



COMPASS

C H R O N I C L E

TERM 3 SPRING 2025

One Child
One Chance



Compass
Federation



From the Executive Head



As we reach the end of the Spring Term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on everything we've achieved here at Compass Federation over the last few months. It's been a busy term full of hard work, progress, and of course, some fun along the way. There's so much to be proud of, and I'm excited to share just a few of the highlights with you.

One of the most notable achievements this term has been the continued success of our pupils. From the youngest in Reception to our older pupils preparing for their transition to secondary school, I've been consistently impressed by their determination, resilience, and enthusiasm. It's always amazing to see our students growing in confidence, and this term has been no different. Whether it's a pupil mastering a new concept in maths or developing their confidence in public speaking, the progress across the Federation has been outstanding.

Our dedicated teaching staff have been key to this success. They've worked tirelessly to ensure every pupil has the support they need to excel, whether through one-on-one interventions, differentiated learning opportunities, or fostering an environment where every child feels valued and included. The level of professionalism and care that our staff show every day truly makes Compass a special place for learning.

In addition to academic success, we've continued to focus on broadening the horizons of our pupils outside the classroom. Our extracurricular programme has been thriving, with pupils getting involved in a range of activities, from sports to drama and music.

It's wonderful to see so many pupils taking part in these opportunities, developing their skills, and building their confidence in a different setting. Our focus on wellbeing has also been a priority this term. We understand that it's not just about academic achievement – it's about the whole child. Our wellbeing initiatives, from mindfulness sessions to peer support groups, have been really well received, and I've seen firsthand how they've had a positive impact on both staff and pupils. It's been heartening to see everyone embracing these opportunities to manage stress and stay balanced.

Two particular highlights have been the Federation Football tournament and Young Voices, which all three schools took part in! It is quite something to see the Compass children coming together and taking part in something and I thank the staff for making these events happen.

Our front cover photo for this edition was taken by Daisy Gradidge from St. Paul's. A wonderful photo of the school Glebe. Huge thanks and well done to all entries which you can see at the back of this Chronicle!

Looking ahead, we're excited for the next steps in our journey. The Governors have been working hard on our strategic plans, and we're exploring some exciting opportunities for growth and collaboration in the near future. We're also looking forward to continuing to build on the work we've done this term, ensuring that Compass remains a place where every pupil feels inspired, supported, and ready for the challenges ahead.

As we head into the half-term break, I want to thank everyone – pupils, staff, and our community – for their ongoing commitment and hard work. It's been a great term, and I'm excited for what the rest of the year holds.

Benjamin Hulme



Year 2 to Kingswood

Many of our Year 2 pupils embarked on their first Compass Federation overnight residential with St Paul's and Dunton Green.

It was an absolute pleasure to take these pupils away and see them shine their lights in areas which we would never see in a normal school day. They took risks and challenged themselves to do things which they thought they couldn't do, from climbing with robes, swinging from great heights and sleeping away from home for the first night. The pupils built relationships with the other pupils from our sister schools and felt safe and confident to ask for help from members of staff from St Paul's and Dunton Green.

From the words of one pupil, "I did it. I overcame my fear of sleeping away from home by using great courage. My friends really helped me."



RSPCA Fundraiser

Our Year 6 Leading Lights hosted our first ever whole school fundraising event for their chosen charity, the RSPCA. This was a fantastic success, with the whole school coming together for a fun and meaningful cause.

The children were invited to dress in spots and stripes, and the result was a wonderfully colourful and lively day. From spotty socks to stripy hats, the creative outfits brought smiles to everyone's faces. The event helped raise awareness about the vital work the RSPCA does to protect and care for animals.

A highlight of the day was the special worship led by the Year 6 Leading Lights team. During the service, they shared fascinating facts about the RSPCA's mission, explaining how the charity rescues, rehabilitates, and rehomes animals in need. The children learned about the importance of animal welfare and the ways in which the RSPCA works tirelessly to give animals a second chance.

The Leading Lights team also spoke about how everyone can play a part, whether through fundraising, spreading awareness, or simply showing kindness to animals.





Equine Therapy

Equine therapy for primary school children helps improve emotional, social, and cognitive skills through interaction with horses.

Activities like grooming, leading, and riding foster empathy, confidence, and self-regulation. The calming presence of horses supports children with anxiety, autism, and behavioral challenges, promoting personal growth in a fun, engaging environment. Pupils at St. Edmund's have thoroughly enjoyed the experience, forming special bonds with the horses while building their confidence and communication skills.





Reception go to Leeds Castle

On a cold but sunny January morning, our youngest pupils set off on a fairy tale adventure to Leeds Castle to learn all about the tale of 'The Swan Princess'.

