited.

For St Thomas CE Primary school in Stockport had decided to invest some of its Forgotten 40 funding in building a wooden structure where the children could curl up with a good book.

"The reading shed is such a nice space to go in," said one child. "I love reading books with the younger children at break times."

Headteacher Paul Sanchez said the shed was always popular – even if it wasn't raining.

"The kids love it in there," he said.
Sean Perkins, a local author and illustrator, had officially opened it.
"It's such a great idea," he said.
"Although, as a child, I did prefer playing to reading because I have always enjoyed making up my own stories and adventures. I would read at home in bed

The shed contains some of Sean's books.

Oscar and Ben, the tale of two cats who meet a host of animals after venturing into the forest, is the children's favourite.











Children conquer their fears and a mountain to boot

## The path of discovery

RANWORTH SQUARE PRIMARY SCHOOL Liverpool

OR pupils from Ranworth Square Primary School, it wasn't just about conquering a 1,817ft mountain.

It was about conquering their fear of the unknown. Their fear of possible failure. As one boy stood on the summit of Moel Famau, he said: "I didn't think I could walk that far up a mountain."

But there he stood with his classmates, feeling mightily proud of himself.

Together they had achieved something that some of them had initially believed was impossible. They had stood on the highest point on the Clwydian Range.

After a few days, the 35 children from years 5 and 6 returned to their classrooms in Liverpool.

"We now see a different side to the children," said headteacher Rob Saunders. "It's far softer and gentlier and they let you enter their world so you get to see them in a whole new light."

Those friendships and shared experiences

formed in the Welsh mountains have also brought them closer together.

The opportunity to attend Colomendy – paid for by INEOS' Forgotten 40 initiative – was Rob's way of broadening the children's horizons and encouraging them to aim high.

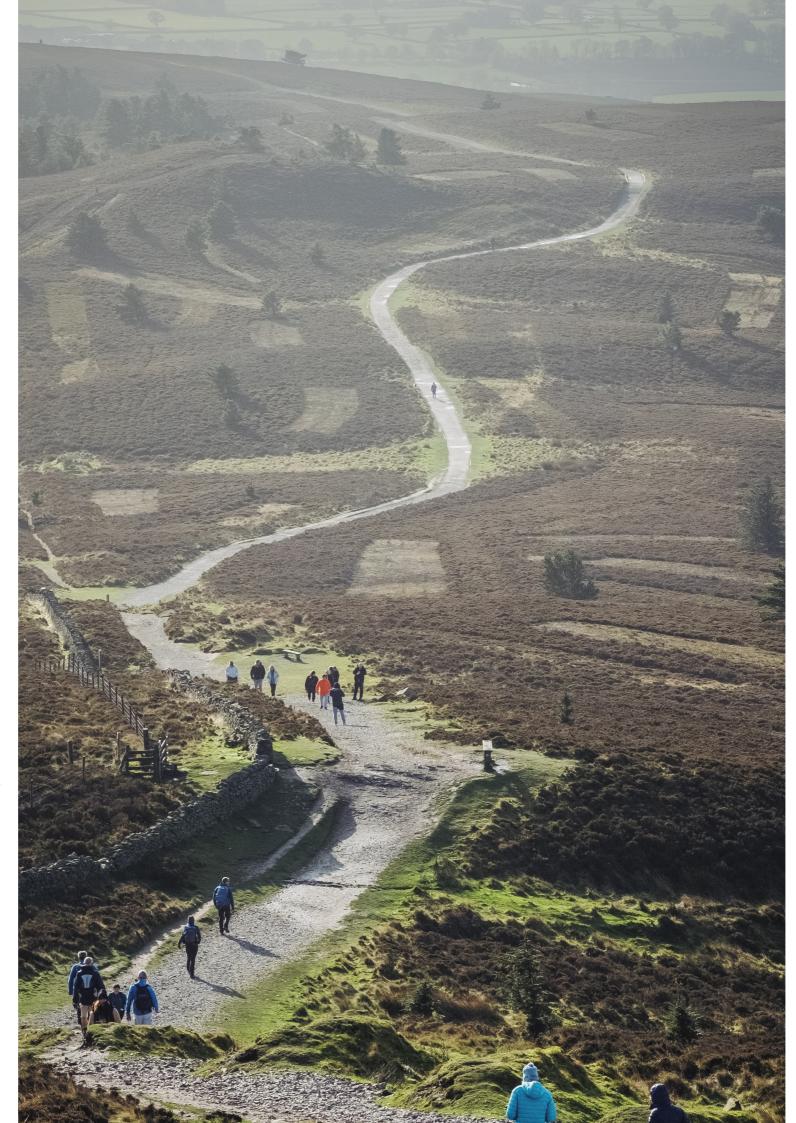
"Our children live in some of the poorest conditions in the city as it is, but we don't want any child to feel deprived because of where they live," he said

