

# Connected Mind:East



## OFSTED NEWS!!

### **Dame Janet**

Congratulations to Dame Janet who achieved a 'good' judgment in October.

The school were praised for their effective leadership team who ensure that 'standards are improving over-time.'

It was noted that pupils enjoy a rich and inspiring curriculum which provides memorable learning opportunities.

Pupils well being and safeguarding were highlighted as particular strengths stating the school has 'a highly nurturing environment.'

Well done to all staff at Dame Janet!!

## Welcome

We warmly welcome Claudia Street to TKAT who will become head of Smarden in term 3. She joins us from a successful school in Tunbridge Wells. She has a wealth of experience, especially in school improvement and SEN and we wish her all the best as we welcome her to TKAT.



*Every teacher needs to improve, not because they are not good enough, but because they can be even better.*  
Dylan Williams

## Metacognition across the academy

Schools across the academy have been encouraging their pupils to think about their own learning. By providing opportunities to think and work collaboratively practitioners have been teaching strategies for children to monitor and evaluate their own learning. [Refer to the Recommended Reading section for some excellent reading material to support this.](#)

### Benefits of metacognition:

1. Instantly provides challenge
2. Engages pupils in meaningful talk
3. Develops self awareness and self regulation
4. Develops working memory
5. Promotes independence
6. Encourages critical thinking



**Categorise it**



**Transform**



**Criticise it**



**Prioritise**



**Reduce it**

Using simple strategies like those down the side of this page can begin to develop metacognition and self regulation and therefore deepen the of thinking of learners.

How can these strategies be further embedded within our classrooms?

*“The aim of all instruction is to alter long-term memory. If nothing has changed in long-term memory, nothing has been learned.”*  
John Sweller

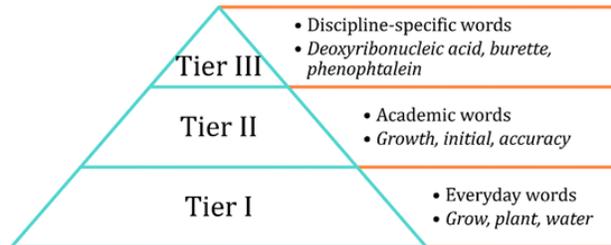


## Curriculum Hubs

Subject hubs within the east are now established for reading, maths, science and wider curriculum. We are creating ICT forums for each hub to enable the sharing of resources between leaders. Maths is up and running!

### Reading

The reading hub focused on the research of Isabel Beck who discusses the importance of developing three distinct tiers of vocabulary in order to fully comprehend and interpret high quality texts. We analysed a range of texts based on this research and evaluated the degree to which our current practice takes account of this level of language. We then planned how we can further embed vocabulary across the curriculum in order to support progress and attainment in reading in our schools



### Maths

The maths hub focused on arithmetic based on analysis of last year's SATs results. The team compiled a list of 'what we currently do' and 'how we can move forward this year'. Time was dedicated to moderating books from schools across the east and this was used for leaders to identify next steps for their individual schools.

### Science

Science is about hands-on finding out and that's exactly what we did at the science hub! The session focused on how we could develop investigative work in the classroom by introducing 5 minute wows! We were able to generate investigative questions and how we could support the children to plan how they were going to answer; it provided a stage in which the teacher became a facilitator to the learning that takes place.

### Wider Curriculum

The wider curriculum hub focused on the new Ofsted framework. We looked at some of the implications of these changes for curriculum design.

The hub looked at how metacognition strategies can deepen the delivery of the wider curriculum and how the use of reasoning based questioning can ensure depth and critical thinking.



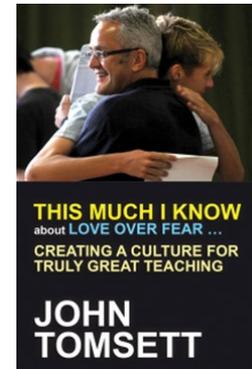
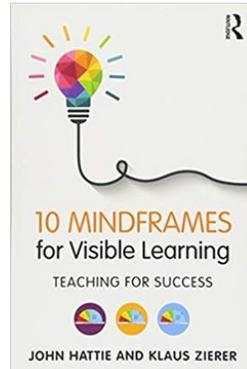
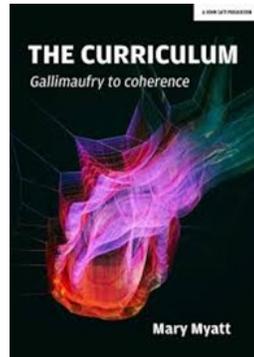
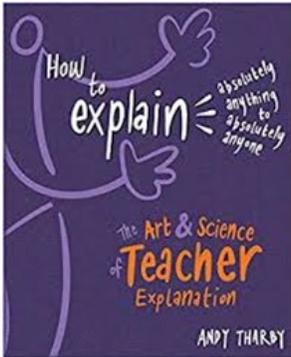
# Middle Leadership Development

## The big Question

## Forest School



# Recommended Reading



## Key dates this term:

**January 11th-** Analysis of School Performance Service and inspection Data Summary report- Kemnal

**January 24th-** Advanced Ped Net 2-Kemnal- 10am-4pm

**January 31st-** Principle Leadership session 1-Kemnal

**February 6th-** Moderation of writing for years 1,3,4 and 5. Based at Drapers Mills 3.30-4.30

**February 14th-** Principle Leadership session 2-Kemnal

