TRUST UPDATE #9

Partial School Opening/Closure

Tuesday 26 May, 2020









Wath Academy

Malłby Redwood Academy

Sir Thomas Wharton





WATH ACADEMY students have answered an incredible 33,461 questions of Hegarty Maths this week, placing them in the top 5% of all schools, with an 84% success rate!

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Further to our communication in last week's update, and the continuing coverage and speculation in the media about increasing the number of children in schools from 1 June, we thought it useful to reiterate our current position.

We would like to reassure you that the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and their families will always be our priority. We are currently working through a comprehensive risk assessment process to establish the safest and most appropriate way in which we can respond to the latest government guidance and start to widen the provision in our schools. This includes planning and implementing the necessary adaptations to our school environments and ordering the appropriate hygiene resources required to keep everyone safe on site.

The government will make a final decision on Friday 28th May 2020, on whether schools are safe to open next month.

This means that we will not be opening for any children beyond those currently eligible for the key worker or vulnerable provision during the week beginning Monday 1st June 2020.

When we increase the numbers of students in our schools we will provide a safety-first environment and all children and adults will be expected to follow the social distancing guidance. There will be marked out spaces, gaps between desks, one-way systems and a routine of frequent hand washing. Anything that can be touched will have to be frequently cleaned - light switches, books, tables, chairs, bannisters. Our schools may look and feel a little different through this period but we are clear that this necessary to keep everyone safe.

Over the page we have outlined the early planning for the wider opening of our schools next half term. We will provide more details around our planning in both the primary and secondary phases after the half term break.

In the meantime, please keep safe and well.

David Sutton



PRIMARY PHASE PLANNING

In planning for the wider opening next half term, leaders are facing a number of key challenges that we would like to share with you today.

The government announced that to keep children and teachers safe there should be no more than 15 pupils per class – so in effect, every class of 30 would have to be spread over two classrooms with two teachers. In reality, if children are to work within the 2 metres social distancing guidance every primary class would need to be divided into groups of 6/8 children and then require four classrooms and four teachers to operate safely. This might work for the phased return of the first few year groups but would not accommodate all primary year groups before the end of term.

Therefore, when planning to increase provision in our primary schools, the pressure is clearly on teaching space and will mean that schools are likely to need rota systems, such as different classes attending on different days of the week. This may well raise childcare questions for parents, if they have to work around part-time school timetables.

The priority year groups will be Foundation Stage 2 and Year 1, followed by Year 6 and Nursery. It is anticipated that when our schools do open to priority year groups the children will divided into two cohorts, with one cohort attending at the start of the week and the other in the latter part of the week. When children are not in the academy they will continue to be supported with online and home learning.

SECONDARY PHASE PLANNING

While there are currently no plans to open secondary schools broader this term, students in Year 10 and 12 will have some face to face contact with teachers next half term given that they face major exams in summer 2021. The government guidance makes it clear that, "This will not be a return to full timetables or students back in school or college full time, rather some support to supplement students 'remote education''.

Leaders are currently examining what this will look like in terms of face to face contact. We are keen to take the opportunity to see the young people for a number of specific purposes; including the provision of some pastoral care and support, help with any barriers to learning and delivery of 'live' online teaching. We understand that many of our young people will be missing the specialist input and face to face support from their subject teachers and we feel it important to try and bridge this gap in some way before the summer. Wherever possible the intention will be to deliver this support remotely but recognise that in certain instances some provision may be required for students in school, particularly for those without access to the online learning provided.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."

Aristotle Greek Philosopher



MAY HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS - MONDAY 25 MAY - FRIDAY 29 MAY 2020

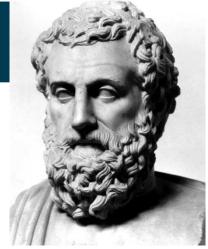
Just a reminder that over May half-term we will be scaling back our operations in terms of setting work for students over this period. Hopefully, the children will enjoy some time relaxing with their families and benefit from a well-deserved rest.

Whilst we will not be setting any work for home learning, we will continue to offer onsite provision for children of key workers and those students considered vulnerable.

