



MacIntyre Academies
Quest Academy

JANUARY 2019 EDITION 1: NEWSLETTER



“Quote of the week”

“Even though the future seems faraway, it is actually beginning right now.”

Mattie Stepanek

WELCOME

Dear Parents/Carers,



I hope that you all had a happy Xmas and New Year. Although we are now in 2019 I thought that you would like to see all the photographs of our celebration day at the end of term. I hope that you all enjoyed the day as much as I did.

Thank you for purchasing items at the Xmas Fair. The pupils worked hard to organise their stalls and they were all very excited that the stalls they had organised were popular. Each class made a small profit which they will use to fund to purchase their items for the Easter Fair.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that we have been awarded the Family First Quality Award. Thank you to Chris Edwards Dewey and Susan Camps who oversaw the process and to all the staff who provided the evidence needed. The Families First Quality Award (FFQA) is a national quality award that is awarded to schools who are able to demonstrate how they keep families at the heart of their work

I have also included a summary of the Ofsted Parental Questionnaire responses and Word Aware feedback. As you can see the responses were overwhelming positive. We have taken note of all of your comments and will endeavour to ensure we continue to build links with you and respond to your feedback. If you do have a concern please contact your child's tutor in the first instance. However, members of SLT are more than happy to speak with you on the phone or meet with you at a convenient time.

Kind regards, *Nicola*

Book of the Week

Big Ideas for Curious Minds : An Introduction to Philosophy

By The School of Life

Children are, in many ways, born philosophers. Without prompting, they ask some of the largest questions about time, mortality, happiness and the meaning of it all.

Yet too often this inborn curiosity is not developed and, with age, the questions fall away. This is a book designed to harness children's spontaneous philosophical instinct and to develop it through introductions to some of the most vibrant and essential philosophical ideas of history. The book takes us to meet leading figures of philosophy from around the world and from all eras - and shows us how their ideas continue to matter.



The book functions as an ideal introduction to philosophy, as well as a charming way to open up conversations between adults and children about the biggest questions we all face.



OFSTED FAMILY FEEDBACK: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



	(please tick)	Strongly agree	Agree	Agree and above	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child feels safe at this school.	10 (43.5%)	11 (47.9%)	91.40%	1 (4.3%)	1 (4.3%)
2	My child is making good progress at this school.	9 (41%)	13 (59%)	100%		
3	This school meets my child's particular needs.	14 (60.9%)	8 (34.8%)	95.70%	1 (4.3%)	
4	This school ensures my child is well looked after.	18 (78.3%)	4 (17.4%)	95.70%	1 (4.3%)	
5	My child is taught well at this school.	15 (65.2%)	7 (30.4%)	95.60%	1 (4.3%)	
6	This school helps my child to develop skills in communication, reading, writing and mathematics.	16 (72.8%)	5 (22.8%)	95.40%	4.5%	
7	There is a good standard of behaviour at this school.	8 (38.2 %)	12 (57.1%)	95.30%	1 (4.5%)	
8	My child's lessons are not disrupted by bad behaviour.	5 (29.5%)	14 (70%)	99.50%	1 (0.5%)	
9	This school deals with any cases of bullying effectively. (Bullying includes persistent name-calling, cyber, racist and homophobic bullying).	9 (41%)	11 (50%)	91%	2 (9%)	
10	This school helps me to support my child's learning.	11 (50%)	10 (45.45%)	95.50%	1 (4.5%)	
11	This school responds well to my concerns.	15 (65%)	7 (31%)	96%	1 (4%)	
12	This school keeps me well informed.	15 (65%)	7 (31%)	96%	1 (4%)	

13	I would recommend this school to another parent.	Yes	21 (1?)	No	1	
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14	<p>School is amazing, teachers and TAs are really positive and know my child well in such a short space of time.</p> <p>Can't find fault with the school it exceeds or expectations and communication is excellent.</p> <p>Couldn't currently answer all questions as our child is currently not attending all lessons and cannot explain why.</p> <p>Concerns about access to the internet , still seems to be able to get into sites he should not.</p> <p>Would love to know the curriculum better so I can support at home but not homework.</p> <p>I have not ticked no 9 as I am unaware of any bullying cases.</p> <p>Yes he feels says generally sometimes he feels anxious around the bigger boys. I can't answer Q7 and 8. I expect that it is good and lessons are not disrupted too much, but I don't know for sure.</p> <p>The school is excellent and supports my child and its parents in whatever way possible. Highly commended.</p> <p>Please note not all questions were answered</p>					
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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM OUR QUEST CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY AND FAYRE



Spring 1			
Weeks	Form Time Focus		
	Help Scripts	Core British Value	School Impact Objectives
1/2	Ready to Learn. We prefer polite.	Democracy	- I can influence the way school runs through the school council team and by talking to staff - I can influence my lessons through putting my hand up and responding

READY TO LEARN

The aim of this target is to teach learners how to listen and sit appropriately so that they can learn.

FACTS

- Over 70% of information is conveyed non-verbally.
- NOT using eye-contact reduces exposure to non-verbal information.
- Pupils need to sit appropriately so that they are in the correct position for writing /typing.

SUGGESTED SCRIPTS TO USE

- I would like to see you looking to listen as this shows me you are listening and it will help you to understand.
- You need to be ready to learn.
- This means that you have your back against the chair, your feet flat on the floor.
- You will also be looking at the speaker.

HINTS & TIPS

Pupils might need to be cued in individually by using their name

Pupils should be reminded that NOT looking at the speaker could be considered to be rude.



