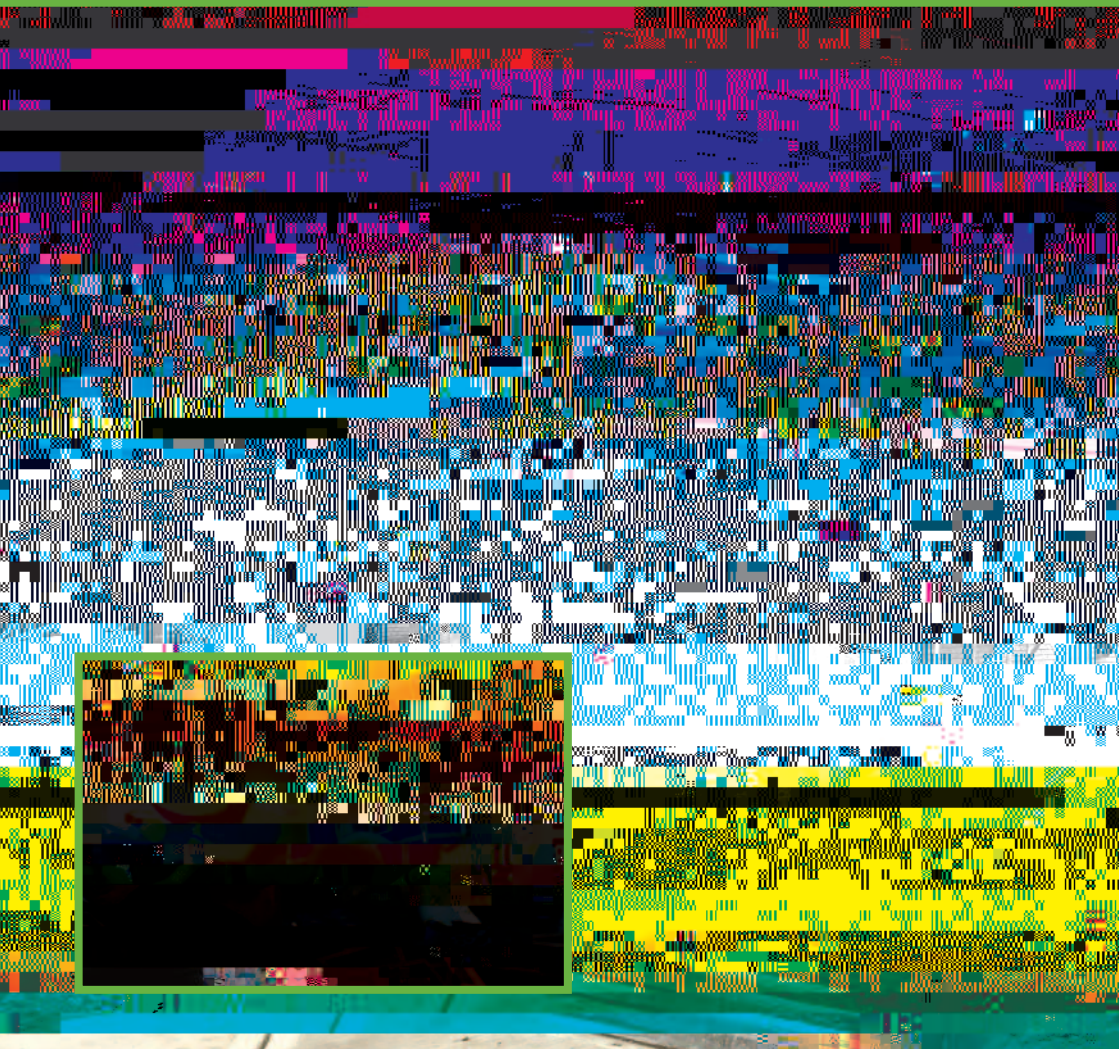




SIGMA NEWS

For the Staff and Stakeholders of The Sigma Trust

Greater than the sum of its parts



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- TWO SCHOOLS JOIN SIGMA FAMILY
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Welcome... I would like to offer a warm welcome to colleagues from Colne Community and Philip Morant schools and those colleagues who have already been appointed to Paxman Academy.

