

TRANMERE TIMES NEWSLETTER

Friday 15th September 2017

General School Information/Dates

Please visit the [Headteacher's Blog on the school website](#) for more information on what's been happening in school recently

Welcome to our new Reception children and their parents. We hope you have all enjoyed your first week at Tranmere Park.

School Development Work

As always, a new school year brings a new School Development Plan with a number of areas we will be working on over the academic year.

This year our priorities are:

- Consolidating the work on whole class reading introduced in 2015/2016
- Introducing the 'Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract approach' in maths
- Introducing a whole school editing policy – 'Tranmere Track' aiming to specifically teach children the skills to edit their work
- Extending the 'Learning behaviours' focus from Pupil Mentoring folders to become part of usual classroom practice
- Replacing class bulletins with knowledge organisers
- Introducing our new school ethos each week. We'll tell you about an aspect of this work in detail



This Week:

Introducing the 'Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract approach'

Maths 'Mastery' as an approach is based on the belief that mathematical understanding is developed through using concrete, pictorial and abstract (or symbolic) representations. Children will travel along this continuum again and again, often revisiting previous stages when a concept is extended. Children use concrete objects to help them make sense of the concept or problem, this could be anything from real or plastic fruit to straws, counters, cubes or something else meaningful.

Whatever the objects are, they can be moved, grouped and rearranged to illustrate the problem. As the child's experience and confidence grows, they may no longer need physical objects to actually move around. Instead, they draw them. These simple pictures to represent the problem could be pictures of real objects they have used in the past, objects mentioned in the problem or something else meaningful. As

understanding develops, children move on to use some form of abstract representation. This could be giving values to rectangular bars (bar model) to identify what is known and what is unknown, using a symbol to stand for a number or something else.

It is important to realise that these are not stages gone through once, but a continuum. There will be occasions when a particular child will use concrete, pictorial and abstract representations all in one session. A child who uses abstract representations in one area may need concrete representations in another. On a different occasion, a child may need to revisit a concrete representation before moving on to a pictorial or abstract one. Therefore, it is important that a variety of representations are available for children to use at all times. Sometimes children will need to touch and manipulate, but at other times simply seeing or imagining the representation will be enough.

Using the CPA approach, understanding is likely to be developed more quickly where children are encouraged to start from modelling a problem with concrete objects, before moving on to pictorial and abstract representation. Therefore, it is suggested that a variety of manipulatives should be made available in the classroom, and not just for Key Stage 1 children.

Assemblies

As you will know we love to invite our parent body into school as much as possible to celebrate the achievements and the learning taking place throughout school. In previous years this has taken place through class assemblies and topic entry and exit points for each phase. As a staff team we have been thinking about how we could develop this further and have decided that as well as the class assembly format we will also introduce some class 'drop-in' sessions. Each class has previously performed two class assemblies within the academic year (except Early Years, who have one). Each class will now deliver one class assembly and one classroom 'drop-in' session within the year. The idea behind the drop-in sessions is that they will be based in classrooms and will be less formal, giving parents more time and opportunity to actually share and discuss their child's learning with them on an individual basis. The entry and exit points will continue to run in the same way as they have in previous years. We are really excited about sharing what is going on in school with you all and look forward to hopefully seeing you at some of our events this year. Dates for your child's class events will be shared on the Tranmere Times on a half- termly basis.

Important Notice

This year we have a pupil within our setting who is extremely poorly and as a result of this has a weakened immune system. The pupil is therefore highly susceptible to further illness (which could ultimately become life-threatening). It is therefore VITAL that you let school know if your child is unwell and that you do not send them to school before they have fully recovered from any illness. Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.

Admission to High School 2018 – Current Year 6 children

Pupils due to go into Year 7 at secondary school in **September 2018** will be able to apply for a place between 1st August 2017 and 31st October 2017. **All applications for Year 7 pupils starting secondary school in September 2018 need to be made via the online application system.**

Parents can apply for a secondary school place by going to www.leeds.gov.uk/secondaryschool There is also a video on www.leeds.gov.uk which offers advice and guidance. Further information can also be found on www.leeds.gov.uk/admissions

Parents will need a valid e-mail account in order to set up and create an account in the online system. If families are having difficulty with completing an application online please telephone admissions on 0113 222 4414 to access individual support including alternative methods of application if required.

Guiseley High School Open Evening

Guiseley High School will be holding their Open Evening on Wednesday 27th September from 6pm-8pm. Year 6 pupils have been given a letter today with more information.

Driving around the school premises

Please could all parents using drop off be aware that that area of Ridge Close is very busy and that other children (sometimes unaccompanied) are trying to cross the road to come into the school grounds. Everyone has a responsibility for the safety of all children coming to school and we ask that drivers are really vigilant for children trying to cross. It has been noted by a parent that some are busy waving goodbye to children they have dropped off in their cars at the same time as they are driving away down the road. Thank you for your support and consideration in trying to keep our children safe.

Y6 PGL France 2018

PGL France has now been confirmed for Monday 4th to Friday 8th June 2018.

