



CATSHILL FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY



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Mrs G Plant – Head of School

9th January 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy New Year on behalf of all the staff at the Catshill Federation! The staff at both schools were enthusiastic about the return of the children yesterday and the children also appear to be happy to be back in a routine; learning and with their friends again.

Last term was my first term at Catshill and I feel that I have been very lucky to have joined the Catshill community. It was a really busy term and I now would like to give you a summary of what the team achieved and about our future plans for the schools.

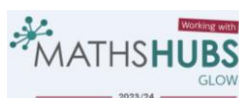
Last term, I wanted to find out as much as possible about both schools so I spent a lot of time meeting with every single member of staff in both schools on a one to one basis. I also spent a great deal of time observing lessons and looking at books with other members of the team. In addition, I met with every single class and form in both schools to meet the pupils, tell them about what my expectations in terms of their work and behaviour were and to complete the pupil questionnaire with them. This pupil questionnaire has already been analysed at Catshill First School. The children really enjoy coming to school and would recommend the school to a friend. The children also feel safe at school. The area identified by the pupils for us to develop further was to challenge the pupils further in their learning. The pupil questionnaire at Catshill Middle School is in the process of being analysed and this will also be used to inform our next steps.

Last term you will have received a parent questionnaire which has been analysed for both schools. At Catshill First School the vast majority of parents are happy with the school, know what their child is learning and would recommend the school. Areas for development that have been identified include expanding the number and range of educational visits and extra-curricular activities for the children and to develop parental involvement further.

At Catshill Middle School the vast majority of parents are also happy with the school and think that their child is doing well. The next steps are to further challenge pupils in their learning, ensure that parents are more aware of what their child is learning through better communications and to provide more opportunities for parental involvement.

Thank you for responding to the parent questionnaire because any issues identified have been prioritised in the new school improvement plan which all staff in both schools will be working on for the rest of this academic year.

We have, in fact, already started to work more closely with parents. At CMS a PTA has been set up by Mrs Aston. Thank you to Mrs Aston and the parents and staff who enabled the fantastic Christmas Disco and a big thank you to James Lawrence for being our DJ! The children had a fantastic time and the event raised £1035 which will be used to purchase reading resources.





It was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas events; at CFSN the nursery concert, Reception nativities and KS1 and KS2 carols and at CMS at the carol events at Christ Church.

We have already made some positive changes: staff in both schools have started to work more closely together. This will improve consistency and transition for the children moving from CFSN to CMS. We have also introduced STAR assessments in reading and maths across both schools from Year 2 to Year 8.

This allows for smooth tracking of progress for every pupil as they move through the schools and highlights areas for the teachers to focus their teaching.

We have also developed cross federation core expectations for behaviour which have already resulted in improved behaviour in both schools.

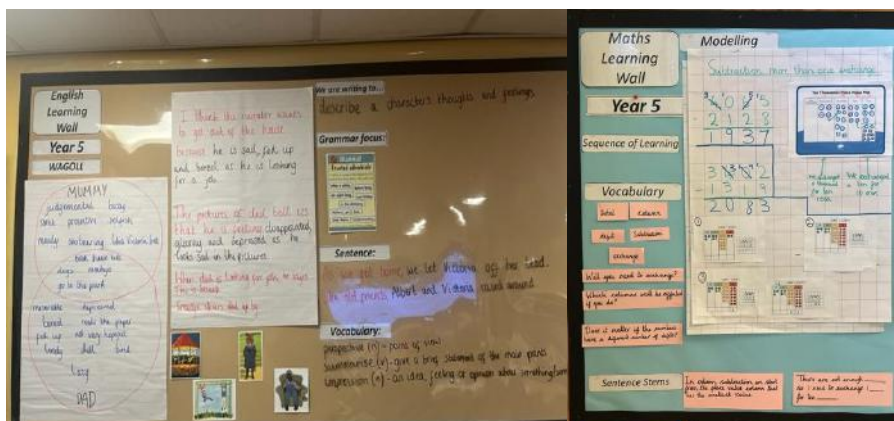


We have developed and improved teaching and learning through the implementation of learning walls. These learning walls support the children with their learning and are a useful reference point throughout lessons across both schools in all subjects. We have also worked together to develop a shared presentation policy which is now followed by all teachers and students.

Presentation, Writing and Expectations In the Catshill Schools, we are proud of our work.