"For many, this was their first time away from home."

During the residential, the pupils had also enjoyed hunting for fossils, abseiling, building fires, and creating art out of nature.

Rob said the five-day residential at Loggerheads Country Park had exposed the children to a whole new world and given them a sense of achievement, the chance to try something new and a taste of independence.

"I love the countryside," he said. "It leaves you refreshed and forces you to slow you down. It also limits technology which can take over your life."





## Pupils go upstream in search of adventure

PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

witnessed in their entire lives.

UPILS were promised a real adventure – and that's what they got. In just two days, they had experienced more than they had probably ever

They had climbed mountains, leapt into icy-cold plunge pools, explored a disused slate mine, ventured into pitch black tunnels, made fires, and watched the sun set over Lake Windermere.

"Words cannot do justice to how amazing both the experience and the children were," said Laura Darley, headteacher of Parklands Primary School in Leeds. "We are so proud of them for pushing themselves. They will have learned some life-changing skills."

One of the aims of the year 4 residential, funded by INEOS' Forgotten 40, had been to open their eyes to the world around them.

As the children stood on the 1.052ft summit

of Gummer's How, they could see for miles. "They couldn't quite believe the fact that they could even see their home county," said Laura. But that wasn't all.

The children also enjoyed a ferry ride, fish and chips while sitting on the shores of Lake Windermere, outdoor picnics, and a meal out. "The whole experience is one they will treasure

"The whole experience is one they will treasure forever," said Laura.

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### **Smartest** Giant helps children to understand the world

WILLOW WOOD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL **Sunderland** 

ANTRUMS are a normal part of life with a todddler. Just ask any parent. Little people simply cannot cope with big

emotions such as jealousy and frustration.

As children get older, they learn how to articulate how they feel – and the temper tantrums subside.

But some children continue to struggle. Headteacher Lindsay Robertson said many of the pupils at Willow Wood Community Primary School in Sunderland fell into that

The very youngest, she said, had missed out on socialising due to lockdown.

"With households isolating, they weren't able to attend playgroups and mix with others," she said. "But young children need to be able to identify basic emotions so they can start to identify why they experience them and what kind of situations will make them experience them."

That lack of stimulation and isolation due to COVID-19 has led, she believes, to a generation of children who have not developed the skills or vocabulary to express how they feel.

"Understanding emotions is the first step towards children being able to regulate their own emotions," she said.

To try to change the narrative for her reception and year one pupils, she decided to turn to a giant among children's story-tellers

- Julia Donaldson, author of such best-selling books as The Grufffalo and Stick Man.

"One of the best ways that we can teach young children about emotions is through stories," said Lindsay. "They are a safe way for them to develop a level of empathy which is a difficult skill for young children to understand."

class teacher - Julia Donaldson's tale about George, a scruffy giant who buys new clothes, but then gives them away to help his friends. But the school decided to really open the children's eyes - and booked 59 tickets with Forgotten 40 funding to see The Smartest Giant In Town at The Fire Station in Sunderland.

during the performance that they didn't realise that they were listening, taking in and understanding some of the key vocabulary at the same time," she said.

Lindsay said it can be difficult for young children to understand what is meant by words such as 'scrambled inside'.