In addition, The Trust has committed to providing free school meal vouchers over the May Half Term for those families eligible.

PARTIAL OPENING – STUDENT NUMBERS ATTENDING ACROSS THE TRUST 18 MAY – 22 MAY 2020

SIR THOMAS MALTBY RAVENFIELD MALTBY MALTBY WATH MALTBY LILLY HALL MANOR WHARTON PRIMARY REDWOOD ACADEMY ACADEMY ACADEMY ACADEMY ACADEMY ACADEMY ACADEMY 12 15 8 12 18 11 MONDAY 4 13 5 11 18 9 10 **TUESDAY** 14 7 12 22 12 11 14 **WEDNESDAY** 6 7 15 15 19 12 10 THURSDAY 6 12 11 13 8 16 11 FRIDAY 6



An amazing 74% of **MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY** students have been engaging on Purple Mash this week!

WHAT IS A MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST?

A 'multi-academy trust' (MAT) is a group of schools working in partnership with each other, often but not always because they are geographically close to one another. Where a trust has both primary and secondary schools, it can be because those primary schools are the 'feeder' schools for the secondary schools in the trust. Some multi-academy trusts can have 30 or 40 schools, some will be a much smaller group of perhaps half a dozen.

Evidence shows that the strong collaboration with shared accountability offered by MAT membership leads to better academic and other key outcomes for pupils and helps schools meet the ever-rising external expectations.

THE BENEFITS OF BEING PART OF A MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST:

Stronger Leadership: School leaders and teachers can combine their knowledge and planning abilities to work on challenges and solutions together.

Strategic Management: Governors and trustees can draw on each other's experience to formulate strategic approaches.

Shared Staffing: Human resources within schools can work across multiple sites, particularly in a localised Trust. This can appease the recruitment challenges facing the teaching industry and offer more varied opportunities to staff.

Specialist Resources: With combined funding in a Trust, specialist knowledge can be bought in many different areas, spanning academic, extra-curricular and operational functions.

Professional Development: This can be organised across multiple schools, thus spreading the cost per school and upskilling as many individuals as possible per session.

Economies of Scale: A Trust is able to purchase as a whole, thereby achieving economies of scale not achievable by schools as individuals. With ever tightening budgets, this can help schools maintain and build upon the resources and standards they aspire to.

Shared Accountability: As a Trust represents multiple schools, it is in its interest to raise the profile of each, in line with rising expectations.

EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE WITHIN MALTBY LEARNING TRUST

The purpose of governance is to provide confident and strong strategic leadership which leads to robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance.

Three Core Functions:

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; holding Executive Leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

GOVERNANCE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governance structure consists of three levels; the Members, the Board of Trustees and the Local Governance Committees within each Academy.

MEMBERS

"Operate at a strategic level with ultimate control over the direction of the Trust"

The functions of the members include: Overseeing the achievement of the objectives of the Trust; Taking part in annual and extraordinary general meetings; Appointing and removing Trustees; Power to amend the Articles of Association – subject to approval by the DfE.

NB: Overall, Members have much more limited practical involvement in the management of the Trust than the Trustees.

TRUSTEES (TRUST BOARD)

"Responsibility for the day to day management and operation of the Trust on behalf of the members"

The key responsibilities of the Trustees are to: Sign off the Company's financial accounts and annual report; Ensure the quality of educational provision; Challenge and monitor the performance of the Trust; Manage the Trust's finances and property; Operate the Trust and its Academies in accordance with the funding agreement that has been signed with the Secretary of State.

GOVERNORS (LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE)

"In each Academy, the Governors are part of the leadership of the Academy"

The role of the Governors is to: Act as advisory bodies to the Trust Board; Ensure that the Academy is being run effectively; Hold the Academy to account; Develop their own partnerships and collaborations.

MLT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The MLT Board currently consists of nine Trustees covering a broad range of skills and experiences including: finance, human resources, compliance, education, legal, business development and innovation.

For more information about the Maltby Learning Trust Board, please visit the website at www.maltbylearningtrust.com.



