

Second Anniversary Celebrations

On May 23rd, 2023, to celebrate the second anniversary of The Beam Trust, staff and governors from all four schools joined trustees to listen to the internationally acclaimed keynote speaker and storyteller, Chris Lubbe, at the Statham Lodge Hotel.

With warmth, compassion and heartbreaking stories, Chris retold events from his early life growing up in a ghetto in South Africa, witnessing the brutality of apartheid, and his part in the fight for freedom and democracy. As it says on his website: "Chris' story contains themes such as fear, determination, courage, love and forgiveness...", and these were themes that he related to his personal experiences, world events, and the role education plays in bringing about change.



It was an inspiring and thought-provoking evening, and he did indeed "leave everyone spell-bound having been taken on a journey of discovery".



There was a clear focus on education and as Chris quoted:

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world" - Nelson Mandela

Comments from a governor:

"His themes of fear, determination, courage, love and forgiveness weren't just stories - they made me want to go out there and make a difference! I loved this quote which he used -

"If you ever feel too small or not significant enough to make a difference then you've never spent a night with a mosquito" - Nelson Mandela "

Response from Chris Lubbe: "Thank you for all your kind words. It was such a privilege to speak at your event. Keep up the great work you all do and thank you for choosing to serve through the medium of education."