



## A new chapter in outdoor learning

AN OUTDOOR library has been created at a school as part of Mental Health Awareness Week.

The library was up-cycled from a former kennel donated to Archbishop Cranmer Primary Academy, Aslockton.

It was repainted, fitted with shelves, wallpapered with recycled blinds and also includes a solar panel for sustainable lighting.

Most of the work was carried out by caretaker Allen Gibson and trainee teacher Rachel Kelly, a student at Nottingham Trent University.

"We are a school that believes in

the power of reading," said deputy head and reading lead Lauren Rogers.

"We can't wait for the children to enjoy a book outdoors, reaping the benefits of the sunshine, fresh air and nature in conjunction with our outdoor learning area.

"It will be excellent for health and wellbeing while promoting growing a love for reading and helping to maintain excellent reading scores.

"The children are so excited about the library. They have already earmarked the books they want to read first."

The library will be used by pupils

at break times and the school's 'reading for pleasure' times.

It was the idea of environmental and wellbeing ambassadors of the school's Pupil Parliament.

Pupil Evie Cresswell said: "I am so excited to start reading outside and proud to have created a mindful area that is eco-friendly."

It will compliment the school's outdoor learning area created by staff, parents and volunteers.

ABOVE: Pictured in their library are, left to right, Evie Cresswell, Evie White, Lola Blackmore, all 10, and Nottingham Trent University student Rachel Kelly.

# Bench installed in memory of mother

By Cameron Rutherford  
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A MEMORIAL bench has been installed by the family and friends of a woman who died of a rare brain tumour earlier this year.

The bench, in Beaumont Gardens near Newark Library, is in memory of Amanda Wright.

She was one of the founder members of the popular baby sensory group Rattle Rhyme And Roll, which met regularly in the library.

They are a chance for toddlers to have fun with rhymes and songs and parents to meet each other.

Rattle, Rhyme And Roll group member Gill Venables arranged the collection for the bench.

It was dedicated to Amanda in front of mums, dads and children.

Long-time friend Sarah Fawcett – who grew up with Amanda – said it was a lovely tribute.

Mrs Fawcett said: "Amanda was born and bred in Newark and was loved by many. I went to school with Amanda, and we even had our children at the same time in the same hospital.

"We saw an advertisement about a group for mums, dads and children and thought we would give it a go.

"We would go to the library together



AMANDA WRIGHT and the bench in her memory.

er and then go to Costa or the park and we did that for around seven years.

"It was about making friends with mums, dads and their children, and it became a community-like group.

"Now it is a group that has grown and grown – a big circle – and Amanda was one of the original founders.

"The memorial bench was a lovely tribute to her."

Mrs Wright, who was a teacher for 20 years, went to Queen's Medical

Centre, Nottingham, after suffering with headaches.

She was then diagnosed with a rare brain tumour.

Amanda's husband, Chris Wright, said: "Amanda was a shining light in the world. We were together for 30 years since the age of 14.

"She was a loving wife and an amazing mummy. Amanda was my forever girl."

Mrs Wright died in January, aged 43. She leaves her husband and two small children – Lily, who is seven and three-year-old Oliver.

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