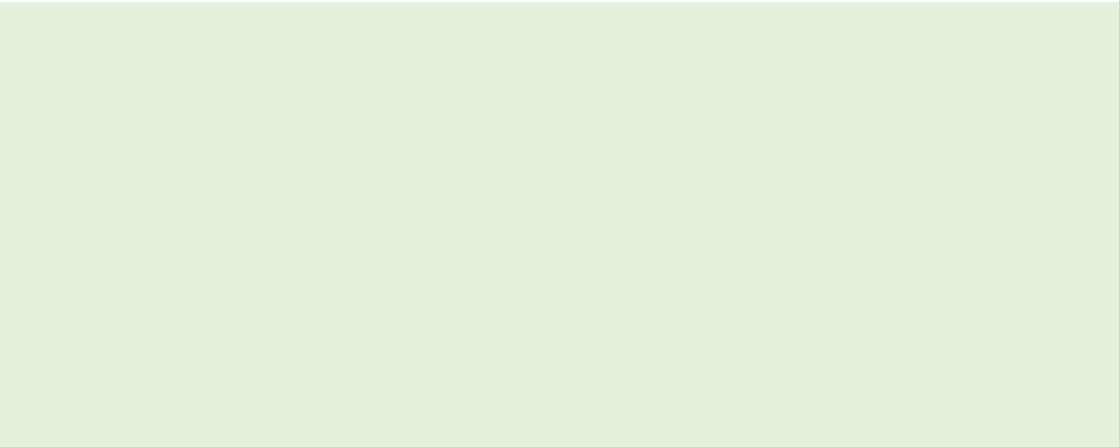
Colne and Philip Morant joined The Sigma Trust on January 1, following the successful transfer from Thrive Partnership Academy Trust. I hope the transition has been made easier by the fact we have been working closely with both schools for many months. I was very pleased to be able to confirm the appointment of Neil Gallagher and Scott Holder into their executive headship roles at Colne and Philip Morant respectively. Both have created stability in the leadership of the schools and have ensured effective communication and consultation is in place for all stakeholders. We now very much look forward to working in close collaboration with all staff from both schools and this will begin with the annual joint CPD day on February 25.

The work on completing Paxman Academy is progressing well. I had the pleasure of walking around the building recently and it really is impressive. Headteacher Carol Anne Moffat is in the process of recruiting colleagues for the

school. Senior colleagues have now been appointed and a number of teaching posts have been filled. The building is due to be handed over to Sigma on June 24.

We are once again coming up to the annual Essex Teaching Awards and we have listed in the parent/pupil edition of Sigma News the large number of colleagues who have been nominated by colleagues and students at each school. It is great to see so many colleagues have had their hard work and dedication recognised by others. Last year, we had tremendous success with winners in the Headteacher of the Year, Secondary Teacher of the Year and Lifetime Achievement2[WvYjoInj

Brand-new sch



A long list of Sigma Trust colleagues have been nominated in this year's Essex Teaching Awards.

The annual awards are an opportunity to give recognition and to celebrate and share best practice. Over the last five years, the awards have acknowledged outstanding teachers and headteachers, teaching assistants, governing bodies and school teams who work in Essex.

Jeff Brindle, CEO, said: "It is fantastic to see so many colleagues nominated for awards this year.

"This demonstrates the strength that exists among both teaching and non-teaching staff across The Sigma Trust. It makes a great contribution to the school's success."

An educational ideas initiative brought together Year 6 and 7 students from across Sigma Trust schools.

The Sigma Ideas Project challenges students to create an idea which could change the world, before presenting their designs and prototypes. Each school held its own internal competition before putting forward their winning teams to the grand final, at The Stanway School.

Project organisers 7Billion Ideas questioned teams on their development and future plans for their ideas.

Year 7 students from Clacton County High School came out the overall winners, with their idea for the Food Saver – a smartphone app which alerts users when food in the fridge is going out of date to avoid waste. The design will now be developed and made into a book, available to buy on Amazon.

TRAINING

Placements begin for trainee teachers2

Focus on...science

John Knights, strategic science lecturer, gives an insight into the science curriculum in primary schools.

