

Primary Curriculum Newsletter 8



Summer Update! July 2023

Hello again, I hope you have all had a successful summer term. Here are the latest curriculum updates.



Curriculum and Assessment Strategy Team -'CAST'

The Trust Directors (English, Maths, IT, EYFS) will now be known as 'Strategic Leads' (we felt it was more friendly). They will be coming to schools to meet with SLT in the autumn term to agree areas to focus on.

"The Curriculum and Assessment Strategy Team works in partnership, with shared vision and expertise, to ensure best practice in every school and drive improvement."

Trust Training Day

This seems ages ago now, but the feedback was so positive. We all felt this high quality CPD was time well spent and will impact our writing development in our schools.

Trust Subject Leads

We welcome Rachael Hyem as the Trust phonics lead (rhyem@hartfordinfantschool.org). She will support the work of the English Strategic Lead. Sally Day (sday@jeavonswood.org) will now be the Trust Professional Development lead, taking over from Fiona Bradley. We also welcome Laura Stewart to the team as the Art Trust Subject Lead (lstewart@jeavonswood.org).

As always, a huge thank you for the work done by Trust Subject Leads to develop their own knowledge as an 'expert' and offer school support. We will look next term at how best to move forward to ensure time is well spent.

Vacancies

If you are interested in becoming a Trust Subject Lead, then we are currently recruiting for **Music, Geography and Diversity**. If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, please do get in touch with me and I can tell you more. You don't need to have a degree in this subject, just passion and drive to become an expert and the ability to support other subject leaders.



I hope you all have a lovely, restful summer. See you in September!
Em McMurray emcmurray@jeavonswood.org

A few subject updates...

Maths

Ofsted maths research review

As we draw to a close this academic year, an Ofsted maths research review '[Coordinating mathematical success](#)' has just been published. A short 1 minute summary is provided by the NCETM [here](#). It highlights the positive impact that the mastery approach has had on primary mathematics and refers to the significant impact NCETM, maths hubs and Mastering Number have had on pupil's understanding. All primary schools within our Trust are engaging with the maths hub and the Mastering Number programme to strengthen subject knowledge for our staff and develop strong foundations for our pupils. This is a really strong base from which to develop and refine our mathematics teaching across the Trust. Please send me an email if you would like more information about [maths hub opportunities for 2023/24](#).

I am also excited about a new opportunity next year as I will be working with the Primary Team for the NCETM. I will be spending half my week writing materials for Mastering Number at KS2 which will focus on multiplicative reasoning. I look forward to sharing this thinking more widely with my colleagues in the Trust.

NPQ Leading Mathematics

Another welcome addition for maths education is the introduction of the NPQ for Leading Mathematics. The qualification will focus on leadership and teach participants how to lead other colleagues to embed high-quality mathematics teaching throughout a school. The NPQLPM will be available to all primary schools from February 2024. The [content framework](#) which will underpin the qualification and outlines what participants will learn and will be able to do after completing the NPQLPM is now available.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the Trust schools this year, working alongside our hardworking team of maths leads. I hope that you have a wonderful summer break and look forward to starting afresh in September with more opportunities to grow and learn together.

Finally, something to pass on to the children ... [NRICH Primary Summer Challenges 2023](#)



Primary Summer Challenges 2023

We have a challenge a day for you throughout the summer break...

Each weekday, from 10 July to 1 September, a new problem or game will appear on this page.

After you've had a go at the day's challenge you may be able to compare your approach to the solutions we have published, which are based on students' work.



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ENGLISH UPDATES



SUMMER TERM

What a year it's been! It has been a pleasure working with you all this year. This term has been busy with schools having moderations and it has been wonderful to support Year 6 and Year 2 teachers as they get ready for these.

If you ever feel you would like an extra pair of hands as you prepare for moderation, please get in touch. Next year, Year 2 moderations are likely to look a little different, so I would be more than happy to act as an independent voice if you feel that would be helpful!



WEDNESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

First network meeting @
Jeavons Wood 1.30pm

Here, we will be training English Leads in the new writing moderation CPD which will be running across the Trust.

The Trust has received funding for supply cover for English Leads

NEW LEADERSHIP?

If you are having a change to English Leadership, please could you let me know their names. I will then add them to our Teams channel to ensure a smooth transition in September!

I hope you and your staff have a wonderful break over the summer. All the best for the rest of the term! Please get in touch if you need anything.