"Seeing the performers act that out helped the children to understand what they meant,"

Most of them were able to empathise with George, who realised that it was not what you have that matters, but what you do for other people that really counts.

The children had already read - with their

"They loved it and were so engrossed

The moral of the story was also not lost on the children.

'One of the best ways we can teach young children about emotions is through stories' - headteacher LINDSAY ROBERTSON

"The story encourages the moral of being kind and generous to others," she said.

Afterwards, the children were keen to retell the story to others and debated whether 'smartest' meant in appearance or

"Having the story brought to life through performance proved to be an excellent way to embed this key knowledge for young children," said Lindsay. "They cannot wait to go back to the theatre again."



#### **Share your story**

If you would like to share a successful, completed **Forgotten Forty initiative** from your school and see it in the next edition of the magazine, please email Sue Briggs-Harris at briggsharris@live.co.uk or email your INEOS contact.







## School offers fresh ideas to parents

**DUNN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL** Jarrow, Tyne & Wear

'What children love above all else are adventures on their own doorstep' - headteacher CHRIS MACKLEY EWILDERWOOD is a huge, award-winning forest of family fun with treehouses, zip wires, jungle bridges, boat trips and marsh walks.

But for many families on low incomes, it's out of reach.

Alton Towers theme park is also hideously expensive for poorer families with a ticket for four costing almost £200.

Schools involved in the Forgotten 40 initiative know that their pupils are missing out on days out to such places that many middle class children take for granted. But schools also know that there are places

on their own doorsteps that are free to visit. "We just need to encourage families to get out there," said Chris Mackley, headteacher of Dunn Street Primary School in Jarrow, Tyne

"Because once they do, parents will realise there is so much they could be doing with their children at weekends and during the holidays without it costing too much money."

The school recently used Forgotten 40 funding to launch Fresh Air Friday.

Every week children are taken on a short excursion – on foot.

So far they have been bird watching at the River Don, strolled through the historic Tyne Tunnel, visited Charlie's Park and the Viking Shopping Centre and explored Jarrow Hall, an Anglo Saxon farm and village.

"All of the locations are within 5 to 15 minutes' walk away from their homes," said Chris.

"But one parent said she didn't even know Jarrow Hall existed, despite living there for 20 years."

For what Chris has discovered is that sometimes it is not just money stopping families from exploring their locality.

"It's a shortage of ideas, inspiration and motivation," he said.

His hope is that families will revisit the places their children have visited with their teachers.

"Parents will then not only understand that most of what we do with the children doesn't cost any money, but that it doesn't matter to the children," he said. "What they love is adventures on their doorstep." Research has shown that spending more time outdoors – closer to nature – can help to ease anxiety and depression.

"Families sometimes just aren't aware of the 'fun' that can be had by being outside and that there is a direct link to mental health and well-being," said Chris.

Although Fresh Air Friday is aimed at pupils in reception and years 1 and 2, all adventures are posted on the school's website to inspire the parents of older children.

"The staff enjoy the trips out as much as the children because it is so rewarding to see them learning from these experiences," he said. "And the trips are always linked to what the children are being taught in the classroom."



#### **THE FORGOTTEN 40 TEAM**



Former headteacher Elaine Wyllie founded The Daily Mile for which she won a Pride of Britain award in 2016.



John Wyllie spent 32 years working in Scottish secondary schools. He is now a trustee of The Daily Mile.



Brian Padgett worked as a teacher and headteacher in Salford and Cumbria from 1974-1995 and was then an HMI with Ofsted for 15 years.



Former headteacher Sheila Loughlin spent 10 years working as a schools' inspector with Ofsted.



Elaine Crotty spent 27 years in teaching, and later specialised in early years education.

### Directory of Forgotten 40 headteachers

You are all part of this wonderful project because you all face similar challenges.

We hope you will not only draw inspiration from each other, but also comfort, knowing that you are not alone.

