

The Two Way Street

This is the second issue of the Two Way Street for 2013! Hopefully, we have seen the last of the snow and can look forward to some warmer days and more outdoor school activities. In this issue, we have just two questions to answer and then we would like to introduce you to a new maths initiative that can be accessed at home or on any internet connected computer.



Why aren't extreme hairstyles allowed in school?

As we stated in last terms Two Way Street, we have a school uniform to promote belonging and equality and this also lessens competition as to who is the trendiest! Hairstyles come under the same principal. One 'different' hairstyle breeds competition and so we find the next person to have a hair cut pushes the boundary just a little more. We also appreciate that hair styling is not cheap. Hair colouring and tramlines/rats tails are not acceptable in school. We hope that you can adhere to this and support us when your child has a haircut. It should also save you money!

Has the school thought about trying an online booking system for future parents evenings to prevent children losing the slip with their time on! It is very difficult for me to get into school to do it myself



We are currently looking at the idea of parents being able to book parents evening appointments online, but still making it possible for parents who do not have internet access to make an appointment through the office rather than having to wait for a slip of paper to come home! We would really appreciate any feedback that you have regarding this, and you can do so in many ways; -

- Email us at twowaystreet@st-johns.walsall.sch.uk
- Write a letter for the attention of Mrs Haigh
- Telephone our office on 01543 452197



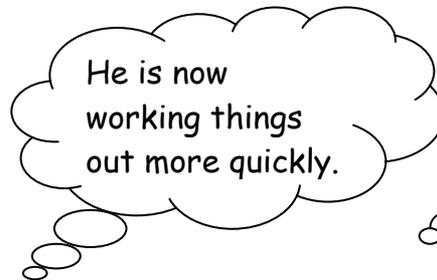
Maths at St John's!

Big Maths was introduced in school about two years ago. Many of you have already attended our workshops in order to understand the principals of the programme.

The successes from using 'Big Maths' became evident very quickly, and so 'Little Big Maths' was introduced into our Reception and Nursery classes! The children love it. We are now a national hub school for the programme and often have educationalists from as far away as Cornwall coming into school to see it in action.



Alongside 'Big Maths', we have a computer based maths programme which is currently run as an extracurricular activity for specific children. Some children do the programme before school and some after. Through questionnaires, we have had excellent feedback from all the parents that have used it this academic year. Some comments include; -



On the questionnaire, we also asked how we could improve the programme and many useful suggestions were offered. We have responded to many of the comments and have investigated ways of making as many of the requests happen. The good news is;

We are now in a position to offer you this programme at home!



- ❖ The programme is designed to be done every day for 10 to 15 minutes (the school's programme runs on a 15 minutes slot). It will not be beneficial if it is completed one day and left for 3 weeks! The idea is consistency in short bursts.
- ❖ It is very visual, with characters used to show maths in everyday life not just as stand alone sums. The programme gives maths meaning.
- ❖ The programme gives you a score at the end and also tells you which questions you answered first time/second time/third time. This is a good indicator for showing where further development is required.

Information supplied by **St John's C E Primary School**



- ❖ The monitoring of the programme would be carried out in school as the teachers page shows how many sessions have been completed, the scores, the achievements and the problems.

We would like to know who would be interested in accessing this at home!

If you would like your child to be registered so that he/she can have access to this at home, or if you would like to see it in action, please complete the slip below and return to school for the attention of Mrs Haigh. **Once you have submitted an interest, further details will be sent to you regarding access and log in details.**

Please note that this does not affect the before and after school clubs. These will carry on as normal.

Many thanks.

.....

RMEasimaths at Home

Child's Name..... Date of birth.....

Tick as appropriate:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
I would like my child to be registered for the maths programme. <i>(I understand that details will follow later!)</i>		
I would like to see a demonstration of the programme in school.		
I would like to speak with a staff member about the programme.		

If you have any comments, concerns or questions - why don't you email us on our brand new address specifically for the
'Two Way Street'

Email address:
twowaystreet@st-johns.walsall.sch.uk