IT

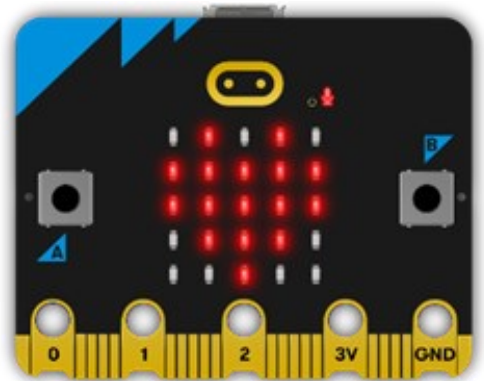
A huge thank you to the Computing Leads for all their hard work to implement the 'Teach Computing' curriculum in their school this year. It's been great to meet with them face-to-face and online to share good practise, discuss Seesaw, Ofsted expectations, assessment and explore Project Evolve to address class misconceptions towards online safety. I am looking forward to continue working with them next year.

Excitingly, every Computing Lead has signed their school up to receive a free class set of micro:bits! We are also lucky to be in contact with the director of educator support at the Raspberry Pi Foundation, who is keen to deliver training on these pocket-sized computers that introduce how software and hardware work together (micro:bits).

Our first Computing Network Meeting of next academic year will be the 9th October. Computing Leads, please let me know if your school would like to host this.

Thanks again to all of you for your patience with IT support, which I am sure has sped up this term with Jonathan Rutt on the case! Please continue to direct IT concerns to support@catrust.co.uk.

Email me with all other IT/Computing queries: rwilson@jeavonswood.org





EYFS UPDATES



SUMMER TERM

As the end of another year draws to a close, we are presented with a time to reflect and celebrate our successes.

Across our schools we have worked on developing our learning activities to challenge and move the children's learning on through inspiring and motivating opportunities. Our environments enable all children to progress from their individual starting points. Whilst we plan activities around children's interests we also provide opportunities to broaden children's experiences.

Being 'Year One ready' can be challenging. We continue to strive to support each child to develop good learning behaviours, that lead to them accessing their learning independently. The organisational skills required in Year One can also present a challenge. Allowing enough time and support at the beginning of the first term year is essential.

TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

First network meeting @ Jeavons Wood 3.45pm

The meeting will focus on discussions around new cohorts. We will also discuss any training requirements for the new year.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

We are very excited that Gamlingay will have a brand new pre school up and running from September.

This pre school, along with Everton Heath will be our first settings to work with the Hygge Approach. A number of colleagues are already working on the Hygge accreditation qualifications.

This is an approach that we are hopeful will be extended across our pre schools in some format.

Diversity

This year, strides have been made to make our schools more diverse and more reflective of the communities which we serve. Trainings have been delivered to the West Village Partnership and to Hartford Infants & Juniors. All primary schools in the trust have had a behaviour and personal development review in the spring term which included an element focussing on diversity. It was so lovely to be able to go to each school and see some fantastic examples of how schools are making their curriculums and culture more reflective of the communities around them and to ensure diverse families and cultures are 'usualised' across the school.

I know many schools have had a book fair this year, run by Next Page Books ([Next Page Books - Next Page Books](#)). I hope that you agree with me that these book fairs had a great selection and fantastic quality of books which the children will love. At GVP, we now have our free books from the fair which will boost the number of diverse books we have in our library. We also have two book fairs already set for next year!



Thank you so much for everybody who has spent time thinking and adapting and being more conscious of diversity this year, even just in the book choices that you make and the language that you use. This will be a piece of work which will never be complete: there will always be more to do and tweaks to make. I think it is a huge positive that the trust have really taken on board the importance of equity, diversity and inclusion and that we all try our best to ensure ALL children, no matter who they are or where they come from feel represented in what we present to them and feel valued in our schools and our society.

Finally, some resources you may find useful:

Lit in Colour booklist - [Lit in Colour reading lists \(penguin.co.uk\)](#)

A fantastic website which lays our clear research at the state of schools and education in representing diverse communities. The booklists are enormously helpful if you want to diversify your book stock.

Stonewall booklist - [LGBTQ+ inclusive books for children and young people \(stonewall.org.uk\)](#)

Arranged by age this can support to find age-appropriate books to usualise LGBTQ+ people in school and represent different family structures.

I am sadly leaving at the end of term, but hope someone will be able to take over this role and continue the good work we have started. If you are interested, please contact Em McMurray

Michael Gray