

Welcome to our EMTAS autumn newsletter

## Celebration Event

EMTAS began the new academic year in style with the September celebration held at Toxteth Annexe.

Awards were given to pupils, schools, families and the wider *'EMTAS family'*. There were wonderful performances from the Whitefield Primary Choir as well as Levi Tafari and the children from Woolton Primary. Traditional Chinese Dance both opened and closed the event.

EMTAS were delighted to welcome Lord Mayor Cllr Mary Rasmussen, representatives from Merseyside Police, as well as MP for Riverside, Kim Johnson. One of our highlights was Dr Glenn Godenho, senior Lecturer in Egyptology, from the University of Liverpool, who shared some rather fun hieroglyphics! Makes us look at emojis in an entirely different way!

Feedback from those who attended the event were overwhelmingly positive and [you can read a thread from the afternoon on our socials.](#)



Kim Johnson MP  
@KimJohnsonMP

Delighted to attend today's @SI\_Liverpool EMTAS awards, to hear about the brilliant work they do in promoting inclusion - especially for asylum seekers - and celebrating diversity across our city schools. Plus @PagodaArts dance & @LeviTafariPoet performance with @wooltonprimary

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## Moving Practice Forward

Since September we have worked with over 500 colleagues through bespoke staff meetings, centralised training, a number of networks, as well as 1:1 advice and guidance.

It is wonderful to be part of a City which keeps EAL pedagogy and inclusive practice firmly on the agenda!

We have also enjoyed welcoming our governors to a number of sessions considering EAL practice.

We are looking forward to our welcoming them back during the Spring term to focus on Race Equality and Diversity.

We were also joined by Megan Greenwood, School of Sanctuary, National Lead and we were delighted to host the Regional School of Sanctuary network. It was a wonderful opportunity to share the work across our amazing schools here in Liverpool.

*'We have just reached an unprecedented 417 awarded Schools of Sanctuary across the UK and with more than 50 awarded schools in Liverpool, the Liverpool schools network makes up a whopping 13% of Schools of Sanctuary across the UK. As one of our oldest networks, we're delighted that schools in Liverpool have remained committed to continuing Liverpool's long and proud history of welcoming people from all parts of the world, particularly those who have been forced to flee.'*  
Megan Greenwood

Watch this space as based on attendance at our recent Liverpool network that number is soon to grow!



Since September the team have supported almost 200 new to English pupils across our schools.

Over 500 pupils have been involved in programmes to support equality and inclusion.

Staff have worked with over 30 parents exploring the importance of the home language and acquisition of English - and we are looking forward to the new term and to meeting our new families and pupils.

One team member has provided much needed bespoke support to our Irish Traveller families helping them navigate the education system and acting as that home school bridge.

Support has included over 20 home visits including pupils currently missing education as well as multi agency engagement.



*Pivotal to all of our work is our amazing pupils, speaking over 150 languages across our schools.*

**Gill Rowlands, Manager of EMTAS**



## Black History Month

Two wonderful events marked Black History Month.

We opened the month alongside our colleagues from Merseyside Police with the 'surprise reveal' to one of our Primary schools.

A pupil from the school created the winning entry featuring Liverpool born Lilian Bader one of the first Black women to join the Royal Air Force.

So please keep a look out for the amazing artwork which is now on the side of a number of police vehicles!

[Learn more about the project via our socials.](#)

Our second Black History Month event was a wonderful 'pop up' art gallery celebrating the artist Sonia Boyce.

Children from another primary school were involved and Mary Yoxall, our 'artist in residence', led the work which culminated in a wonderful celebration with parents and children alike!

[You can read more about the project and watch a short reel on our socials.](#)

## Coming up!

In January, we are excited to work with our 4th cohort of teachers on our 'Advanced EAL Practitioners' course. This is a University of Liverpool 12-week accredited course.

Our relationship with the University is going from strength to strength. Planning for our Summer term 'Global Voices' conference is very much underway.



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Help develop and enhance the skills needed to support your EAL students and their families.

Our spring term training programme is [now available to view](#).