Arriving at Leeds Castle, they were treated to a ride on Elsie the land train, before exploring the castle and taking part in a drama workshop, reinacting the story of The Swan Princess. They had an incredible time and were such amazing ambassadors for the school. Of course a trip to Leeds Castle is not complete without a chance to play in their fantastic outdoor area which the children all absolutely loved.

It was safe to say that by the time the children got home that night they were all excited to share their tales from the day with their parents and the children (and the adults) were ready for an early night.





Year 2 Residential

For the first time, our Year 2 pupils set off on their first residential trip. There was a lot of excitement and a few nerves as they set off on their adventure.

While away, the children took part in a wide variety of activities, including; Jacob's ladder, Nightline and Archery. They then had a campfire with songs and stories with the rest of the Year 2 pupils from the Compass Federation. The children all showed their core values brilliantly and even managed to get a little bit of sleep. Next term our Year 6 pupils are off on their first of two residential trips and we can't wait to see what they get up to.



Art and DT week

Every term, we have a week where our afternoon learning is dedicated to Art or DT. This gives the children the chance to really understand the creative process and become fully immersed in the learning.

This gives children the opportunity to take part in various projects that combine artistic expression with technical design, enhancing their learning experience beyond the standard curriculum. The school emphasises a broad and balanced curriculum, aiming to instill a lifelong love of learning in its pupils. Events like Art and DT Week are integral to this mission, providing enriching experiences that promote personal and social development alongside academic growth. This term the children have created; leaf bowls, Egyptian Death masks, Greek Pottery and felt purses just to name a few.







Maple to The Tower of London

Maple Class embarked on an unforgettable trip to the Tower of London, bringing their classroom learning to life!

The Yeoman Warders, or Beefeaters, greeted the class with fascinating tales of prisoners, plots and royal secrets. As they wandered the storied grounds, they marvelled at the mighty White Tower, the heart of this historic landmark.

A highlight was seeing the dazzling Crown Jewels. Gasps of awe filled the room as the children glimpsed the sparkling treasures, each with its own incredible story.

Some even imagined wearing such regal gems! The group also ventured into the eerie depths of the Bloody Tower, debating the mysteries of the Princes in the Tower using their historical detective skills.

This trip was more than just a day out—it was a step back in time. By walking in the footsteps of kings, queens, and prisoners, the children deepened their understanding of British history and had the opportunity to bring their history topic to life!

The trip also served the purpose of helping to decide which Medieval Monarch they think was the most important and why.





Beech to Wildwood

Beech Class recently took an exciting trip to Wildwood Trust for a hands-on Anglo-Saxon workshop. After weeks of studying this era, students were eager to bring history to life.

The day began with an immersive introduction to Anglo-Saxon life, where students explored daily life, handled replica artifacts, and tried traditional crafts like wattle and daub wall-building.

A highlight was meeting animals familiar to the Anglo-Saxons, such as wild boar

and British deer, helping students connect history with nature. Seeing these animals up close gave them a deeper appreciation for how the Anglo-Saxons lived alongside and relied on wildlife for survival.

This unforgettable trip deepened students' understanding through interactive learning. A huge thank you to the staff and volunteers who made it possible!

We look forward to our next historical adventure!



