



# Newsletter

The White Hills Park Federation Trust

Issue 137 – 30th June 2017

## Improving Attainment And Progress In Maths

Many parents will be aware that over the last few years, we have had a focus on raising the levels of attainment and rates of progress in Maths at KS3 and KS4. In our previous Ofsted inspections, in 2014 and 2015, Maths was identified as a significant issue across the Federation, probably our most significant issue, and performance in Maths was below the standard in other subjects, and below the expected levels for our schools. This led to fundamental changes in the way that we delivered Maths across the Federation:

- ◇ **Purposeful leadership:** New leaders in both Maths teams have provided clear direction and raised aspirations. Mr Haigh at Alderman White, and Mrs Gale / Mr Devlin at The Bramcote School have established a culture of high aspirations and expectations within their teams;
- ◇ **Curriculum and assessment:** We have revised the way we deliver Maths in light of the new National Curriculum and GCSE qualifications, and introduced new assessment systems, based on regular formative testing and feedback. Maths has been among the leading departments in establishing our new assessment framework at Key Stage 3;
- ◇ **Effective recruitment:** Recruitment of Maths teachers has been an issue for schools up and down the country in recent years. One of the main factors in our improvement has been the fact that we have recruited a group of highly-talented teachers, helped considerably by the strong relationship we have with Nottingham University. This has added to a core of highly effective and experienced teachers, who have supported new colleagues and enabled them to settle extremely quickly. I am pleased to say that we remain fully staffed with Maths specialists for the new school year;
- ◇ **Maths TAs:** 2 years ago, we took the decision to recruit qualified and experienced Maths teachers, to work as Teaching Assistants in Maths. This has enabled us to provide 1:1 and small group support, to extend our most able mathematicians, and to maintain support and focus for our disadvantaged students. I am delighted to confirm that we will continue with this into the new year;
- ◇ **Liaison with other schools:** We recognise the value in sharing good practice with other schools and have worked closely with colleagues within the Minster School and George Spencer Teaching Schools Alliances. In practice, this has meant that teachers and Heads of Department have been able to meet regularly with other schools to compare notes, and discuss strategies;
- ◇ **ICCAMS:** This is a national research programme (Increasing Competence and Confidence in Algebra and Multiplicative Structures) that focusses on the delivery of Maths in Year 7, and is based on the new Maths Mastery framework. Teachers at the Bramcote School are part of the research group, but it is having an influence across the Federation. It also links to the wider development of Maths Mastery, which is an approach to teaching Maths based on the Shanghai model, to develop and secure mathematical understanding. A number of our teachers are part of a collaborative professional development group working on this with other schools;
- ◇ **Maths outreach:** Over the last couple of years, we have taken the opportunity to develop maths outside of formal lessons, through trips, Maths Challenges, work with businesses and other partners. We have also used a range of creative and imaginative strategies such as Maths buddies and Student mentors, displays and cross-curricular links.

The results of this investment and change in emphasis have been positive. Our most recent inspections highlighted Maths as an area of considerable strength. The Alderman White inspection report highlighted 'consistently good progress' in Maths, as a result of 'increasingly effective teaching'. This was echoed at The Bramcote School, Ofsted reports that current pupils are making 'dramatically better' progress in Maths as a 'direct result of improvements'.

Attainment at the end of Key Stage 4 increased significantly last year, to be at least in line with expectations, and we expect to see that improvement maintained and extended this year. This is allied to strong Maths A level results for a number of years.

We know that Maths remains a key area of focus, given its key role in the curriculum. Developments in coming years will focus on extending problem-solving and independence in Maths from an early stage. We expect this to contribute to our continuing good progress in the coming years.

## Dates for your Diary

July	FED	AWS	TBS	BC
1st	Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Silver Paddling Training			
4th - 6th	Year 6 Induction Days			
5th	Year 6 Induction Evening 19:00 - 20:30			
6th	Year 6 Induction Evening 19:00 - 20:30 Bramcote College			
6th & 7th	Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Year 9 Training Day			
7th	Summer Concert 19:00 - 22:00			
8th	Summer Fest 12:00 - 15:00 Alderman White School Courtyard			

*Please see our websites or login to our free app to view a full calendar of events and important dates.*

I am pleased to say that we remain fully staffed with Maths specialists for the new school year;

*Paul Heery* - Executive Headteacher

## Maths Trips

Mr Rodrigo has coordinated two Maths trips for Alderman White students this week: Year 9 pupils visited The Nottingham Playhouse for an interactive show encompassing game theory and probability, whilst Year 10 pupils visited the eye-catching University of Nottingham Jubilee Campus to take part in a series of lectures aimed at inspiring pupils to study Maths beyond GCSE and give them a taste of university life.