#### **CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

#### Winyates Primary School

Peterborough, Cambridgeshire Headteacher Collette Firth cfirth@stjohnschurchschool.net

#### CHESHIRE

#### **Arundale Primary School**

Hyde, Cheshire Headteacher Peter Hartley peter.hartley@arundale.tameside.sch.uk

#### Bridge Hall Primary School

Stockport, Cheshire Headteacher Alexandra Jamieson alexandra.jamieson@bridgehall.stockport. sch.uk

#### St Thomas CE Primary School

Stockport, Cheshire Headteacher Paul Sanchez headteacher@st-thomas.stockport.sch.uk

#### Meadowbank Primary School

Cheadle, Stockport
Headteacher Nicola Hill
headteacher@admin.meadowbank.wigan.
sch.uk

#### Murdishaw West Community Primary School

Runcorn, Cheshire Headteacher Vanessa Edwards head.murdishawwest@haltonlearning.net

#### Halton Lodge Primary School

Runcorn, Cheshire Headteacher Anthony Hilldrup head@haltonlodgeps.org.uk

#### **Gorsewood Primary School**

Runcorn, Cheshire Headteacher Emma Jackson head.gorsewood@haltonlearning.net

#### St Gerards Catholic Primary & Nursery School

Widnes, Cheshire Headteacher Karl Landrum head@stgerards.halton.sch.uk

#### **Brook Acre Community Primary School** Padgate, Warrington, Cheshire

forgotten 40 INEOS

Headteacher Jo Holmes brookacre\_primary\_head@sch.warrington. gov.uk

#### **COUNTY DURHAM**

#### **Tilery Primary School**

Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham Headteacher Judy Stanyard judy.stanyard@tileryprimary.org.uk

#### St John the Baptist CE Primary School

Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham Headteacher Kerry Coe kerry.coe@jtbprimary.org

#### Mill Lane Primary School

Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham Headteacher Sue Skillcorn sue.skillcorn@milllane.org.uk

#### Red Hall Primary School

Darlington, County Durham Headteacher Julie Davidson headteacher@redhall.darlington.sch.uk

#### Ward Jackson CE Primary School

Hartlepool, County Durham Headteacher David Akers headteacher@wardjacksonschool.org.uk

#### Rift House Primary School

Hartlepool, County Durham Headteacher David Turner headteacher@rifthouseschool.org.uk

#### Seascape Primary School

Peterlee, County Durham Headteacher Emma Rowntree e.rowntree200@seascapeps.co.uk

#### **Woodhouse Community Primary School**

Bishop Auckland, County Durham Interim headteacher Karen Edmenson kedmenson@hemlingtonhallacademy.co.uk

#### **Prince Bishops Community Primary School**Bishop Auckland, County Durham

Headteacher Lynn George
I.george100@princebishops.org.uk

#### Ormsgill Nursery & Primary School

Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria Headteacher Mick Cull Head@ormsgill.cumbria.sch.uk

#### St George's CE Primary School

Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria Headteacher Steve Herbert headteacher@stgeorges.cumbria.sch.uk

#### **Montreal Primary School**

Cleator Moor, Cumbria Shared acting heads S Little & L Freestone head@montreal.cumbria.sch.uk

#### **EAST ANGLIA**

#### St George's Primary & Nursery School

Norfolk, East Anglia Headteacher Sharron Mitchell head@stgeorgesprimary.norfolk.sch.uk

#### **EAST YORKSHIRE**

#### **New Pasture Lane Primary School**

Bridlington, East Yorkshire Headteacher Alison Tadman newpasture.head@eastriding.gov.uk

#### **ESSEX**

#### Sir Martin Frobisher Primary School

Clacton-on-Sea, Essex Headteacher Debbie Conroy head.teacher@smfa.org.uk

#### **GREATER MANCHESTER**

#### **St Georges CE Primary School** Salford, Greater Manchester

Headteacher Jane Tyers jane.tyers@salford.gov.uk

#### St Clement's CE Primary School

Manchester Headteacher Jane Parker head@st-clements.manchester.sch.uk

#### Saviour CE Primary School

Collyhurst, Manchester Headteacher Eileen Anderson head@saviour.manchester.sch.uk

