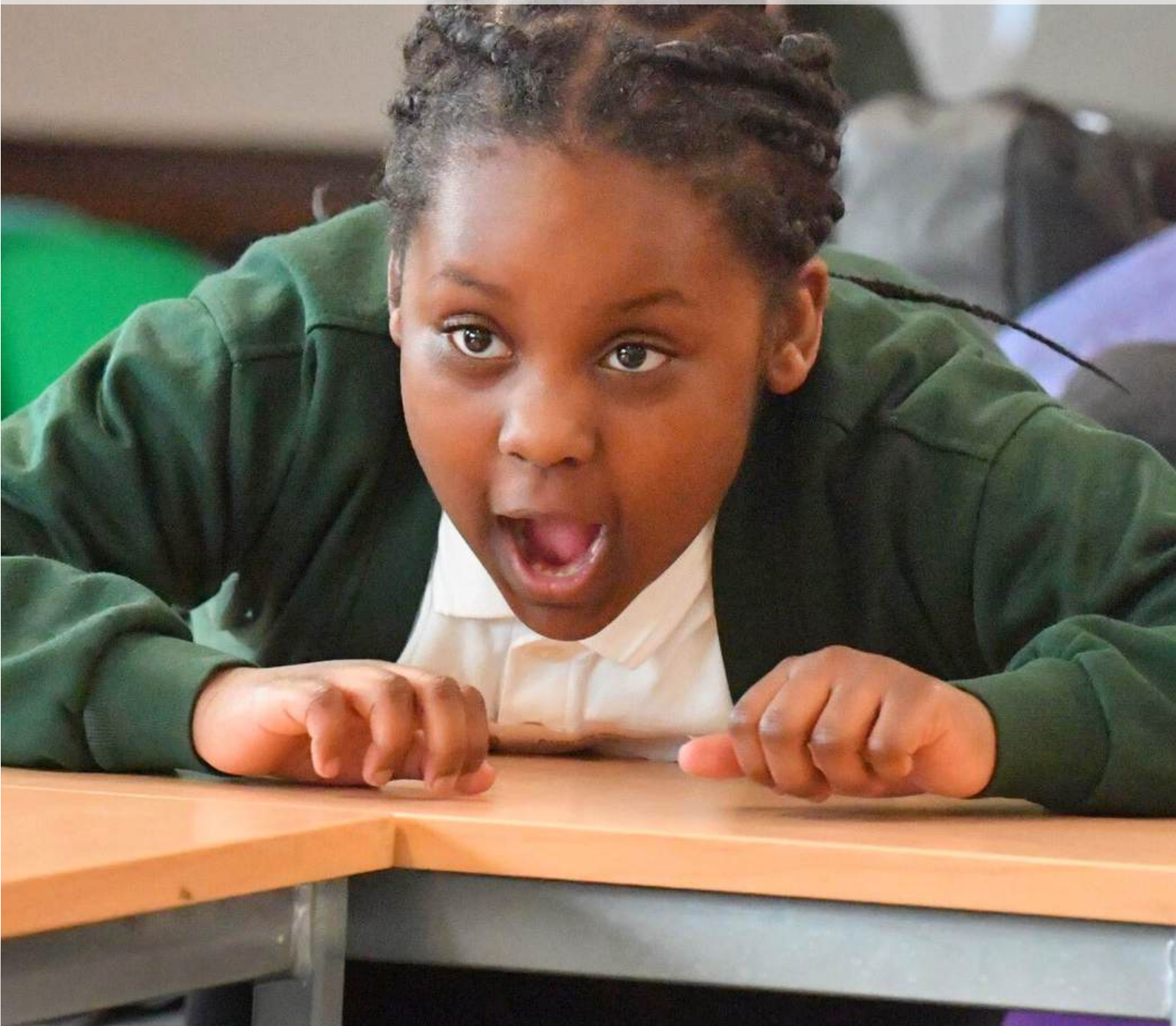


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# COMPASS

CHRONICLE

TERM 4 SPRING 2025



**One Child**  
One Chance



**Compass**  
Federation

# From the Executive Head



**As we draw to the close of Term 4, I find myself reflecting on an incredible period of growth, collaboration, and achievement across our federation of schools. It fills me with immense pride to witness the unity and dedication displayed by our staff, pupils, and wider school communities.**

Term 4 has been a time of innovation, progress, and shared successes, and I am delighted to share some of the highlights of this remarkable journey with you.

One of the standout moments of this term was undoubtedly our Federation Science Day. What an extraordinary event it turned out to be! Science Day brought together pupils from all of our schools in a celebration of curiosity, discovery, and hands-on learning. The enthusiasm displayed by our young scientists was truly inspiring. From interactive experiments to thought-provoking discussions on the role of science in solving global challenges, the day was a testament to the inquisitive spirit that we nurture in our pupils. Highlights of the day included

the participation of guest speakers who enriched the experience with their expertise, and cross-school collaborations that gave our pupils the chance to work alongside peers they might not typically interact with. Federation Science Day reminded us all of the power of curiosity and teamwork in driving innovation and understanding. It's my hope that this event has planted the seeds of lifelong scientific inquiry in the minds of our pupils.

