



Mr R Lewis  
Nineveh Charitable Trust  
Park Farm, Frittenden Road  
Biddenden, Ashford  
Kent  
TN27 8LG

04 December 2018

Dear Mr Lewis

### **The Nineveh Charitable Trust – supporting children to learn more about food, farming and the countryside**

In April 2018 you very generously donated £3,825 to enable children and young people take part in exciting farm visits. I am pleased to be able to provide you with a short update, alongside your questionnaire, on how your donation has benefitted children across the country.

#### **The Open Farm School Days project**

For several years Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF) has offered this nationwide initiative to get children out onto farms throughout June, linked to the highly successful LEAF Open Farm Sunday initiative. Following the merger of LEAF and FACE in 2017, LEAF Education has supported the further development of the project, to engage a greater number of schools and farmers, providing educational expertise to ensure safe, quality visits. We have been fortunate in 2018 to attract additional trust funding for these visits.

We have 9 part-time Regional Education Coordinators across the country who worked with teachers to **ensure the visits were linked to the curriculum** and the work the young people were doing in class, developing lesson plans and resources. They fully **supported the host farmer** throughout the visit. The level of support varied from LEAF Education Consultants organising the entire event, through to putting schools and farms in touch. Thanks to external funders such as yourselves, we were also able to offer payment of coach travel to enable the pupils to take part in the visit and **several staff reported that they would not have been able to take part without this help.**

#### **The benefits**

With your support we have been able to facilitate visits by 11 schools, with **a total of 635 children benefiting.** The visits took place across the country, here are just a few examples:

- Our Lady of Fatima Primary School in Harborne visited Forge Mill Farm in Sandwell. Thirty children watched cows being milked, fed the lambs and went on a tractor ride. The children were particularly fascinated by how warm the milk was!

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[enquiries@face-online.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@face-online.org.uk)

<https://education.leafuk.org>

Linking Environment and Farming  
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## LEAF Education

- Fifty one pupils from Wansdyke School in Whitchurch, Bristol, spent a day at Fosse Farm. Leaf Demonstration Farmer Jeremy Padfield showed pupils how many loaves of bread and bottles of beer could be made from his wheat and barley fields and described the many other uses for these and other crops. Pupils **learned about crop rotations** and how Jeremy looks after the farm environment before returning to the farmyard to meet some of the livestock in the barn. **Pupils also learnt about plant classification and adaptation on a farm walk.**
- Twenty four year ten students from Longridge High School, Preston visited Myerscough College Farm on June 15<sup>th</sup> where they **learnt about dairy farming** including handling the calves as well as the many aspects of new technology utilised on the farm.

***“The pupils experienced a range of activities that focused on science and technology on the farm. Pupils had a clear understanding on the extent to which science and technology is used in farming. Pupils would also appreciate how they could study agriculture at a land based college such as Myerscough.” – NW Regional Education Coordinator***

In a couple of cases, instead of visiting one farm, students visited a local county show which provide opportunities **to learn about many different types of farming and rural life and the countryside**, for example:

- Two hundred secondary school students from St Christopher’s CE High School, Accrington visited the Royal Cheshire Show on June 19<sup>th</sup> where they learnt about everything from milking to feeding the piglets. The show gave them the opportunity to see how new technology has changed the face of farming, linked to their studies of the agricultural revolution.

***“What a day it was! The students had a great time and more importantly they have learned a lot about rural and agricultural life.” Teacher***

### The future

***I would definitely like it to continue as an annual trip and begin to think about what else we could embed into the day.” Teacher***

The programme this year was a great success and we plan to build on this in the programme in June 2019. We will be aiming to increase the number of new schools engaging with the programme and forging new school-farm links.

Whilst we targeted secondary schools this year, some of the visits were undertaken by primary schools. We will continue building closer links with existing and new secondary schools in our work over the coming year, as well as during Open Farm School Days 2019.



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Thank you

Thanks to your donation, many more students were able to benefit from exciting and memorable farm visits. As a result, they learnt more about where their food comes from and the resources taken to produce it. This has improved their awareness of the impact on the local countryside and the environment.

***“The students had a fantastic time! They all got lots of questions right on the way back. A couple have stated they now want to become farmers! Thanks for the inspiration”.***

We are very grateful for your support and would like to say thank you on behalf of all the children, teachers, staff and Trustees.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Clay  
Fundraiser (P/T)



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