MEET THE MALTBY LEARNING TRUST TEAM



Year 6 Teacher MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY

1. Who inspires you?

I love sports, so I'm inspired by anyone that has overcome adversity and challenged themselves to achieve when the circumstances weren't favourable. There are so many great individuals and teams that have motivated me over the years that I couldn't pick one. In terms teaching, I going to say Maltby Comprehensive's Mr Moss: he was legendary for those of my generation. He continually spoke about pushing yourself, accepting challenge, persevering even when quitting was easier, showing loyalty to the school and team as fellowship was crucial to success, being grateful for what others did for you, and that winning was only worth it if done with the right attitude.

2. What was the best concert you ever attended?

That's a tricky one as I love live music and have been lucky enough to attend some amazing gigs but I'm going to opt for the Foo Fighters at the Milton Keynes Bowl in July, 2011. The weather was glorious and Dave Grohl's banter with the crowd was fantastic. The Foos played for almost three hours that night and it felt like the band didn't want it to end. As an added bonus, Biffy Clyro were the support act – perfect.

3. Where's your favourite place in the world?

Am I allowed two? The north-east has a special place in by heart. My grandparents lived there so childhood holidays would be spent visiting and exploring the many wonders of Northumberland. The stretch of beach between Seahouses and Bamburgh is the most the magical place to amble along and sunsets above the castle are breathtaking. Other than that, anywhere with fresh snow.

4. What's the last book you read?

I read for work all the time but the last book I read of my own choosing was Raising Steam by Terry Prachett – the Discworld novels are fantastic. However, all I seem to read are Covid updates at the moment!

5. What are some of your pet peeves?

Sometimes the government plans seem to be formulated by people that don't have experience of working in a school setting. I'll climb down from my soapbox now.

6.What's your favourite meal and which four people would you choose to eat it with?

Chinese food – it doesn't matter what, I could eat it every day. I know it's corny, but I'd choose to share it with my family. Both my grandads had such adventure-filled lives that I would love to hear their stories first-hand instead of from other members of the family and be able to question them on their exploits. The other two places would go to my children, so they fully appreciated the qualities of their great-grandfathers: endeavour, determination, resilience, creativity, and humility - true role models rather than pampered footballers and social media influencers.

7. What's your favourite family tradition?

When my daughter lost her first tooth, we thought it would be a great idea if she received not only a very shiny coin, but also a handwritten letter on tiny pink paper explaining how wonderfully clean the tooth was and that an excellent teeth cleaning routine needed to be maintained to keep receiving future payments. This seemed a cute thing to do and all was well until one evening I was faced with a tooth fairy emergency – alone with the kids and a little girl expecting her coin and letter but no shiny coins or pink paper to be found anywhere in the house! Hours of anguish and many desperate phone calls later, a solution was found. My opinion of family traditions has not been favourable since.

8. During this period of lockdown, what are you missing about daily life?

I miss my usual Sunday routine. The family gather to savour a mouth-watering Sunday roast prepared by my dad and afterwards spend time together playing traditional games. However, I do not miss being beaten at Monopoly by my kids - I'm not a good loser.

9. What are you enjoying doing during lockdown?

My answer is going to paint me as a hypocrite to my children and pupils as I've spent years eulogizing the benefits of getting outside and engaging in real activities rather than digital ones, but I've thoroughly enjoyed being able to waste a few mindless evenings gaming; my FIFA skills are definitely less rusty now







MEET THE MALTBY LEARNING TRUST TEAM



MR DOBSON

Teacher of Music SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY

1. Who inspires you?

For the last 6 years I've been an active supporter of The Bambisanani Partnership, a partnership that uses sport as a major catalyst to develop international understanding, education, health and leadership in rural South Africa. The last two years I was lucky enough to lead the annual visit, to a region called KwaZulu-Natal, and work with an incredible group of young people. Seeing the incredible challenges that families go through each day, the resilience they show to overcome them, was awe-inspiring. The young people in both South Africa and here within our own communities inspire me with their determination and resilience to overcome their own daily challenges.