#### St Patrick's RC Primary School

Collyhurst, Manchester Headteacher Anne Clinton head@st-edmunds.manchester.sch.uk

#### St Augustine's Primary School

Manchester Headteacher Razia Shah head@st-augustines.manchester.sch.uk

#### St Malachy's Primary School

Manchester Headteacher Janine Parker head@st-malachys.manchester.sch.uk

#### St Edmund's RC Primary School

Miles Platting, Manchester Headteacher Anne Clinton head@st-edmunds.manchester.sch.uk

#### St Catharine's CE Primary School

Wigan, Greater Manchester

Headteacher Mrs Sue Pittendreigh headteacher@admin.saintcatharines.wigan.sch.uk

#### **HAMPSHIRE**

#### Mason Moor Primary School

Southampton, Hampshire Headteacher Daniel Constable Phelps head@masonmoorprimary.co.uk

#### **ISLE OF WIGHT**

#### **Barton Primary School**

Newport, Isle of Wight Headteacher Mark Snow mark.snow@bartonpri.iow.sch.uk

#### KENT

#### Lawn Primary School

Gravesend, Kent Headteacher Angela Wilson headteacher@lawnprimary.co.uk

#### **LANCASHIRE**

#### **Preston Grange Primary School**

Preston, Lancashire Headteacher Cheryl Taylor head@grange.lancs.sch.uk

#### St Martin's CE Primary School

Oldham, Lancashire Headteacher Helen Woodward h.woodward@st-martins.oldham.sch.uk

#### St Thomas Moorside CE Primary School

Oldham, Lancashire Headteacher Adam Laskey ajlaskey@st-thomas-moorside.oldham.sch. uk

#### **Beever Primary School**

Oldham, Lancashire Headteacher Greg Oates g.oates@beever.oldham.sch.uk

#### West End Primary School

Morecambe, Lancashire Headteacher Sharon Cliff head@westend.lancs.sch.uk

#### Castle Hill Primary School

Bolton, Lancashire Headteacher Andrew Renwick arenwick@castle-hill.bolton.sch.uk

#### Johnson Fold Comm Primary School

Bolton, Lancashire Headteacher Becky Crossley crossleyB@johnsonfold.bolton.sch.uk

#### Hillside Primary School

Skelmersdale, Lancashire Headteacher Angela Aspinwall-Livesey head@hillside-pri.lancs.sch.uk

#### **Kincraig Primary School**

Bispham, Blackpool, Lancashire Headteacher Karen Appleby karen.appleby@kincraig.blackpool.sch.uk

#### St John's CE Primary School

Blackpool, Lancashire Headteacher Nadine Galloway nadine.galloway@st-john.blackpool.sch.uk

#### St Peter's CE Primary School

Burnley, Lancashire Headteacher Claire Crowther head@st-peters-burnley.lancs.sch.uk

#### LINCOLNSHIRE

#### St George's CE Primary School

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire Headteacher Katie Barry Katie.barry@gainsborough-st-georges.lincs. sch.uk

#### **Charles Baines Primary School**

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire Headteacher Louise Simmons Isimmons@charles-baines.lincs.sch.uk

#### LONDON

#### **Cubitt Town Primary School**

London Headteacher Robyn Bruce rbruce6.211@lgflmail.org

#### **MERSEYSIDE**

#### St Finbar's Catholic Primary School

Liverpool, Merseyside Headteacher Jan Conley finbars-ht@st-finbars.liverpool.sch.uk

#### Ranworth Square Primary School

Liverpool, Merseyside Headteacher Robert Saunders ranworth-ht@ranworthsquare.liverpool.sch. uk

#### Windsor Community Primary School

Liverpool, Merseyside Headteacher Fiona Pickering f.pickering@windsor.liverpool.sch.uk

#### **Holy Family Catholic Primary School**

Liverpool, Merseyside Headteacher Rachel Davidson r.davidson@holyfamily.liverpool.sch.uk

