

Head Teachers' Bulletin – 23rd Feb

Dates for the diary

- 28th Feb - SBMs Meeting (inc training on new budget software and overview of process)
- 5th March - Heads and SBMs budget planning meeting - 9.30-12.30 @ Pastoral Centre
- 7th Mar – Y5/Y6 writing moderation 2.30 - 4pm
- 8th Mar – Writing Fundamentals intro session 9-10am @ St Catherines (repeated on 27th)
- 20th Mar – Dyscalculia work group, session 2 – 1.30-4pm @ Pastoral Centre
- 27th Mar - Writing Fundamentals intro session 9-10am @ St Catherines

Actions from previous Bulletin

- **Writing Fundamentals:** Book your place at the introductory session. The session will be run twice to provide flexibility with dates: 8th March 2024: 9am – 10am 27th March 2024: 9am – 10am Sessions. Please book [here](#).

These sessions are open to schools not yet in the Trust

New Updates (since last bulletin)

Heads' Forum

Thank you to everyone for making the time to come to the additional Heads' Forum on 20th March. The slides from Vicki and Emma are attached with the bulletin for reference.

Writing Moderation – rearranging the Early Years/Y1/Y2

Anita has already sent out emails regarding the possible dates for the rearranged writing moderation which had to be cancelled due to the snow. The available dates are Wed 20th & Fri 22nd March. Both are causing clashes for some colleagues, so Anita is looking to understand which is the best overall.

If you haven't done so already, please respond to Anita to let her know whether you would be able to send staff on each of those days. We will go with the day that works best overall and will confirm that as soon as possible.

Budget Meeting – 5th March

First of all, please note that this meeting is for schools currently in the Trust only as it is a practical meeting to support work with budget setting this year.

The aim of the meeting is to set your budget in the wider Trust context, to give you a direction of travel and create some time to discuss together practical steps that we can take to reduce costs, so that when you go back to work on budget plans for your school you are not working from a blank canvas.

I will be sending out some questions to Heads of schools in the Trust to help with preparation for the meeting. If you have time to do some more detailed work on the questions with your business manager

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before the meeting, that is of course great, but it will be fine even if the questions just help you to get down your current thinking.

During the meeting, Adnan and I will provide you with an overview of where we are as a Trust, run through some principles and direction of travel and give you time to look at your own school's data and then work with other heads looking at data from across the Trust, to help refine your thinking. Business Managers will be working separately with members of the finance team on some more technical work around contracts and then you will have some plenary time with your business manager to think about next steps back in school.

Notices

Mathematical Reasoning Training at St Mary's

This is advanced notice that St Mary's plan to book Gareth Metcalf for training on Maths Reasoning for Monday 25th Feb 2025. This will be open to other schools in the Trust, so please do let us know if you would like to send anyone.