Beyond individual events, Term 4 has been defined by an extraordinary deepening of collaboration among our teaching staff. The synergy between teachers across our federation has grown remarkably, fostering an environment where ideas are freely exchanged, challenges are tackled collectively, and successes are celebrated as a team. This increased collaboration has not only strengthened our curriculum but has also enriched the learning experiences of our pupils.

Our teaching teams have worked tirelessly to align their efforts, share best practices, and support one another in their professional development. Regular meetings, peer observations, and shared planning sessions have become more than just routines – they have transformed into opportunities to grow together as a united team of educators. The positive impact of this strengthened bond is already

evident in the classroom, where innovative teaching methods and a unified approach are helping our pupils thrive.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the fantastic support we have received from each of our school communities. Parents, carers, governors, and local stakeholders have all played a pivotal role in the success of this term. Your unwavering support – whether through volunteering, attending events, or simply encouraging our pupils – has been a cornerstone of our achievements. The partnership between schools and their communities is a vital ingredient in creating a thriving educational environment, and we are deeply grateful for all that you do.

Looking ahead, I am filled with optimism for the future. The momentum we have built this term will undoubtedly propel us towards even greater successes in the terms to come. We have exciting plans on the horizon, including further opportunities for pupil enrichment, continued professional development for staff, and initiatives aimed at strengthening our engagement with the wider community. Together, we will strive to build on the achievements of this term and continue to provide the very best for our pupils.

*Benjamin Hulme*



# Federation Science Day

Compass Federation Science Day was a fantastic celebration of curiosity, creativity and collaboration! Children from across all our schools came together to mark Science Week in style, enjoying an unforgettable day packed with fun and discovery.

From exploring the ever-popular Science Shop to getting hands-on with real-life robotics and Minecraft coding challenges, there was something to inspire every budding scientist. The animal encounters brought squeals of excitement, while interactive experiments and engaging activities encouraged teamwork, imagination, and a shared love for learning. It was a joy to see pupils interacting with peers from other schools, building friendships and learning together in such a vibrant environment.

The event truly captured the spirit of Compass Federation—bringing our communities together to ignite curiosity and nurture future thinkers. Science Day wasn't just about experiments—it was about experiences, and it left everyone buzzing with excitement and wonder. We can't wait for the next one!



# Teaching and Learning

The second half of the Spring Term has been just as busy as the first, with lots of important work going on behind the scenes to continue to develop teaching and learning across our federation.

The 'Reading for Pleasure' initiative is still full steam ahead and this term, Reading Ambassadors from all three schools really wowed us with their Reading Roadshow Assemblies! The children presented in all three schools and were extremely brave to speak in front of so many people - they did us all proud! We will continue to promote a love of reading through our ambassadors and can't wait to see what they do next!

Our second federation ECT training day was a success and our Early Career Teachers were full of enthusiasm (as always) to learn more about the different aspects of teaching. This work will continue next term with the support of Mr Ledger and Mrs Baker-Clarke. We are so lucky to have a group of such passionate Early Career Teachers, who love what they do and who are keen to enhance their own professional development. They are doing a superb job!

Work continues on a Maths project across the federation. All three of our schools use a scheme of learning called WhiteRose and our Maths leaders have been working together to adapt this scheme to ensure the highest quality teaching and learning. We have created a set of 'toolkit' lessons, which aim to further enhance children's understanding of aspects like: estimating; ordering and comparing, and use of known facts. These 'toolkit' skills are a part of the WhiteRose scheme already, however, our work has made them much more explicit and accessible for both children and staff.

Towards the end of this term, a group of our more experienced teachers got together to develop the way we assess children's writing. There is still more work to be done on this but it is an exciting project, that helps to put us ahead of others and aims to help our staff feel more confident in their teacher judgements. Watch this space for more information.







# Tough Mudder '25

**Held on the glebe, the event was packed with muddy fun and challenges that pushed everyone to their limits. The children raced through slip-and-slide puddles, crawled under nets and scaled the trimtrail—all while being soaked by splash pools and cheering teammates.**

The atmosphere was electric, with each obstacle bringing a sense of excitement and accomplishment. Whether it was climbing over hurdles, navigating slippery tracks or simply trying to stay dry (which was nearly impossible!), the event had something for everyone.

Beyond the physical challenge, it was a chance to bond and work as a team. The children cheered each other on, encouraging their classmates to push through the tough moments and celebrate their achievements. The sense of camaraderie was contagious, and it was heartwarming to see everyone lifting each other up, no matter the obstacle.