#### St Mary & St Paul's CE Primary School

Knowsley, Merseyside Headteacher Iain Parks iain.parks@stmaryandstpauls.org.uk

#### Roby Park Primary School

Huyton, Merseyside Headteacher Kathryn Allen kathrynallen@robyparkprimary.co.uk

#### **Eastcroft Park Primary School**

Kirkby, Liverpool Headteacher Julie Withey julie.withey@knowsley.gov.uk

#### Merton Bank Primary School

St Helens, Merseyside Headteacher Melanie Clark Melanie.Clark@sthelens.org.uk

#### **Lander Road Primary School**

Bootle, Liverpool Headteacher Jeff Taylor head.landerroad@schools.sefton.gov.uk

#### **Thomas Gray Primary School**

Bootle, Liverpool Headteacher Rachael Rimmer head@thomasgrayprimary.co.uk

#### Linacre Primary School

Bootle, Liverpool Headteacher Elizabeth Gunnion head.linacre@schools.sefton.gov.uk

#### Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School

Bootle, Liverpool Headteacher Maria Richardson head@ourladyqueenofpeaceprimary.co.uk

#### **NORTHERN IRELAND**

#### St Joseph's Primary School

Belfast, Northern Ireland Headteacher Mairead Weir mweir424@stjosephsslatestreet.belfast. ni.sch.uk

#### Black Mountain Primary School

Belfast, Northern Ireland Headteacher Jill Black jblack282@blackmountain.belfast.ni.sch.uk

#### **NORTHUMBERLAND**

#### New Delaval Primary School

Blyth, Northumberland Headteacher Deborah Worral deborah.worrall@newdelaval.northumberland.sch.uk

#### **NORTH YORKSHIRE**

#### South Bank Community Primary School

Middlesbrough, North Yorkshire
Headteacher Tammy Cooper
Tammy.Cooper@southbankprimary.co.uk

#### SCOTLAND

#### Dens Road Primary School

Dundee, Scotland Headteacher Anne-Marie Wyse amcgregor908@dundeeschools.scot

#### St Mary's Primary School

Glasgow, Scotland Headteacher Madeline McGeachie headteacher@st-marys-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

#### St Clare's Primary School

Glasgow, Scotland Headteacher Mary-Ann McGuinness headteacher@st-claresdrumchapel-pri. glasgow.uk

#### **Blackfriars Primary School**

Glasgow, Scotland Headteacher Shona Henderson headteacher@blackfriars-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

#### Oakwood Primary School

Glasgow, Scotland Headteacher Vanessa Thomson headteacher@oakwood-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

#### SOUTH YORKSHIRE

#### Long Toft Primary School

Doncaster, South Yorkshire Headteacher Alison Buxton head@longtoftschool.co.uk

#### **Toll Bar Primary School**

Doncaster, South Yorkshire Headteacher Stephen Bower head@tollbar.doncaster.sch.uk

#### Netherthorpe Primary School

Sheffield, South Yorkshire Headteacher Elizabeth Gray headteacher@netherthorpe.sheffield.sch.uk

#### THE WIRRAL

#### Leasowe Primary School

The Wirral
Headteacher Claire Hill
headteacher@leasowe.wirral.sch.uk

#### **Riverside Primary School**

Seacombe, The Wirral Headteacher Christina Lahive headteacher@riverside.wirral.sch.uk

#### The Priory Parish Primary School

Birkenhead, The Wirral Headteacher Greg Edwards headteacher@thepriory.wirral.sch.uk

#### Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Birkenhead, The Wirral Headteacher Clare Higgins headteacher@holycross.wirral.sch.uk

#### Christ Church CE Primary School

Birkenhead, The Wirral Headteacher Nicky Tweddle headteacher@christchurch-birkenhead. wirral.sch.uk

#### Well Lane Primary School

Birkenhead, The Wirral Headteacher Eleanor Daniels headteacher@well-lane.wirral.sch.uk

#### Cathcart Street Primary School

Birkenhead, The Wirral
Headteacher Lindsay Smith
headteacher@cathcartstreet.wirral.sch.uk

#### TYNE AND WEAR

#### Falla Park Community Primary School

Gateshead, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Vanessa Carr vanessacarr@gateshead.gov.uk