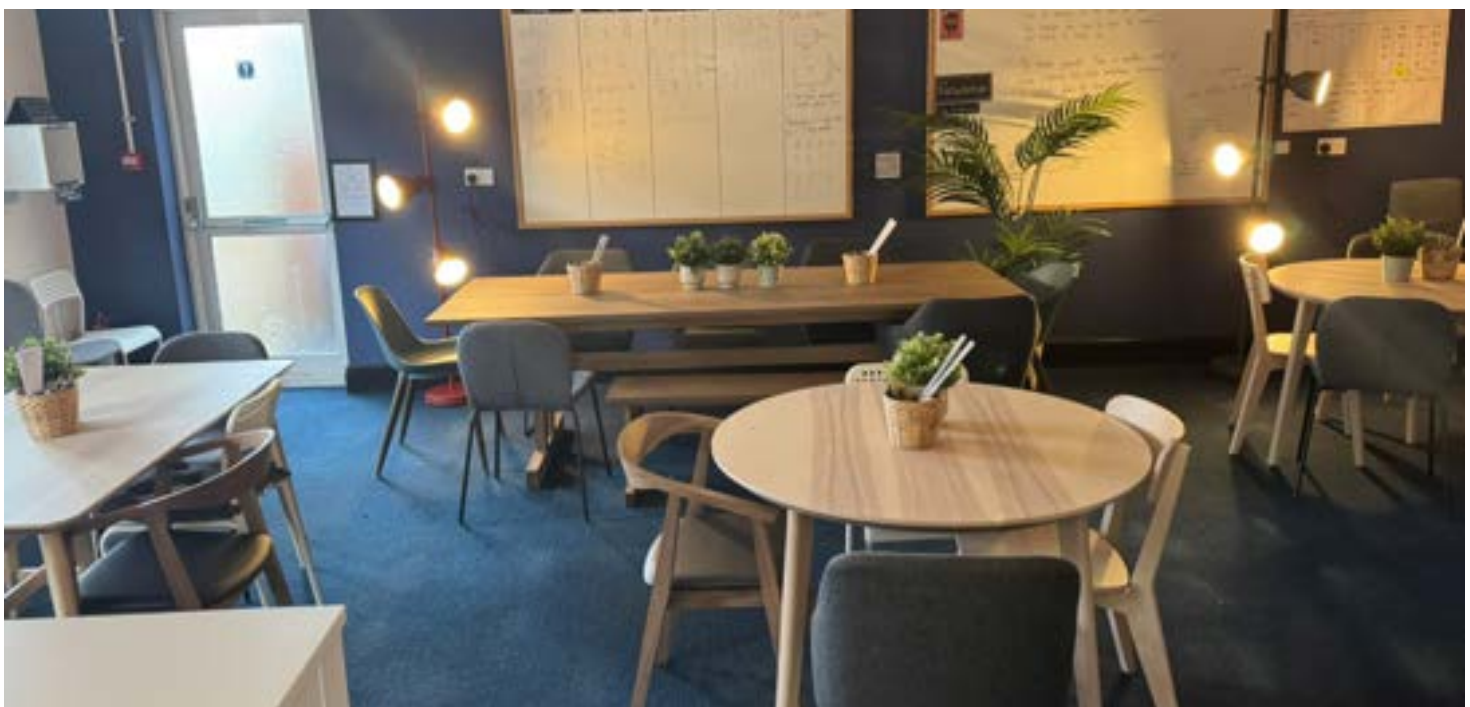
Maple Classroom

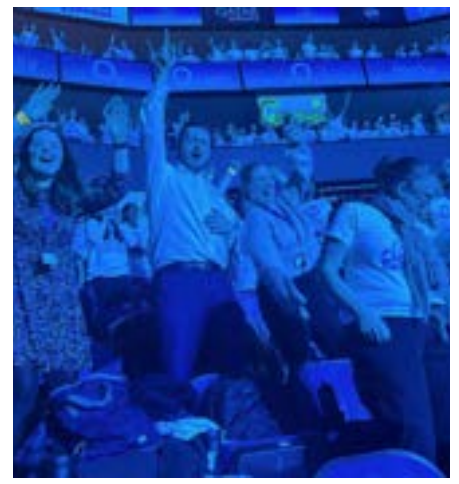
Maple Class has undergone a fantastic transformation with brand-new furniture! Designed for comfort and flexibility, the desks and chairs create a welcoming environment that supports posture and concentration.

One of the most exciting features is the alternative seating options. Alongside traditional desks, children can choose standing desks or cushioned seating areas. These options promote engagement, well-being and autonomy, allowing children to find what works best for them.

A special highlight is the standing lecterns, which have quickly become a class favourite. Many enjoy standing while learning, finding it energising and helpful for focus.

This transformation wouldn't have been possible without our amazing parent volunteers. They dedicated their time to assembling the furniture and we are truly grateful for their hard work. We are thrilled with the enthusiasm the children have shown. Seeing them excited about a classroom that accommodates different needs is rewarding. We look forward to exploring more ways to enhance their learning experience in the months ahead!





Young Voices 2025

This year, we had the special opportunity to attend Young Voices 2025 as a whole federation, with both Dunton Green and St. Edmund's joining together for the first time.

For many years, our school has been part of this incredible event, but this was a unique experience as we united to make memories as one. The excitement was high as we travelled to the venue together, and the children were thrilled to be part of such a large, lively event.

The size and scale of the event left them in awe and the anticipation of singing with thousands of other young voices made the day even more exciting. As they took their seats and prepared to perform, there was an undeniable buzz in the air.

Throughout the day, the children practiced the songs they'd been learning for months, enjoying rehearsals alongside professional artists, including MC Grammar! The energy of our federation, combined with schools from across the country, created a magical atmosphere. The final performance was the highlight, where the children sang in perfect harmony, surrounded by thousands of voices. It was a powerful, unforgettable moment of unity.

