



CURRICULUM NEWS

At Sebert Wood we are always developing and improving our curriculum and Maths has been a key focus for us during the last year. Following on from his recent Maths Hub training Mr Tottie is developing the teaching and learning of Maths through a 'mastery' approach. He is working with staff and pupils on key mathematical concepts. Inspired by teaching approaches from Singapore and Shanghai, 'mastery' is an inclusive way of teaching, grounded in the belief that ALL pupils can achieve in Maths. A concept is deemed 'mastered' when pupils can represent it in multiple ways, can communicate solutions using mathematical language and can independently apply the concept to new problems. As a school we are investing in new resources to allow our pupils to do this and FOSWS have kindly purchased some Numicon, a highly regarded multi-sensory resource for pupils. We want all pupils to be able to see Maths as an interconnected subject to develop fluency, reasoning and competence in solving sophisticated problems. We also want pupils to apply their mathematical knowledge to other subjects.



The expectation in the National Curriculum is that the majority of pupils will move through the programmes of study at broadly the same pace. However, decisions about when to progress should always be based on the pupil's understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Pupils who grasp concepts rapidly should be challenged through difficult problems, before any acceleration through new content. Those who are not sufficiently fluent with earlier material consolidate understanding, including additional practice, often the same day, before moving on. The old National Curriculum measured progress in terms of levels, and pupils were often moved onto more complex concepts before really mastering earlier ones. The current curriculum encourages a study of fewer skills in greater depth. Teachers from Y1 to Y6 are using schemes of learning, published by White Rose to plan effective maths lessons in reasoning, fluency and problem solving. Lessons are differentiated through variation and challenge. Teaching methods in the classroom today are often quite different from how many adults were taught. There is now much greater emphasis on helping pupils understand "why" rather than just telling them "how". In this way the pupils will be much better placed to apply their understanding in *real* situations. Improved reasoning allows pupils to explain their understanding of a Maths concept. By ensuring all pupils can verbalise thinking, it helps build a secure understanding of a concept rather than having a superficial understanding that may later turn into a misconception. Many of the formal methods that parents remember from their school days will still be taught, but only at a stage when pupils are able to understand not just what to do but why they are doing it. The pupils will then have a useful bank of methods to draw on and are able to choose the one that works for them when applying knowledge. Watch out for our calculation method videos which will soon be available on the 'Learning Links' section of our school website. In the meantime we asked some Key Stage 2 children for their thoughts about maths.

"We often use maths during science lessons when we're carrying out experiments." James. M

"In Maths we make sure that we understand things before we move on." Lola G

"If we are feeling confident we can work our way through the challenges independently." Lyssa C

"It's good to challenge yourself whilst still working on the same objectives as the rest of the class." Ava C

"Rather than just needing to know the answer, you have to explain how you got there." Thomas S

WHAT DO PUPILS DO WHEN THEY'RE NOT AT SCHOOL?

Souparnika Binu Nair (Class 9) recently passed her Royal Academy of Dance Grade 1 Ballet exam at Dance East Ipswich and passed with Distinction. She has now moved up to Grade 2. Congratulations Sou, an impressive achievement! She proudly showed her certificate and medal in assembly.



Charlotte Havers (Class 8) has recently taken her ballet and modern exams and achieved a Distinction in each of the exams. Well done Charlotte!

Tom Attwell (Class 14) regularly takes part in the Junior Park Run scheme and he recently achieved his Ultra Marathon Wristband award for completing 50 park runs. Congratulations Tom!

If your child has a hobby, interest or achievement outside of school, in any field, please let Mr Dewhurst or the school office know about it and you may get a mention in this newsletter. You can send a note in via your child's class outlining the key information or send an email via the admin email address.

Harvest Festival

Years 3 and 4 celebrated Harvest at Christ Church Moreton Hall last week. The church was full with parents, friends and family who enjoyed a range of songs the children had learnt and poems and prayers which the children had written. The children did a great job and your support was much appreciated. Parents also came into school to see the Harvest work that Years 1 and 2 had completed during the school day. This event was also very well attended. This year parents donated goods for the local food bank, which will be distributed in the local area. Thank you again for your generosity and support.



PARENTS EVENINGS

It was great to see so many parents in school during the recent parent consultation evenings. At the evenings we were joined by some of the school Governors who served tea, coffee and biscuits and were there to answer any questions. Many parents appreciated the chance of refreshments and a chat. Our thanks to school governors, Jamie Gaskin, Miles Beasley and Graham Balaam. We hope you received all the information you required about your child, however if you still have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to ask their class teacher, email or phone the school office.

Dates for Autumn Term 2018

October 2018

Fri 19	PD Day—Staff training day (no pupils in school)
Mon 22 – Fri 26 Half Term Week	
Mon 29	Pupils return to school
November 2018	
Sun 4	Crimson Glory Event at the Cathedral
w/b 12	Anti-Bullying Week
Fri 16	Fitness Friday and Children in Need Day
Wed 28	Y6 SATs Parent information evening
December 2018	
Mon 3	Christmas Postbox opens (internal post only!)
Wed 12	Year 2 Pantomime at Theatre Royal
Fri 14	Last collection from Christmas Postbox
Wed 19	Last Day of Term including Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES 2018

Mon 10 Dec	2pm	Year 2 Christmas Performance A in school
Tue 11 Dec	9.40am	Year 2 Christmas Performance B in school
Tue 11 Dec	2pm	Reception Christmas Performance A in school
Wed 12 Dec	10am	Reception Christmas Performance B in school
Wed 12 Dec	10am	Year 1 Christmas Performance at Christ Church
Wed 12 Dec	2pm	Year 3 Christmas Performance A in school
Wed 12 Dec	2pm	Year 6 Christmas Event at Christ Church
Wed 12 Dec	6pm	Year 5 Carols and Readings at Christ Church with Instruments. Arrive 6pm, for 6.30pm start
Thu 13 Dec	9.40am	Year 3 Christmas Performance B in school
Thu 13 Dec	2pm	Year 4 Christmas Performance A in school
Fri 14 Dec	9.40am	Year 4 Christmas Performance B in school

Please note that following feedback from parents, pupils and teachers we have changed the format for the Year 5 and 6 events so that they are now separate.

Other Essential Day to Day Information

- **LOST PROPERTY**—We have a growing pile of lost property! We return labeled items to their owners but we still have lots of unnamed sweat tops and other items in the box. Please help us by clearly labeling all items, thank you.
- Please note that unless children are attending breakfast club or Nursery, they should not be on site before 8.40 am at the very earliest. The classroom doors open at 8.50 am and shut again at 9.00 a.m. After this time, access to the school is via the main front office entrance. If arriving late, parents sign the 'late book', explaining the reason for their child being late.
- Children should not use play equipment before school. The school playground equipment is for supervised use only.
- With a number of clubs taking place after school as well as our own After School Childcare Club, the field and play equipment is regularly in use. To ensure safe supervision, please do not let children onto the school field or onto play equipment at the end of the school day, thank you.
- We have been enjoying relatively warm weather and the school field has been available most days, however, as the weather changes, the school field will not always be accessible before school. The sign on the side of the Upper Key Stage 2 building indicates to pupils if the field is open or not.
- A reminder that once on the school premises, children should walk their bikes and scooters to the bike park.

Have a great weekend.....from everyone at Sebert Wood Primary School!