

As another term comes to an end, we'd like to share some of the work we've been doing and to thank you for your continued support. Our mission is to ensure that education in schools and colleges meets the needs people seeking sanctuary and raises awareness about forced displacement through learning. Our termly newsletter aims to share some of this work in action - we hope it inspires you! Even in challenging times, there are many reasons for hope.

News

An important part of our work is sharing the good practice we see in schools and colleges across Bradford District. Here are some of the brilliant things we've spotted whilst out and about this term!

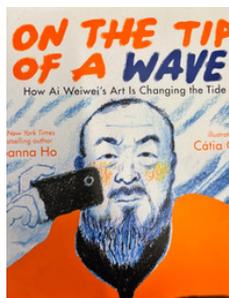
English Conversation classes at Westminster CE Primary

Weekly English Conversation classes at Westminster have been helping parents develop confidence in using English, enabling them to better support their children's learning and engage more fully with school life. They also offer a welcoming space to connect and build relationships.



Parents at Westminster CE Primary

Y6 work at Co-op Academy Penny Oaks



Year 6 children at Co-op Academy Penny Oaks this term explored *On the Tip of a Wave: How Ai Weiwei's Art Is Changing the Tide*. The book tells the story of artist Ai Weiwei who was inspired by the discarded life jackets on the shores of Lesbos to create a bold installation that would grab the attention of the world. Inspired by his work, pupils reflected on what it might feel like to be

forced to leave their homes, engaged in lots of discussion and created artwork to express their thoughts on the topic.



Sign up to receive our termly newsletter [HERE](#).

Induction practices at Co-op Academy Priesthorpe

Priesthorpe are well on their way to submitting their School of Sanctuary application and their approach to induction is a strong example of good practice, recognising how crucial the first few



A pupil and her mum at Priesthorpe

days in a new country and school can be. Through comprehensive admission meetings with translation support, a tailored one-week EAL induction and visual resources to help students navigate school life, the school ensures new arrivals feel confident and included. Regular parental engagement events support families in understanding the UK education system, and each new student is paired with a Young Interpreter to help them settle in socially. Brilliant work!

Embedding School of Sanctuary work across all areas of school life at Hoyle Court Primary



Awarded School of Sanctuary status in 2024, Hoyle Court continue to build on their fantastic work. They've recently refreshed their welcome

statement, and we love how strongly the Schools of Sanctuary ethos shines through. It's clearly woven into their curriculum and assemblies and sits well alongside their work on No Outsiders and British Values too.

Atlas Primary's Community Iftar

Atlas Primary's Community Iftar brought pupils, families, staff, and the local community together this term. Events like this are such important opportunities to develop connections and build a sense of belonging. The food looked delicious too!



Books for Bradford!



Children from St Stephen's CE Primary

Five of our Schools of Sanctuary in Bradford were delighted to receive a very special gift this term, thanks to the campaign organised by Ilkley Churches Together and The Grove Bookshop. Locals were encouraged to buy children's books - the response was incredible with over 400 books donated! We are hugely grateful to everyone involved in organising and supporting the campaign.

Changing the Narrative



We were delighted in January to be invited as guest speaker at an online event alongside the amazing author A. M. Dassu, sharing our work and exploring how schools can build a strong sense of belonging for children seeking sanctuary in the UK.

Our new volunteer!

We are delighted to welcome Kathrine Nutting on board as our new Schools' Advisor, offering support to schools working towards the School of Sanctuary award. Read more about her [here!](#)



Having experienced the whole-school benefits of working towards the award, I'm passionate about supporting other schools to develop their practice and achieve it.

Learning resources

We've been delivering workshops for Bradford 2025's Cultural Learning Team who created [learning resources](#) on local histories. [A Bradford Sanctuary Story](#) highlights the experiences of Bradford's Rohingya community.



Delivering workshops at Beckfoot Thornton

Schools of Sanctuary are delighted to have worked with [Philosophy4Children](#) to develop a [new resource](#), helping to start conversations about difference and belonging as a precursor to more challenging conversations about migration. Take a look!

[A Spoonful of Sugar](#) explores how migration has shaped Bradford over time. If you haven't used these resources yet, we would highly recommend them!



Coming up...



We're excited for [A Day of Welcome](#) next term - a chance to celebrate kindness and belonging and help pupils learn about people seeking sanctuary. Sign up to receive [free resources](#).

You can also register [here](#) for live author events with Michael Rosen, Asylum Speakers and Dinah Nayeri.

And finally, [Refugee Week 2026](#) is fast approaching! [Quentin Blake](#) is this year's artist. More to come after Easter on ways to get involved!



Refugee Week

Illustration © Quentin Blake

We are on a mission to improve the educational experience of people seeking sanctuary and create welcoming environments in schools and colleges across the Bradford District. But our work relies on the generosity of individuals and trusts who believe in what we do.

Will you join us? Be part of the welcome [here](#).

You have been reading our end of term celebration newsletter. To receive our half-termly digests (examples [here](#)) where we summarise events, dates, CPD opportunities, new learning resources, research & services, please email us using the address below/

