



Balcarras Teaching School  
**Partnership**

Newsletter Number **20**, Autumn 2018

## Partnership News

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to Newsletter Number 20.

I hope you all had a lovely summer. It seems a long time since I was swimming in the sea in Guernsey during my summer holiday. The term has started well here – its busy and fast paced but there is a purposeful atmosphere in the school.

We've started our work with the Local Authority planning Cheltenham's new school. It's an exciting project and as we embark on it I feel reassured that we have so many schools and colleagues that we can call on for advise and support. We've also tentatively started work on looking into the setting up of a Multi Academy Trust.

Please look at the programme for the term ahead. There's lots of events going on and in November we have the Annual Conference which premises to be a great event. I hope to see you all there.

Yours sincerely,

Dominic Burke

If you would like to book places for your colleagues on any of the non-maths activities please contact Nicki Harrington. Her email address is: [njh@baccarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:njh@baccarras.gloucs.sch.uk)

If you would like any more information about the events or the partnership in general, contact Liz Cullis. Her email address is: [ejc@baccarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ejc@baccarras.gloucs.sch.uk)

## NQT network (Cross Phase)

**Date:** Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Time:** 4.00pm – 6.00pm

**Venue:** Hotel Du Vin, Cheltenham

All NQTs across the partnership, both primary and secondary, are invited to take part in the NQT programme which seeks to support the existing provision within schools.

### **Session 1: Tips for success**

A chance for NQTs across the partnership to meet and in particular to focus on the following areas:

- Getting the atmosphere right
- Engaging lessons
- Mental health: Some practical strategies
- Some scenarios

## Music Network (Cross Phase)

**Date:** TBC

**Time:** 4.00pm – 6.00pm

**Venue:** Balcarras, MU3

Coffee on arrival from 3.45pm.

### **Primary to Secondary in Music – use of Charanga and how we can support each other Summary of the event**

Analie Hart works two days a week at Heron Primary School, teaching classroom music. One day a week, she works for Charanga, leading training across various counties and Analie also does music support visits to primary schools. She will give colleagues a brief overview of Charanga.

There will also be time for open discussion, perhaps naturally focussing on the transition from primary to secondary in music and how we can support each other.

This event is free to all Partnership schools and existing network members. For non-partnership schools there is a fee of £15 per person. An invoice will be sent to these schools. More details will follow shortly at <http://www.balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk/page/?title=Teaching+School&pid=22>

## Transition Group Meeting (Cross Phase)

**Date:** Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Time:** 4.00pm – 5.00pm

**Venue:** Balcarras, 7B5

Coffee on arrival from 3.45pm.

### **Session 5: Debrief on the 2017-18 work and looking ahead**

After a successful second year setting of the project it seems sensible to have some time to reflect on phase two and look forward to phase three.

The topics covered will be:

- English Hub – Jess Heather, Hannah Wranosky and Jane Avery to discuss the current state of play
- Foundation subject project – this has been the least progressive project so Liz Cullis will discuss where this might developed in phase 3.
- Increasing primary liaison opportunities – Liz Cullis will discuss the current state of play here
- Transition work project. Cath Sanders and her team to reflect on a fascinating year and look ahead towards what comes next.

We are aware that the team who have worked on this project may change. We welcome those staff who have worked on the project so far but also new interested parties.

## MFL Network (Secondary)

**Date:** Tuesday October 9th 2018

**Time:** 1.30pm – 3.30pm

**Venue:** Balcarras, Library

Our highly successfully MFL Network will continue to meet throughout the year, with an array of topics being discussed and guest speakers delivering sessions to assist in the teaching of MFL. More details on our first meeting will follow shortly at

<http://www.balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk/page/?title=Teaching+School&pid=22>

This session is free to members of the Balcarras Teaching Partnership and £15pp for non-partnership schools.

## Pastoral Network (Secondary)

**Date:** Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Time:** 4.00pm – 5.30pm

**Venue:** Balcarras

Coffee on arrival from 3.45pm.

