

Talk for Writing

Talk for Writing is an approach already used by some of our teachers to help children write effectively. It involves total immersion in the type of writing being studied. The children learn a prepared text, using symbols to help them recall the exact wording. They then adapt elements of the text (changing a character/setting etc) and then invent their own versions. This embeds the structure of that type of writing and gives the children a ready bank of ambitious language to use. Staff will be trained by a very experienced leader in December and will be gradually introducing the approach thereafter.

How can you help?

We will let you know when the approach is being used and would ask parents to give the children the chance to re-tell their stories (with prompts)

Parent Outreach

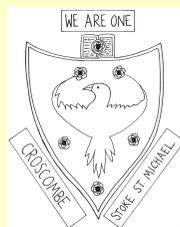
We know that some parents want to feel more involved in the life of our schools. We hope that you all feel that you can talk to us about any concerns, but we want to give everyone a chance to come into the schools more often and to be totally involved with our work. The children only spend a small part of their time with us, and we need parents to work with us to get the best results. We have been setting up opportunities for you to find out more and would welcome you to all of them:

Maths INSPIRE evenings
Reading/Phonics Meetings
Class Assemblies/Collective Worship
Parents' Evenings
Parent Meetings
Sharing this plan

Introduction/Welcome

Dear parents/carers and members of the community

This is our plan for developing the school over the coming year. We hope that it is easy to understand and lets you know how you can help us. It is going to be a very interesting year!



2018 2019

Our Federation Development Plan

Conclusion

We hope that this is a useful way of letting you know some of the things that you can keep an eye out for over coming months. We really want everyone to feel part of our learning team and totally involved in the lives of our schools. Please feel free to talk with Mr Heath or any of the teachers to find out how these plans might be used in your child's class.

Maths for Mastery

Two of our teachers (one from each school) are involved with a Teachers' Research group looking into effective ways of teaching for "mastery" in maths. This means a deeper understanding of the concepts covered so that children can apply the maths they learn in all situations.

The teachers will be meeting with other professionals throughout the year and then sharing their findings and developing the project further with the whole federation.

How can you help?

Come along to the maths "INSPIRE" sessions. Ask your children more about how they found the answer, rather than whether they got the answer right or wrong

Gem Learning Power

Dr Tom Robson visited the schools in September and introduced the "Gem Power" system. This is a way of helping the children to develop their skills for learning. It is all based upon detailed scientific research, but is explained to the children in terms of different powers. All classes will be introducing new powers as the year progresses (there are 6 altogether).

How can you help?

Ask your children which powers they are using in school. You could use them at home as well. For example, Ruby Power is the ability to empathise with others and support them. The easiest way for children to understand this is to ask "Was that a kind or an unkind thing to do?"

"Sapphire power" is about maintaining concentration whilst "Emerald Power" is about being prepared to have a go at anything.