



S P R I N G
M A R C H 2 0 1 7



Maths & English Newsletter

English

English Workshops

Thank you to all of those who attended the morning or evening workshop. Feedback was incredibly positive and there will be a letter out shortly regarding our new spelling project beginning after Easter. Thank you again for all of your contributions. I shall gather all book recommendations for the next newsletter.

**SPELLING, PUNCTUATION
and GRAMMAR**

The Importance of SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar)

“Grammar to a writer is to a mountaineer a good pair of hiking boots or, more precisely, to a deep-sea diver an oxygen tank!”

In year 6, children take a national test commonly known as SATs whereby the children will be tested on their understanding of SPAG. The grammar, punctuation and spelling test consists of two parts: a grammar and punctuation paper requiring short answers, lasting 45 minutes, and an aural spelling test of 20 words, lasting around 15 minutes.

All children across the Federation regardless of year group will be learning the fundamentals of SPAG to help support their writing.

On the school website (go to Curriculum - Literacy) there is a copy of the English Glossary of key terms that the children use in KS1 and KS2. I think you'll be surprised at just how much the children are required to know and use.

Here are some great websites to support SPAG at home:

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home>

Amy Clarke

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions:

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Maths

Fantastic Federation

Last week, the Federation received a letter from the school's minister, Nick Gibb, congratulating children and staff on the SATs results achieved last year. The results achieved in reading and maths at Blackboys puts it in the top 1% of schools in the country for attainment, and were actually the best in East Sussex, while the progress achieved by children in reading at Framfield puts it in the top 1% of schools for reading progress. This is a real compliment to the hard work of staff and children at both schools and a reason for all connected to the Federation to celebrate!

Wonderful workshops

There was a great turnout at both Maths workshops (especially at the Friday sessions where extra tables and resources had to be hastily put out). The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive, and there have been great suggestions for the topics for future workshops. The calculation guidance discussed at the workshops can be found on both school websites in the Curriculum section. Don't forget the top times tables tip of finding yourself a simple garden cane and using it as a counting stick to practice those tables!

Marvellous Maths

As a Federation, we are keen to show children how important maths is in their everyday lives. By the end of term 4, both schools will be changing corridor displays to show some of the reasoning and problem solving work that children have been working on, both in maths lessons and in other subjects such as design technology and science.

Mathletics

Both schools have renewed our subscriptions to Mathletics. It is a great resource for quick practice activities, reinforcing children's mathematical fluency. If you are experiencing any problems or have any questions, please speak to your child's teacher.

Russell Boorman

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