

TEACHING AND LEARNING NEWSLETTER

Teaching and Learning

Edition 2



Great Results for Falmouth MAT

The 2017-18 academic year has yielded some of the best results for our Falmouth MAT schools that we have ever had. The hard work of students and staff means students are achieving the results they need to move on successfully to the next stage of their education and are reaching their full academic potential.

A big congratulations to all the students and teachers across Falmouth MAT who worked so hard last year.

Great Teacher's Toolkit

One of the most significant influences on the quality of student learning at school is having an outstanding class teacher. To achieve this at Falmouth MAT we focus on using the science of learning to inform and transform teacher practice in a series of often small, incremental ways, and with very real effects.

The framework has a strong foundation in the theory and practice of teaching, to support a consistent approach to teaching and learning. The model draws on significant research that has identified what is required of teachers and of learners in order for students to gain the best learning outcomes possible. The model is built on a foundation of three core principles, with a total of twelve components. **The three core principles are Blooms taxonomy, team teaching/co-operative learning and metacognition.** The focus of this issue will be metacognition.

Metacognition



Metacognition is the process of how we learn, or reflecting on personal habits, knowledge and approaches to learning. It revolves around the belief that you can improve intelligence, ability and performance by having a growth mind-set.

Some students can have a tendency to give up when they encounter failure and challenges because they believe that it means they are simply not good at the subject, or that they lack the level of intelligence necessary to excel at the subject. This is what is referred to as a fixed mind-set. However, students can also have what is referred to as a growth mind-set, which states that the brain is capable of overcoming the challenges it faces in new areas of learning. Here at Falmouth MAT we believe it is possible to develop a growth mind-set, and doing so can help a student overcome the hurdles they face in learning and develop the necessary skills to persist.

Effort is a big part of the growth mindset but it's not always going to result in success, and that's completely fine. Praising a child for trying even if they haven't succeeded on this occasion is paramount. We believe every perceived failure is a learning opportunity.

This Edition

- ⇒ **Great Results for Falmouth MAT**
- ⇒ **Great Teacher's Toolkit**
- * **Metacognition**
- ⇒ **Joint MAT CPD**
- ⇒ **Guest Author**
- * **Maths Hub**
- ⇒ **Sports Hub**
- ⇒ **Raising Boy's Achievement**

Joint MAT Continued Professional Development

The Falmouth MAT Great Teacher Toolkit CPD programme provides a sustained and in-depth focus on teaching and learning that is completely aligned with a focus on pupil achievement.

We have made exciting first steps to embed the Falmouth MAT teaching and learning model across the MAT having completed the first of three CPD cycles. Teachers have undertaken training on the three foundation principles, as well as selecting three of the 12 strands of the toolkit as their development areas for the year. Each cycle involves research, workshops, coaching, mentoring and effective feedback to improve the quality of teaching and learning.

It is a holistic model, where the training is based on evidence, self-directed, challenging and enjoyable.

Guest Author - Susanne James

Each edition sees members of our highly skilled team share stories and give key tips on their particular area of expertise.

Susanne James - Yr 6 Teacher at King Charles School and Work Group Lead for NCETM Y5-8 Continuity Project



For the past two years, Falmouth Learning Network which includes King Charles, St Francis and Falmouth School, has focused on reasoning in maths and transition from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3. Teachers from year 5 to 8 have worked in cross-phase groups to generate question and answer sentence stems that could be used to develop reasoning skills.

"Cross phase training and time together has enabled the learning journey of our pupils to be a continuum rather than a 'pause' between year groups or key stages."

To date, the greatest impact of the Falmouth Reasoning Project has been seen in the development of rich questioning across the schools. The development of the shared question and answer stems will continue to have an impact over time. Teachers' awareness of 'maths talk' has been positively built upon and this has led to deeper questioning which positively impacts on pupils' learning and understanding both ahead of teaching a new concept and also to consolidate.

Sports Hub

After many years in the planning stage, the new Sports Hub was opened by Sarah Newton MP on 26 September. Everyone is welcome to look around the facilities and take advantage of the subsidised membership rate that is available to MAT employees (subsidised rates are also available to students). The Gym is open from 6am until 10pm Monday to Friday, 7am - 6pm Saturdays and 7am -4pm on Sundays. Classes will run throughout the week with information on membership and classes available from www.falmouthsportshub.co.uk.



The subsidised rates are in place to support the MAT's proactive approach to the Health and Wellbeing of its staff and students.



Raising Boys' Achievement

Gary Wilson

Review by Debbie Byrom—SENCo at King Charles School

This book provides the full picture as to why some boys underachieve and what can be done to start solving the problem. It presents 28 barriers to boys' learning, including early language development, 'laddish' culture, the lack of male role models, motivation and aspirations, peer pressure, and much more. High on the agenda is the development of a more caring masculinity. This revised and updated second edition includes new case studies, advice and many tried-and-tested strategies.