Now, the children are excited to showcase the songs they learned at Young Voices during our own event, 'A Night of Young Voices'. They're eager to share their experiences with family and friends and to relive the joy of the event in front of a supportive audience. Their hard work and enthusiasm are sure to shine through.



Teaching and Learning

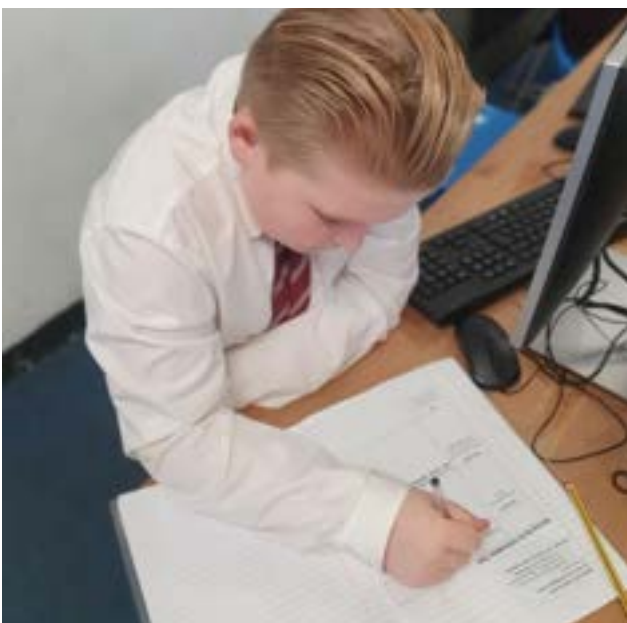
The Spring Term has been as busy as ever and work has continued on the quality of teaching and learning across our federation.

The development of personalised training for our fantastic ECTs (Early Career Teachers) has been a real success this term. Mr Ledger has been meeting with the teachers on a regular basis in order to share good practice and ideas. As well as this, we are looking forward to leading our next federation training session after the Half Term. Mrs Baker-Clarke has led additional training for our ECTs, facilitated by the Sevenoaks Partnership. This session focused on the teaching of writing.

Writing is another focus for the federation and this term, we are looking at how we assess children's written English. We have a number of experienced staff working across all three schools, some trained as writing moderators, and because of this, we feel strongly that we have the expertise to develop our own assessment materials. This is a work in progress but we look forward to sharing the changes with you once work is complete.

In the wider curriculum, Mrs Baker-Clarke has been meeting regularly with subject leaders across the federation to help them to monitor their subject and put actions in place to further improve our foundation subjects from: Art and Geography to PE and Science.

The 'Reading for Pleasure' initiative has been up and running for a term and is working well in all 3 schools. Reading Ambassadors have had all sorts of different responsibilities including: helping to run assemblies, creating Amazon wish lists of books, writing books reviews, creating posters for book areas and even buddy reading with younger children. All of these ideas came from the children themselves and we hope that this initiative will help to further promote a love of reading in our schools.





Federation Football

The Compass Federation Football Tournament brought together three schools in an exciting display of teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship. Over 70 pupils from across the federation participated in this highly anticipated event, showcasing their passion for football and their commitment to representing their schools with pride.

The tournament saw fantastic performances from all the teams involved, with every match played in great spirit. After a series of competitive games, it was St. Edmund's Team 3 who emerged victorious, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and determination throughout the day. Their win was met with cheers of celebration, not just from their supporters but from all those who appreciated their hard work and sportsmanship. Beyond the results, the tournament highlighted the power of sport to bring young people together. Football provided a platform for pupils to build friendships, learn the importance of collaboration, and experience the highs and lows of competition. The event reminded everyone of the valuable life skills that sport can teach, such as resilience, communication, and respect for others.

The Compass Federation looks forward to many more tournaments, knowing that events like these help foster a sense of unity, belonging, and a love of sport across all three schools involved.



Spring Photo Competition

The Compass Federation Spring Photo Competition celebrates the creativity and talent of our children, capturing the beauty of spring through their eyes.

From delicate blooming flowers to stunning landscapes and fascinating wildlife, each photograph tells a unique story. This competition encourages children to explore their surroundings, develop their artistic skills, and appreciate nature's wonders. The entries showcase a diverse range of perspectives, highlighting the imagination and talent of our young artists.

We invite you to explore the incredible submissions on the following pages and join us in celebrating the artistic achievements of our children.



Daisy Graddidge - SP



Anabelle D'Souza - DG



Elliot Ranger - SE



Ethan Davis - SP



Elsie Marshall - SE



Judah Stockburn - SP



Elliot Ranger - SE



Jacob Stockburn - SP



Ella Fitchett - DG



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