A huge thank you goes out to the parents and younger and older siblings who joined in and did their part! Your support, energy and enthusiasm helped make the afternoon even more memorable.

But it wasn't just about the fun and teamwork—it was also about giving back to our school community. Thanks to everyone's dedication, we raised an incredible £832 for our PTA.





# Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve

**Birch Class had an incredible day out at the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve, bringing their classroom learning about ponds and habitats to life!**

The children were thrilled to explore the reserve, diving into the world of local wildlife and ecosystems. Guided by experts, they ventured around the ponds, learning how these environments support a wide variety of creatures.

They observed dragonflies skimming over the water, spotted tadpoles and identified plants that thrive in these watery habitats. It was an eye-opening experience, with many surprised by the richness of life in a simple pond!

A highlight was when the children had the chance to scoop up water and examine the tiny creatures living beneath the surface. Their excitement was contagious as they learned about the delicate balance of these ecosystems.

This trip wasn't just a fun day out—it was a hands-on opportunity to deepen their understanding of science. By connecting their learning to the real world, Birch Class brought the concept of ecosystems to life!

The trip also sparked lively discussions back in class, as the children shared their discoveries and reflected on how they can help protect local habitats.



# Different Voices in Worship

Our whole school has been exploring different Christian voices in worship, deepening understanding of faith, reflection, and community through a range of engaging experiences.

The Family Trust brought the Easter Story to life through storytelling and activities, helping the children explore its message of hope and new beginnings. They were captivated by the retelling, asked thoughtful questions, and reflected on its meaning in their own lives.

We were also delighted to welcome Revd. Naomi from Hextable Methodist Church, who led a session on worship and its role in Christian faith. She encouraged the children to think about the importance of reflection, prayer, and celebration, highlighting how different people express their beliefs in unique ways.

Our ongoing partnership with CRiBS continues to provide valuable opportunities to explore Christian values in everyday life. Through discussions, creative activities, and interactive storytelling, the children have gained a deeper understanding of faith in action and how it shapes communities.

These collective worship experiences have helped the children see the diversity within Christian worship, encouraging reflection, understanding, and a stronger sense of togetherness within our school community.





# Wingham Wildlife Park

**Year 3 ventured into Wingham Wildlife Park and came up close and personal with creatures both large and small.**

From penguins, to birds, to giraffes and reptiles, Year 3 learnt about all of the animals that are housed at Wingham Wildlife Park and were able to impress the staff with their knowledge on animals that they had learnt in their science lessons.

A visit to Wingham would not be complete without a play in the park and moments where they could test each other on their dinosaur knowledge.

The staff were so proud as to how each pupil shone their light and showed their St Edmund's respect to both the animals and the other visitors who were visiting the park.



# Lent and Family Trust

The beginning of Lent is marked with Ash Wednesday and at St Edmund's, our Key Stage 2 pupils attended their annual Ash Wednesday service at our church in the woods.

Palm leaves and crosses from last year's Palm Sunday were burnt into grey ashes and pupils were invited to have a cross marked on their heads to remember Jesus in a time of focused reflection. Many pupils and staff are practicing Lent this year, giving up biscuits, tea, football and roast dinners and making sure that we support each other when feeling tempted.

In reflecting and bringing the Easter Story to life, St Edmund's has had assemblies and workshops from The Family Trust. The Family Trust is a charity of a team of Christians who deliver engaging and educational religious projects in primary schools. Their activities are designed to help pupils grow spirituality and reach their full potential. Their assemblies and workshops have allowed our pupils to understand the different stages of the Easter story, its meaning and how to reflect on how everyone would have felt and understand the different feelings.





# Woodlands Garden Centre

**Topaz class spent an exciting afternoon at Woodlands Garden Centre as part of their Science unit on plants and growing.**

The pupils learnt about the conditions needed for plants to grow and how we can produce these conditions. They each had a go at planting a seed and were each given a pot and sunflower to take home. The pupils have been instructed on how to look after their sunflower and are having a competition as to who can grow the tallest sunflower.

While at Woodlands, the pupils explored the play area and fire museum. They enjoyed learning about fire engines, how the different parts work and role playing firemen saving the day and putting out fires.

Many pupils came away with the dream of becoming a fireman when they are older.





# Year 6 Residential

The Year 6 pupils recently embarked on an exciting two-night residential trip to the South Downs as part of the Generation Green programme. The trip was filled with beautiful weather, stunning scenery, and plenty of adventure, making it an unforgettable experience for all involved.

Throughout the trip, the children took part in various treks, exploring some of the most incredible locations in the area, including the historic Lewes Castle and Virginia Woolf's charming house. The pupils showed great enthusiasm and teamwork, making the most of every moment while enjoying the beautiful landscapes around them.