2. What was the best concert you ever attended?

I've been lucky enough to see some wonderful musicians both at arenas, stadiums, working men's clubs, weddings, all over. However, I do have a guilty pleasure. Aged 16, I was gifted a ticket to go watch McFly during their Motion In The Ocean Tour. I wasn't a fan, but I went along anyway. Wow. They blew me away. It was clear how much fun and enjoyment they were having playing their music to others. That's what music is all about, regardless of genre. Fun. I've now lost count the amount of times I've seen them!

3. What's your favourite family tradition?

Christmas Day. My family don't all live near each other, some are in different countries, but we all have dinner at my Uncle's house. One of my favourite traditions is our predinner ritual. At 12:30pm, all the males in the family will meet at the local Working Men's Club and all the ladies will meet at the house to enjoy a celebratory drink together. I'll openly admit it seems a bit 'old school' and outdated, everyone is welcome wherever they wish, but it's just become a bit of a tradition. It's a memory I have for as long as I can remember and however this tradition develops, I will always love it just the same.

4. What's the last book you read?

I'm a big fantasy fan when it comes to reading. I love a book that allows my imagination to run wild. I'm currently working my way through George RR Martin's 'Game of Thrones' prequel, Fire And Blood. It's a hefty one though, so it certainly feels like I've finished reading three books and I'm only half way through!

5. What's your favourite movie?

Easy. The Lion King. I am a self-proclaimed Disney geek, and there's no film that will top The Lion King for me. Enough said.

6.What's your favourite meal and which four people would you choose to eat it with?

Chicken in OK Sauce with Egg Fried Rice. But is has to be from the Double Dragon takeaway in Castleford. No other Chinese makes it like this place. I don't know why, and I don't really know which is the correct way, but wow. It's so tasty! I couldn't possibly choose just four of my family and friends, so let's go for a dream dinner party instead. I'd like to eat it with Nelson Mandela, Walt Disney, JK Rowling and The Queen. What a dinner party!

7. Where's your favourite place in the world?

My best friend and I have a birthday 2-days apart. For our 21st birthday we'd agreed we were going to go to Las Vegas, so that's what we did. We flew out the day after my birthday. I know it's not for everyone, typically I would choose a beautiful landscape over huge buildings, but the memories we made celebrating our birthday together leaves this place as one of my favourite places in the world.

8. During this period of lockdown, what are you missing about daily life?

A few things really. Being able to go see my Grandad whenever I wish. Monday night dinner at my mums with my brother, twin nieces and nephew. To be able to meet my friends. Taking my dog to the beach. Playing and watching live music. I think this period has been difficult for everyone, all in very different ways, but I can see the light at the end of the tunnel. It's a difficult period that is worthwhile to the health and safety of us all.

9. What are you enjoying doing during lockdown?

I've started the lockdown period with two challenges. To improve my Spanish and to get out cycling more regularly. So far, I've managed to maintain my streak on Duolingo and last weekend I rode my first 40km ride. I'm pleased about both of those personal achievements and aim to continue this as things progress.

Most importantly though, just last week, my partner and I welcomed in to the world our beautiful little girl, Polly. I'm so grateful that I'm able to spend all these full days at home with her. She seems to love a cuddle and so do I, so everyone's a winner.







SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH – PEACE OF MIND

Having 'peace of mind' is a state of mental and emotional calmness which enables us to appreciate the world around us, enjoy life in the moment, be kind to others and to feel happy. Peace of mind enables us to get absorbed in different activities and release our 'creative genius.' When life feels uncertain, it is easy to start worrying excessively and to experience feelings of stress and panic. While small amounts of stress can be helpful in terms of feeling motivated, high levels of stress impact negatively on both our mental and physical health. Stress can stop us from getting a good night's sleep, make us irritable and tearful and can also cause physical complaints such as headaches, upset stomachs and bodily pain. Click here for more information about how to understand stress, or click here for advice on managing stress. Or you might find some of the tips on this page helpful.