#### Bede Community Primary School

Gateshead, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Nick Anderson NicholasAnderson@Gateshead.Gov.UK

#### St John's Primary School

Newcastle Upon Tyne Headteacher Tracey Caffrey Tracey.Caffrey@stjohns.newcastle.sch.uk

#### **Hawthorn Primary School**

Newcastle Upon Tyne Headteacher Jane Dube jane.dube@hawthorn.newcastle.sch.uk

#### Lemington Riverside Primary School

Newcastle Upon Tyne Headteacher Craig Heeley craig.heeley@lemingtonriverside.newcastle. sch.uk

#### Percy Main Primary School

North Shields, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Kathryn Thompson kathryn.thompson@ntlp.org.uk

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#### Waterville Primary School

North Shields, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Mark Nugent mark.nugent@watervilleprimary.org.uk

#### Stanhope Primary School

South Shields, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Lesley Martin Imartin@stanhopeprimary.com

#### Laygate Community Primary School

South Shields, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Michelle Lauder mlauder@laygate.s-tyneside.sch.uk

#### **Dunn Street Primary School**

Jarrow, Tyneside Headteacher Alison Burden aburden@marinepark.s-tyneside.sch.uk

#### Willow Wood Community Primary School

Sunderland, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Lindsay Robertson lindsay.robertson@wwprimary.org.uk

#### Marlborough Primary School

Sunderland, Tyne and Wear Headteacher Wendy Buddle wendy.buddle@marlboroughprimaryschool.

#### WALES

#### Penrhys Primary School

Ferndale, Wales Headteacher Andrew Williams andrew.williams@penrhysprimary.rctcbc.

#### Maerdy Community Primary School

Ferndale, Wales
Headteacher Helen Gregory
Helen.Gregory@maerdyprimary.rctcbc.cymru

#### Tylorstown Primary School

Ferndale, Wales
Headteacher Karen Tuck
Karen.Tuck@tylorstownprimary.rctcbc.cymru

#### WEST MIDLANDS

#### St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Birmingham, West Midlands Headteacher Janet Tibbits i.tibbits@stvincnt.bham.sch.uk

#### WEST YORKSHIRE

#### **Parklands Primary School**

Leeds, West Yorkshire Headteacher Laura Darley I.darley@parklandsleeds.org.uk

#### **Grimes Dyke Primary School**

Leeds, West Yorkshire Headteacher Louise Hill louise.hill@grimesdyke.leeds.sch.uk

#### Dean Bank Primary & Nursery School Durham

Headteacher Pauline Northcott p.northcott201@deanbank.durham.sch.uk

For more details and ideas to help your school, please visit the Forgotten 40 website www.ineosforgotten40.com



### Join the movement



### What is The Daily Mile?

The Daily Mile was first developed by Elaine Wyllie MBE when she was Headteacher of St Ninian's Primary School in Stirling, in 2012.

The aim of The Daily Mile is to improve the physical, social, emotional and mental health, and wellbeing of our children - regardless of age, ability or personal circumstances. Children are encouraged to run, jog, wheel or walk outside for 15-minutes every day, at whatever pace suits the child best.

17,000 Schools & Early Years Settings | 4 Million Children | 90 Countries

#### Features & Benefits of The Daily Mile





Quick - 15 minutes



Benefits Children





**Increases Fitness** 



Free, Fun & Social



**Boosts Mental Health** 





No Equipment



**Builds Relationships** Improves Concentration

#### World Daily Mile Day -Thursday 27th April, 2023



The Daily Mile, supported by INEOS, will be celebrating World Daily Mile Day on Thursday 27th April. We want as many primary schools and early years settings around the world to get moving on the same day to celebrate all the positive benefits that daily activity has on physical and mental health. Every signed-up school/early years setting will receive a free, downloadable pack containing fun & exciting resources and lots more to help you celebrate with us.

Sign up today & join thousands around the world taking part. www.thedailymileevents.com/world-daily-mile-day-registration/

#### Find out more at thedailymile.co.uk or scan the QR code





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