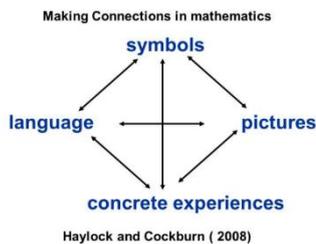


Wildmoor Heath School Newsletter

24th November 2017

Introducing the 'CPA' approach to teaching Maths

Since September, we have trialling a new way of teaching mathematics. "Concrete – Pictorial – Abstract" (CPA) is an approach to teaching that develops a deep understanding of mathematics. Developed by American



psychologist, Jerome Bruner, the CPA approach is the mainstay of mathematics teaching in Singapore. Children can find maths difficult because it is abstract. The CPA approach helps children

learn new ideas and build on their existing knowledge by introducing abstract concepts in a more familiar and tangible way. Most of you will be familiar with the 'concrete' (using physical objects or real life experience) and the 'abstract' (using numbers, notation, and mathematical symbols) from your own school days, but you may be less familiar with the 'pictorial', which encourages children to make a mental connection between the physical object and abstract levels of understanding by drawing or looking at pictures, diagrams or models which represent the objects in the problem, making it easier for children to grasp concepts such as fractions by helping them visualise the problem.

Children will travel along the CPA continuum again and again, revisiting previous stages when a concept is reinforced or extended. Consequently, concrete apparatus is available in every classroom to support children's conceptual mathematical understanding. However, our aim is that children are able to go beyond the use of concrete equipment and are regularly using either pictorial representations or abstract understanding by the end of KS1.

We will be running Mathematics workshops on Tuesday 16th January 2018 (Evening) and Wednesday 17th January 2018 (Morning) if you would like to know more. There is also information on the school's website: <http://www.wildmoorheath.org.uk/ForParents/How-we-teach-Maths-at-Wildmoor-Heath/>.

Local Community Fund



The PTA has been included in the Co-op Local Community Fund for the coming year. Every time

members shop at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund. The fund is open for [members](#) to choose and give their 1% to Wildmoor Heath PTA until the 27 October 2018. So, if you are a member of the Co-op, please remember to choose the PTA!

Roots to Food

Every child in Years 3-6 had the chance to be a chef last Friday during a 'Roots to Food' workshop. Chef Darren



Tinkler showed the children how to make Oriental Honey and Orange Meatballs served with Vegetable Noodle Chow Mein, Sweet and Sour

Sauce and then they had a go themselves. As well as cooking techniques, the children learnt about where the ingredients came from and why it is important that they eat a balanced diet. We had fantastic feedback about the experience from the children and they told us the food tasted good too! The recipe is available from the office if anyone would like it.



Dates for your Diary

- 03 Dec 17 – BF Carol Concert (Leisure Centre)
- 09 Dec 17 – PTA Christmas Fayre (12.30 – 3.00pm)
- 12 Dec 17 – Christmas Concert (Y1 – Y6) (PM / Eve)
- 14 Dec 17 – Nativity Play (Year R)
- 15 Dec 17 - Christmas Dinner
- 19 Dec 17 - Peter Pan Panto Trip (YR/Y1)
- 19 Dec 17 - Last day of Autumn Term
- 03 Jan 18 - Start of Spring Term
- 10 Jan 18 to 11 Jan 18 - Parent Consultations
- 16 Jan 18 – Maths Workshop (6pm)
- 17 Jan 18 – Maths Workshop (9am)

(Keep an eye on the website and school comms for updates)



REACHING for our BEST
Respect - Everyone - Achievement - Courage - Helpful & Caring – Individuality - Never Give Up - Go for It!