Both trips were enjoyed by all and the pupils were a credit to the school.

**Mr J Haigh**

## Grenfell Nursery Fundraising

Last week we supported the national 'Go Green For Grenfell' day across the Federation, asking students and staff to wear green and to bring in a £1 donation. We're delighted to say that across all three sites we raised over £760, well done to everyone who donated.

We didn't stop there though, and the efforts have continued into this week - a huge thank you to the Year 10 Health and Social Care students Zoe Walters, Mya Marchant, Georgia Kenyon, Charlie Hooley and Ben Wade who independently organised a cake sale and have raised another £35 between them. We are so proud of you, keep up the good work!

**Miss K Marriott & Dr M Lancley**



## Safeguarding - Snapchat Warning



Please be aware that if your child uses Snapchat there has been an update called Snap Maps. This update, which is automatically enabled, allows anyone who is listed as a 'friend' within the app to track their location. This means that anyone they are linked to on Snapchat can locate exactly where they are, which building they are in and their exact whereabouts within the building. If they pinch the screen in photo mode, their location and their friends' locations will be shown by an icon on a map. It is also important to note, that every time the app is opened, your child's and their friends' locations are automatically updated.

As so many Snapchat users list people as friends who are merely acquaintances, this is potentially a serious concern. I would strongly suggest that your son/daughter disables this setting. To do this, click on the settings button (the cog) whilst on this screen and tick the option 'ghost mode'.

If you have any further queries do not hesitate to contact the school for further assistance.

**Mr P Broadley**



## Loughborough University Trip

On Monday 26th June, 83 Year 10 students from Alderman White School were given the opportunity of visiting Loughborough University.

On the day, students were delivered a presentation providing them with all the relevant information about attending any university, including the benefits and draw backs. Did you know that country wide there are over 35,000 different courses you can apply for? Students were then given a tour of the university site by current students who also imparted knowledge about university life in general. On the tour we saw the amazing facilities, including the race track where Richard Whitehead, the Paralympic athlete, was training on his blades. In the afternoon students were set the task of building the tallest and strongest tower in K'nex, some of which were more successful than others. More importantly, this encouraged students to work as a team, think strategically and work under the pressure of tight time constraints.

I would like to thank Dr Lancley for arranging such an informative experience.

**Miss E Heydon**



## PGL Residential - Barton Hall

Last weekend 40 Year 9 students from across the Federation attended the PE Department's annual trip to Barton Hall in Torquay.

The students were treated to a variety of outdoor and adventurous activities such as Abseiling; Zip Wire; Giant Swing; Jacobs Ladder and Swimming to name just a few. The action packed weekend was an opportunity for students to push themselves both physically and mentally while developing skills such as teamwork and perseverance.

All the students were a credit to the Federation and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the trip with some great friendships and memories created by the end.

**Mr K Warner**



## Nottinghamshire 4Uth Awards

Alderman White School would like to thank Alfie Russell, Year 8, for representing Broxtowe as Vice Chair of Broxtowe Youth Voice at the first round of the Nottinghamshire 4Uth Awards on Monday. Alfie was a part of a panel of young people evaluating nominations across the county. He was tasked with Gedling Borough, and had to put forward three young people from a very strong field of candidates. His maturity and insight as a Year 8 student was commendable. Thank you Alfie.

**Miss J Francis**

## Student Lockers At The Bramcote School

Please note, all student lockers at The Bramcote School **must be emptied** before the summer holidays to allow them to be moved up to the Bramcote College site. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Mrs T Tacey**

## Cheerleading Competition For AW Year 7

This week the Year 7 Cheerleading team travelled to Coventry for the Regional Cheer and Dance competition. Twenty five schools from across the Midlands took part in various divisions including street, pom and cheer. After having only performed together as a team for 5 weeks, the girls showed what they are capable of and came home with the trophy for 3rd place.

Last week, the same team attended the Nottingham Schools Cheer and Dance competition and came home with 2nd place, a great achievement.

The team would like to thank Anna their coach for all her input and hard work.