Healthy Tuck Shop

In addition to the school free fruit that we receive for Reception and Key Stage 1 classes school run a fruit tuck shop at morning break for all year groups. Fresh fruit, cheeses, yogurts etc. are available at a cost of 30p per item. Reception and Key Stage 1 children may still purchase a healthy snack in addition to the Government free fruit scheme if they wish to do so.

TK Maxx Give Up Clothes for Good September 2017 - Children's Cancer Research

As previously notified before the holidays we would like to support TK Maxx by collecting bags of unwanted clothes. Bags will be sent home on Monday for you to fill with any unwanted clothes, please return bags to school (**mornings only**) of either the 27th, 28th or 29th September. Thank you.

We have now launched the Tranmere Parents Information Directory on our website. To access the directory click on the parent tab at the top of the home screen page.

Important Information

School Dinner Money

From September school meal prices have increased to £2.40 per meal £12.00 per week. Please be reminded that meals must be purchased for the full week ahead.

As previously notified last year's year 2 children who have moved to year 3 will no longer be entitled to Universal Free School Meals. We have sent home details to Year 3 parents explaining how to use the on-line payments system (our preferred method of payment). If any other KS2 parents would like to use the on-line payments system and do not have a log in please contact the school office and we will arrange one for you.

Dinner Money for Years 3-6 for the first half term of the new academic year (Wednesday 6th September to Friday 20th October (33 days) is £79.20.

Assemblies

Parents are most welcome to attend their child's class assembly at **9.10am**.

22 nd September	School Council Intro	
29 th September	Falcons	Drop-in
6 th October	Doves	Assembly
13 th October	Harvest Festival	Assembly
20 th October	Hérons	Drop-in

Forthcoming Dates

2017		
Wednesday	27 th September	Social Evening for all <u>new</u> parents 6.00pm Apologies this date is now cancelled
Thursday	12 th October	Tempest photographer in school (individual/sibling photos)
Friday	13 th October	Harvest Festival
Friday	20th October	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HALF TERM HOLIDAYS at 3.15pm
Monday	16 th October	Pupil Mentoring Week
Monday	23rd October	AUTUMN HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday	30th October	TRAINING DAY
Tuesday	31st October	EYFS TRAINING DAY
Tuesday	31st October	SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO YEARS 1 - 6
Monday	6 th November	Themed Week in School
Tuesday	7 th November	Open Day for Prospective Parents 9.30 am
Thursday	9 th November	Open Day for Prospective Parents 1.30 pm
Tuesday	14 th November	Parent/Teacher Consultation Evening 3.30pm – 7pm
Thursday	16 th November	Parent/Teacher Consultation Evening 3.30pm – 5pm



Special Mention



On Thursday morning we hold a Special Mention Assembly to celebrate achievements within school. If your child has achieved something really special outside of school we would be pleased to announce this on Tranmere Times. Please e-mail Mrs Reeve on victoriareeve@tranmerepark.leeds.sch.uk

Below are the children who received a Special Mention this week in Special Mention Assembly

During the summer, Magenta Bareham (Doves) took part in The Worldwide Sport Aikido Federation - World Championship in London with competitors from around the world, including Japan, Russia, Australia and USA. Magenta and her partner worked hard and won a Bronze in basic Kata. A super achievement as they were amongst the youngest in their U13 age group. Congratulations Magenta.

Shreeya Mistry (Wrens) took her Piano Grade 1 exam in July whilst in year 3 and she passed her exam with Distinction. Well done Shreeya.

CLASS	ATTAINMENT	ATTITUDE SELF MANAGER
EAGLES	Lexi Bull	Ruth Garnett
SKYLARKS	James Ellerbeck	Dylan Duckmanton
HERONS	Elliot Haywood	Orla Bowman
RED KITES	Katy Sykes	Lucy Worley
WOODPECKERS	Dylan Horsman	Jamie Careford
WRENS	Oliver Haywood & Emma Walters	
FALCONS	Mani Shanbhag	Olivia Walker
PUFFINS	Lewis Hawksworth	Libby Dickinson
KINGFISHERS	Oliver Gates	Sam Casey
DOVES	Sonny Shanbhag	Amelia McDonnell
MRS MARTIN Given by Mrs Gibson	Xanthe Shanbhag	

Extended Services

Guiseley Girls F.C. are recruiting new players from 5 to 15 years of age. For more information contact Donna on Nicky@guiseleyjuniors.co.uk

Attendance

Our school target for attendance set by the Leeds City Council Attendance Strategy Team is 97%. The class averages for the week from the 11th-15th September.

ROBINS	100%	WOODPECKERS	99.7%
BLUEBIRDS	97.8%	WRENS	100%
EAGLES	96.7%	FALCONS	99.7%
SKYLARKS	99.7%	PUFFINS	99.3%
HERONS	98.0%	KINGFISHERS	99.1%
RED KITES	99.4%	DOVES	98.2%

Well done to Robins and Wrens!

P.T.A.

Kirsten Finley
Kirsten Finley
Headteacher



INVESTORS IN PUPILS



NPQH Leadership
Development School
National College
for School Leadership