SELF-CARE

When we are feeling stressed, it is usually helpful to talk to someone rather than 'bottle it up'. However, other activities can be just as therapeutic. Try out this 'music for wellbeing' playlist. You might find this 'Wellbeing Workout' helpful. You could look for a new activity or hobby to take up with your child.

RELAXATION

When our minds are overworked and we are feeling stressed, then our bodies will also feel tense. The relationship between mind and body is a 'symbiotic' one; how each feels influences the other. For help recognising signs of stress and ideas for relaxation, click here. You could try these 8 tips for relaxation, or simply enjoy a mindful moment.

POSITIVE THINKING

When we are stressed, our heads are more likely to be filled with unhelpful thoughts. By striving to look on the bright side and counting our blessings, we encourage positive thinking which is contagious; it improves both our own mood and that of others. Try out this 'character building' calendar. Or download the 'Catch it' app, or maybe watch this video with your child to understand that everyone has different strengths.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

It's important to look after our bodies as well as our minds; feeling stressed impacts on our physical wellbeing and can mean we neglect a healthy lifestyles. For ideas on getting moving, click here. Or download an app for easy meals. For more information, click here.





AND DEVEOPING CHARACTER

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All students eligible for 'Free School Meals' across the Trust will be provided with e-vouchers that can be redeemed for food in many of the local supermarkets, including: Asda, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Aldi.

The e-voucher codes will be emailed to eligible families from Wednesday each week. If the school does not have a current email address for a family, the appropriate gift cards will be posted out. Please allow 3 days for delivery.

> 84% of children at **RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY** have been completing activities on Purple Mash this week, with an amazing 94% of Year 3 students accessing the online learning.

> > **MALTBY**LEARNINGTRUST

DO YOU QUALIFY?

DO YOU RECEIVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

- ·Income support
- · Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- ·Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- · Guaranteed Pension Credit
- \cdot Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by Inland Revenue is) is less than £16,190
- ·Universal Credit
- ·Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- $\cdot\, \text{Working}$ in the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime – they will receive a free school meal. This can save you more than £350 a year and allow the school to get additional funding to support your child's learning. (£1,345 per primary-aged pupil. £955 per secondary-aged pupil per year). Please remember you must qualify and register for the free school meals for the school to receive the extra money even if you do not want your child to have the free school meals.

Registering for free school meals is confidential, no one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

TO APPLY ONLINE: Rotherham Families: <u>Click Here</u> Doncaster Families: <u>Click Here</u> or pick up an application form from any MLT Academy.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND HELP PREVENT INFECTION

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The single, most important action you can all take is to **PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING** - this will prevent you being exposed to, and reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.



You should **STAY AT HOME** to reduce your day-to-day contact with other people and reduce the spread of the infection.

You should only leave the house for necessary food shopping, one form of exercise a day, any medical need or for travelling for work purposes, but only where you cannot work from home.

WASH YOUR HANDS often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.



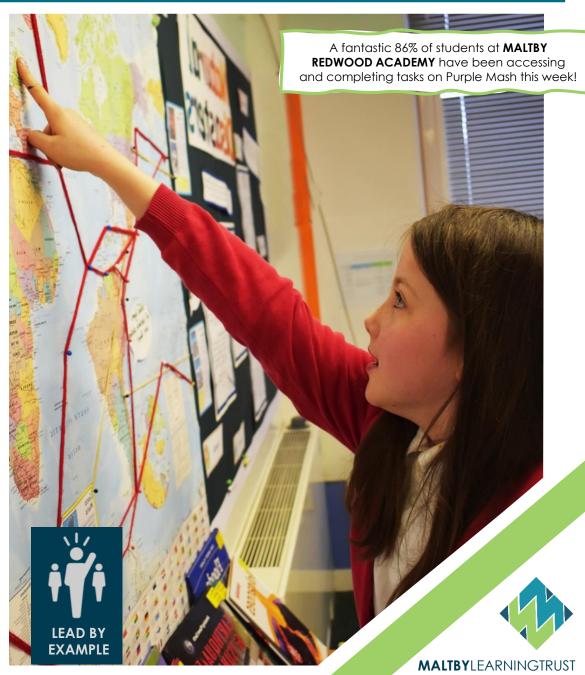
Put distance between yourself and other people. Try to stay 2 metres away from people **AT ALL TIMES**. This includes your friends and family – keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet and social media.