**Mrs G Metcalfe**



## Sainsbury's Community Champions

A magnificent effort from our Year 7 and 8 students, the School Council, Mai Lee McKenzie, Lewis Sanders, Eden Lister and many others, crowned us as Sainsbury's Community Champions by raising almost £1100 for Ward E37 at Queens Medical Centre. We presented our cheque and collected our trophy on Wednesday. The money will help upgrade and refurbish the children's play area. Thanks to all students, staff and parents of Alderman White School and to Ann Sanders for her continued support.

**Miss J Francis**



## A Course For Parents

**Building / Creating Positive & Healthy Relationships** - Open to parents of all students within the Federation.

**Starts:** Wednesday 20th September    **Duration:** 5 weeks    **Time:** 5.30 - 7.30 pm    **Venue:** Alderman White School

**Cost:** £35 (The first 10 to sign up will be subsidised by £10, therefore will pay £25).

Those whose children are in receipt of Free School Meals will be fully funded. Course fees are also free if you are in receipt of certain means tested benefits. Contact [Julie.Francis@whpfederation.org](mailto:Julie.Francis@whpfederation.org) for more information.

## Arts Award

Many thanks to our Exams Officer Helen Percy and Olivia from Nonsuch who took The Bramcote School students through the Arts Award examination on Wednesday.



All have passed (though it might be a while before certificates arrive) and as Helen said 'students have obviously loved, and been inspired by the sessions'

**Mr C Morley**

## The Bramcote School Summer Fair

On a gloriously sunny day The Bramcote School PTA and staff set up the Summer Fair, hoping that the forecast rain would hold off until the end of the day, and it did! On Saturday 24th the tireless work of PTA was rewarded with fantastic success at The Bramcote School's Summer Fair. An array of traditional summer fair events attracted our best turn out ever, including cream teas, tombola and raffle, musical entertainment, craft and pampering stalls, as well as sumo suits, and a bouncy disco. However, this year there was an extra attraction for many people; guided tours of the school before we relocate to the Bramcote College site drew in former students from across the years, ranging from the first and second year that the boys' school was open to more recent students. Our thanks goes to the PTA for all their hard work, not only at the Summer Fair but throughout the year running events and fund raising (and smashing their £2,000 target for this school year) to support our great school and our fantastic students. A special mention has to go to our Head Boy Oliver for sacrificing his magnificent mane for charity, raising a phenomenal amount of money (nearly £900 so far!) and donating his hair to the Little Princesses wig scheme.

If you would still like to sponsor Oliver, his sponsorship form is online ([uk.virginmoneygiving.com/OliverWalker15](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/OliverWalker15)).



Miss J Cooper



## Another Opportunity To Visit The School

Following the success of the Summer Celebration, at which visitors had the opportunity to visit The Bramcote School before we close the building and move to Bramcote College, we have been inundated by requests from former students and staff to come and say goodbye to the building that has been our home for almost 70 years.

**We are therefore organising another chance to visit the school, on Tuesday 18th July, from 4:00 to 6:00pm.** We will arrange tours of the building, as well as inviting you to share a special performance by students about the life and times of the school (Performances start at 4:30). We look forward to seeing as many former students and staff there as possible. All are welcome - booking not necessary.

Mr P Heery

## Health Watch Stand

This Wednesday saw the continuation of a thriving partnership with Nottinghamshire Health Watch. Five of our Year 12 Health and Social Care students volunteered on behalf of Health Watch at a Year 9 Healthy Choices event at Hall Park Academy in Eastwood.

The students stood alongside other professionals and fitted right in, showing maturity and knowledge about the topic areas. Year 9 students were able to give their opinions about local health and social care services, which will be acted upon by the charity where necessary.

It is fabulous that our students are not only facilitating the improvement of health and social care locally but are now reaching out to help the wider community.

Miss E Heydon





# ALDERMAN WHITE SCHOOL SUMMER FEST

**SATURDAY 8 JULY 12NOON-3PM**

**SUMMER FEST IS NEARLY HERE!  
BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

## **COULD YOU DONATE...**

gifts for the Hamper Raffles, prizes for the tombola, bottles for the bottle raffle and any delicious cakes for the cake stall. Donations needed by Tuesday 4 July, cakes on Friday 7 July or on the day.

## **CAN YOU HELP ON THE DAY?**

We need a willing group of helpers to help set up, run stalls, and tidy everything away at the end of the day. Could you spare an hour on Saturday 8 July? It's a great way to meet other parents and show support for our school!

## **GET IN TOUCH!**

If you're able to help in any way please contact Julie Francis via the school office (0115) 9170424 or contact Maz O'Reilly directly on 07428 101861



**THANK YOU SO MUCH -  
SEE YOU THERE!**