In addition to the walks, the children were treated to delicious meals, ensuring they had plenty of energy for all the activities. Their behaviour was impeccable, and they embraced every part of the trip with excitement and positivity.

A huge thank you to Mrs. O'Dwyer and Mr. Sinclair-Harris for accompanying the children and making the trip possible. Their support and guidance helped create a memorable experience that the pupils will cherish for years to come.





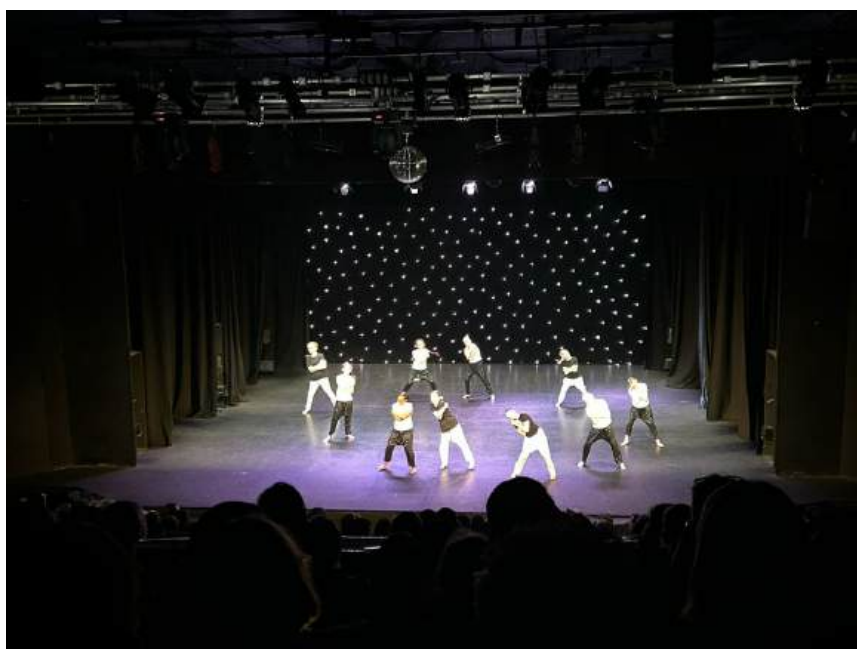
# Love2Dance

**On the 25th of March, ten talented pupils from Dunton Green took to the stage at The Stag Theatre, showcasing their remarkable dance skills in the Love2Dance performance.**

Their performance was nothing short of brilliant, leaving both the audience and teachers in awe. Not only did they dance their hearts out to A Million Dreams from The Greatest Showman and Symphony by Clean Bandit, but they also held their own against much larger schools, proving that talent can shine no matter the size.

Backstage, the pupils displayed exemplary behavior, supporting one another and making friends with dancers from other local primary schools. Their positive attitudes and teamwork made them a credit to the school. Parents and Mrs. Holliday, who attended the event, were bursting with pride, impressed by the pupils' dedication and professionalism.

This performance not only highlighted their dancing abilities but also demonstrated their growth in confidence and camaraderie. It was truly a night to remember, one that the pupils and everyone involved will cherish for years to come.



# Year 1 and 5 go to London

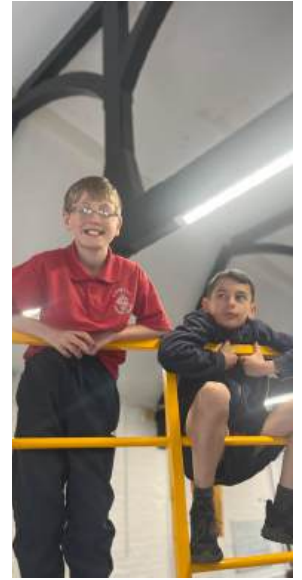
Year 1 and Year 5 had an exciting and educational school trip to London, traveling together on the train from Dunton Green to London Waterloo East. The students were filled with excitement as they embarked on their adventure to the heart of the city.

Upon arrival, the classes split to explore different attractions, each linked to their current learning topics. Year 1, studying The Emperor's Egg and learning about Antarctica, headed to the SEA LIFE Centre. Unfortunately, when they got there the penguin enclosure was closed for cleaning but they got to see so many other sea creatures and had an incredible time.

Meanwhile, Year 5 visited the London Eye, a highlight of their class text The London Eye Mystery. The students enjoyed a fantastic ride, marveling at the stunning views of London from above. The experience allowed them to see the city from a unique perspective, deepening their understanding of the story while also offering a breathtaking adventure.

Both classes were a credit to the school, behaving beautifully throughout the day and making the most of every moment. A huge thank you to the parents who volunteered to help and ensured the day ran smoothly. With their support, the trip was a memorable success, leaving everyone with lasting memories and a greater love for learning.







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