<p>Write the date as Monday 16th November 2023 starting on the left hand side. The date must be underlined.</p>	<p>In maths always write the short date on the left hand side.</p>	<p>If you make a mistake, cross it out neatly with a single line.</p>	<p>Always use your best handwriting including correct use of capital letters.</p>
<p>Write (or stick in) the LO and S2S. The LO/title must be underlined.</p>	<p>Write in pencil or blue handwriting pen.</p>	<p>Always draw in pencil. Draw straight lines using a ruler.</p>	<p>Always glue papers neatly into your book.</p>

CMS Learning Walls



English Learning Wall
Year 6
WAGOLL

Dear King of Sirod,
My name is Shadowy Gribin and I am one of your most devoted subjects. My main mission in life is to keep you safe and keep the kingdom protected. For this reason, I would like to volunteer my services to be the leader of the spies.

I may be blind but I am hyper-aware of my surroundings. Sorecery is a great strength of mine so in the event of an attack I can conjure a force field and even turn invisible! I strongly believe in righteousness and will never betray the crown.

Many years ago, I fought in battle against another country, saving many bloodthirsty creatures. My powers and strength proved useful when I faced a great ogre. I was able to use my force-field to protect my comrades and my hyper-awareness made I know the ogre was coming from miles away.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application. I look forward to hearing from you soon.
Yours sincerely,
Shadowy Gribin

We are writing to... persuade the King of Sirod.

Grammar focus:
I would like to volunteer my services to be the leader of the spies.
I strongly believe in righteousness and will never betray the crown.

Vocabulary:
ogre (N) - a large or scary animal, man or character
invisible (N) - an object that is not seen

Maths Learning Wall
Year 6

Vocabulary
Common multiples
Common factors
Divisible
Prime
Sequence of Learning

Common Multiples
What are the first ten common multiples of 4 and 5?
Multiples of 5: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45
Multiples of 4: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40
The first ten common multiples of 4 and 5 are 20 and 40.

Rules of divisibility
Is 402 divisible by 2? $4 + 0 + 2 = 6$
6 is divisible by 3 so 402 is.
Is 902 divisible by 4? Half of 2 is an odd number so 902 is NOT divisible by 4.
Is 740 divisible by 5? There is a 0 at the end so 740 is divisible by 5.

Year 8

Vocabulary
Ratio, equal parts, Simplify, for every... there are...

Modelling
LO: Can you understand the meaning of ratio and use ratio notation?
525
Understand ratio as... for every... there are...
3 oranges, 2 apples
Write ratio as equal parts separated by a colon
3 : 2

Sequence of Learning
LO: Can you divide a quantity using a given ratio?
Divide 140 in the ratio 3:7
Add together the total number of parts: $3 + 7 = 10$
Divide the given amount by the total number of parts: $140 \div 10 = 14$
Multiply the answer by each side of ratio: $3 \times 14 = 42$, $7 \times 14 = 98$
Check: $42 + 98 = 140$

CFSN Learning Walls

English Learning Wall
WAGOLL

verb: Spring is picking bright colourful flowers.
adjectives: It's stroking cute adorable lambs.
expanded noun phrases: It's hunting for delicious chocolate eggs.
That's spring!

entertain: A poem about seasons
expanded noun phrases: Autumn is the sound of crisp brown leaves crunching as I walk.

Word of the day
scorching

Sentence:

Vocabulary:

Maths Learning Wall
Year 6

Subtraction
take away
minus
less than
tens
ones
part
whole
calculate
missing number

subtraction
14 - 6 =
18 - 4 =
35 - 3 =
78 - 6 =

Sentence Stems
... using a tens frame

KIRFS
2FJ Hit the Button Score: 22

The beginning of this term also heralded the opening of our brand new nursery provision at CFSN. The staff have worked tirelessly to relocate the nursery. All the furniture and resources have been replaced using school fund money raised by CFSN parents. Thank you- look at what you have helped us create!



For the rest of this academic year our federation's key objectives are to improve pupil outcomes in all statutory assessments, to ensure that the quality of teaching and learning is excellent, to improve attendance and increase the number of educational visits for the children. We would also like to further develop the learning environments in both schools. As partners in your child's education, your continued support is invaluable. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch.

Warm regards,

J Shingler

Miss J Shingler
(Headteacher, Catshill Federation)