Pastoral care underpins the quality of teaching and learning of any school. This year the Teaching School intends to launch a new network focused on pastoral care and creating an atmosphere in which each pupil can achieve. For further information please contact Paul Greenway on [pag@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:pag@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk)

## Work Shadowing Opportunity (Cross Phase)

We would like to offer the chance for our staff to visit another school to shadow someone in a job role they aspire to do. This might work in one of the following areas.

- Staff who aspire to be a Head of Department or Head of House/Year
- Staff who aspire to senior leadership in either the Primary or Secondary phase and would like to shadow a senior leader
- Staff aspiring to deputy headship or headship.

If you are able to offer a placement within your school or if you have staff who would like to take part in this opportunity then please get in touch with Liz Cullis on [ejc@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ejc@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk) and she will set up some placements.

## 7th Annual Teaching Conference (Cross Phase)

**Date:** Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Time:** 9.00am – 1.30pm

**Venue:** Balcarras

This year's Teaching Conference is entitled:

### ***Stretch and Challenge for all***

We are delighted to announce our keynote speaker will be Tom Sherrington, author of the highly successful 'Teaching rainforest'.

After the introductions, we have a number of exciting sessions to choose from, including behaviour and classroom management, stretch and challenge of more able students and 'Knowledge, memory and assessment. Getting the formative-summative balance right' from Tom Sherrington. This year's event will also offer the opportunity for department discussion and feedback time.

The sessions are free to members of the Balcarras Teaching Partnership or £120 for the whole day, including one main speaker, two sessions, department time and refreshments. To book a place, contact [ra@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ra@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk)

More details to follow at

<http://www.balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk/page/?title=Teaching+School&pid=22>

# Mathematics News

## POWWOW (Primary)

**Date:** Thursday November 8th 2018

**Time:** 2.00pm – 4.00pm

**Venue:** Balcarras

This session will focus on Mathematical Learning Difficulties and Dyscalculia - supporting all pupils to enjoy and make progress in mathematic. To book a place, please visit:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScxl84nue4fmBnP2FCIKZxvbKE0oomq4A9u9EvJLJD5TYyYEQ/viewform>

## POWWOW (Secondary)

**Date:** Thursday November 22nd 2018

**Time:** 2.00pm – 4.00pm

**Venue:** Balcarras

This session will focus on the use of concrete and pictorial representations in KS3 to secure and deepen understanding. To book a place, please visit

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScxl84nue4fmBnP2FCIKZxvbKE0oomq4A9u9EvJLJD5TYyYEQ/viewform>

## GLOWMaths Active Work Groups – 2018/2019

This academic year will see many 'Schools Working Together' Action Research opportunities in the following areas:

### Early Years

- + KEY CONCEPTS IN EARLY YEARS MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT
- + DEVELOPING RESEARCH-INFORMED PRACTICE (FOCUS ON LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT)

### Primary

- + MASTERY READINESS
- + DEVELOPING MASTERY - Improve lesson design
- + DEVELOPING MASTERY - Intervention for keep-up rather than catch-up
- + DEVELOPING MASTERY - Greater depth
- + MATHEMATICAL MINDSETS
- + SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE ENHANCEMENT (Teachers)
- + SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE ENHANCEMENT (TAs)
- + DO YEAR 4 KNOW THE TIMES TABLES?

### **Primary/Secondary**

+ Y5-Y8 CONTINUITY

### **Secondary**

+ MATHEMATICAL THINKING FOR GCSE

+ CHALLENGING TOPICS AT GCSE

+ MATHEMATICAL MINDSETS

### **Post 16**

+ EMBEDDING A-LEVEL TECHNOLOGY

For more information on these events or to register your interest, please visit

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTIrKA9yJIHe873Cmc16OUYK9kIpSrYq\\_X3MA\\_mZuIix6J5Q/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTIrKA9yJIHe873Cmc16OUYK9kIpSrYq_X3MA_mZuIix6J5Q/viewform)