For further information about how to protect yourself and others, <u>click here</u>.

For information about the closure of schools and other educational settings following the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19), <u>click here</u>.

For information about Maltby Learning Trust and what we are doing to keep our staff and students safe, <u>click here</u>.

For more information about social distancing and how to protect vulnerable people, click here.



SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

This is an unsettling time for all members of our community but parents/carers may be additionally worried about their child's mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you are concerned about your child, you can receive an initial telephone call to discuss your concerns further, please email your child's Academy, stating 'MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SUPPORT' in the subject line.

If you have any other concerns about your child, please contact the Academy directly using the following e-mail addresses:

WA	enquiries@wathacademy.com pastoralteam@wathacademy.com safeguarding@wathacademy.com
MA	info@maltbyacademy.com ma-PastoralTeam@maltbyacademy.com ma-Safeguarding@maltbyacademy.com
STWA	admin@stwacademy.com safeguarding@stwacademy.com pastoral@stwacademy.com
RPA	info@ravenfieldprimaryacademy.com
MLHA	info@maltbylillyhallacademy.com
MRA	info@maltbyredwood.com
MMA	info@maltbymanoracademy

KEEPING IN TOUCH

It is important to remember that we are all part of the same community and that we find any way we can to stay connected to each other.

We will aim to send out regular communications responding to frequent questions we have received, informing you of any developments that we are made aware of and sharing important updates with you. However; the best way you can stay up to date and in touch with us is by following our Twitter account: @maltbylearning.

We would like for Twitter to become a forum through which parents and colleagues can share updates about how they are spending their time during the school closure period, celebrating any amazing work their children complete, or posting hints, tips and tricks they may have for getting through this time at home.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAG US @MALTBYLEARNING OR USE #MLTCOMMUNITY IN YOUR POST.



MALTBY ACADEMY students answered an average of 42 questions each on Hegarty Maths this week!



Academy

GOOD NEWS



The latest edition of **WATH ACADEMY**'s student newspaper 'The Torch' has been published this week. Many students have contributed to the new edition and Miss Taylor and students have produced a fantastic 20-page publication, read it here: <u>www.wathacademy.com/torch</u>

A huge well done to Mr Singh, Subject Leader for Art at **SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY**, who has raised almost £500 for NHS Charities Together by sketching portraits. If you wish to donate please <u>click here</u>.



Key worker children at **MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY** have been working all week to create a huge woodlands scene featuring all class animals, and a rainbow to commemorate this time. It is a masterpiece!

One of Sheffield Institute of Education trainees has nominated Mr Wilkinson, Subject Leader for Business and ICT at **SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY** for an Inspirational Mentor Award for always being happy to help and providing really strong feedback. All



The weather has been working wonders for the new Green Spaces and outdoor areas at our Primary Academies. The fantastic new Willow Dome at **RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY** has grown to provide the perfect, calm space for the children's return.

nominations will be forwarded to a panel of senior academic colleagues and the winners will be notified in September.

Children in provision at **MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY** have been making a rug for the EYFS Unit this week out of pom poms! We can't wait to see the finished article.

With feedback from parents saying that children at **MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY** are beginning to lose interest in the exercises on Purple Mash, staff will be working tirelessly to collate a bank of exciting tasks and activities for children which will be set on a daily basis after the half-term.



THANK A TEACHER DAY Well done to Megan Parr, Year 10 student at **WATH ACADEMY** whose artwork has been so amazing throughout school closure that she has now been commissioned to do four pieces of work, one of which being the elderly man shown to the left; I think you will join us in saying that it is fantastic.

Teachers across the Trust took part in Thank A Teacher Day this week. Just at **MALTBY ACADEMY** alone, over 200 thank you cards were sent between colleagues. Thank you to Mr Allen, Senior Vice Principal within the Trust for organising.