WE PREFER POLITE

This target is to encourage pupils to improve their use of social language and appropriate manners. This can also be used to calmly discourage the use of bad language/swear words and/or inappropriate tone of voice

Facts

Some pupils are unable to monitor their tone of voice (or volume) and incorrect use can also be interpreted as rude.

Suggested Script

We prefer polite. I am not using bad language. Tell me again using polite words.

Your tone of voice made you sound rude. Try again and use a quieter/gentler voice.

Hints and Tips

Do not expect change to occur quickly

Ensure that you model the use of polite language with pupils

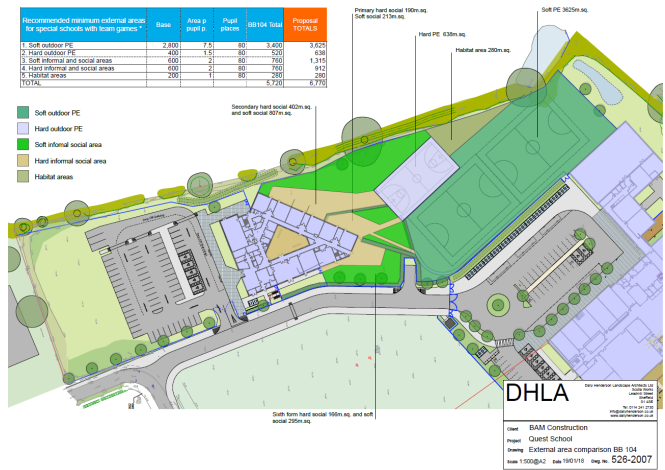
Tell the pupil why it is important to be polite to others



QUEST ACADEMY, RUGBY

We asked BAM (the building contractors) some on the spot questions about the new site, can you guess the answers?

- 1) How many doors?
- 2) How big is the playground?
- 3) How many windows will it have?
- 4) Will there be any grass?
- 5) How long will it take to paint?



INTRODUCTIONS



Hello 'My name is Michael Caine' (said in a South East London accent).

Sorry I'll try again,

Hello, my name is Ian White and since September I have been the new Maths Lead at Quest Academy. I have spent the last term forming an understanding of the pupils at Quest as they are superbly unique and individual; each require different approaches to maximise their potential in maths. I look forward to the Mathematical journey ahead; any queries or questions please contact me at ian.white@macintyreacademies.org

Ian White,

Maths Lead and Year 9 Tutor, Quest Academy

SAFEGUARDING

SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Most young people growing up in 2018 have never known a world without social media. The way in which it enables young people to connect online, build friendships, be creative and learn can impact on all aspects of health and wellbeing in both a positive and negative way¹³.

POSITIVE IMPACTS

- 😊 Healthy lifestyle choices
- 😊 Informed about the world
- 😊 Inspired to be more active
- 😊 Positive body image
- 😊 Emotional support
- 😊 Build and form new friendships/relationships
- 😊 Connect to peers and family
- 😊 Creativity
- 😊 Self-expression
- 😊 Self-identity



NEGATIVE IMPACTS

- 😞 Poor body image
- 😞 Low self esteem
- 😞 Feeling sad
- 😞 Feeling anxious/worried
- 😞 Feeling depressed
- 😞 Lonely and socially isolated
- 😞 Cyber bullying
- 😞 Peer pressure
- 😞 Poor sleep habits

Schools, parents and carers play a key part in educating children and young people about online safety but the responsibility for empowering them to stay safe and use the internet and social media appropriately goes much wider in society²⁰. Understanding the impact of social media on our young people provides the opportunity for prevention and early intervention to protect and improve their health and wellbeing.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE



It was lovely to meet so many families at the parent forum and Christmas Fayre event. Thank you all for attending the Word Aware workshop about the importance of vocabulary. Here is a brief summary of the points covered, a more detailed handout has been sent via email.

Why is vocabulary so important?

- It underpins all learning
- Helps you express your thoughts and feelings
- Essential for social interaction

Closely linked to reading and writing



Home support can make a big difference

Encourage curiosity in words Praise when children ask what a word means then explore it together through books or YouTube.

Have fun with words, play games

You don't need fancy games, you can just have conversations.

It is about talking as much as reading and writing

Children learn words by hearing them and seeing them, so speaking and listening are important too.

When talking about words, use comments more than questions

Children need to hear the words lots of times before they can define it.

It would be great to hear any feedback about how you have been using the strategies at home. If you would like any further support or advice please contact me: Amy.wilkins@macintyreacademies.org

TERM DATES 2018- 19

♦ January – April (Spring Term 2019)

INSET Day: Monday 7th January (no school)

Start of Term: Tuesday 8th January

Half Term: Monday 18th February – Friday 2nd February

INSET Day: Monday 18th March (no school)

Last Day of Term: Friday 12th April

♦ April – July (Summer Term 2019)

Start of Term: Monday 29th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May (no school)

Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 31st May

Last Day of Term: Friday 19th July



Quest Contact details

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How to contact members of staff:

Please contact Reception if you would like to speak with a member of staff. You will either be transferred or reception will e-mail the member of staff to let them know that you have called.

Reporting pupil absence and lateness:

If your child is absent for more than 7 days you will need to provide a doctors certificate. If we do not receive a doctors note and have not seen your child we will have no alternative but to refer the matter to the Safeguarding Board in line with our safeguarding procedures.

Please can we remind parent/carers to call school on 01788 593 112, before 9am if your child may be late or is unwell.