

BH8



Mrs. Green's Gems....
(A view from the top)
Issue 3 (Summer Term 2018)



Each term I will be writing 'Mrs. Green's Gems' which will provide parents with more in-depth information on specific aspects of school life. A key purpose behind this is to develop a more meaningful relationship with the parents of the school.

This will enable you to understand the challenges and constraints, as well as the opportunities, that are presented to us in school. In being more informed you can support us even better, work with us to achieve the best for your child and appreciate what goes on 'behind the scenes'.

The key foci this term is the school vision

Every school will have a vision of what it is hoping to achieve for all the children. We have worked on ours for a number of years.

What is the vision for Malmesbury Park?

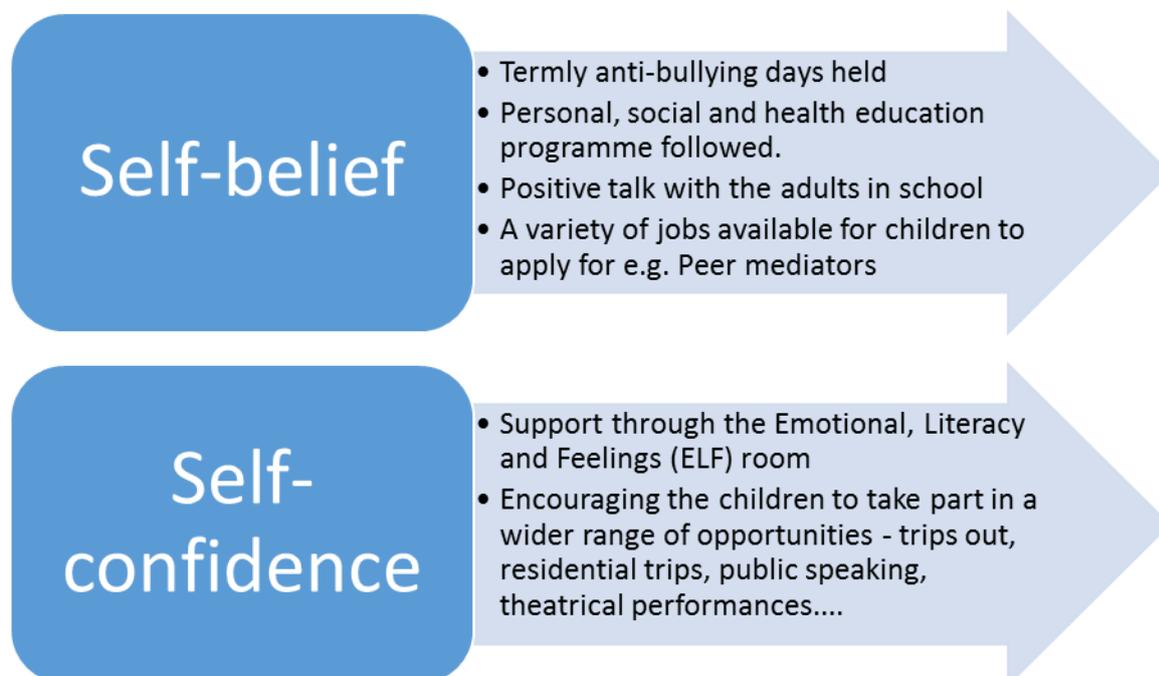
Malmesbury Park Primary School is highly regarded and over-subscribed serving a complex and diverse community. We believe all children are valued members of our rich, inclusive and vibrant school community enabling them to achieve the highest standards possible. We encourage self-belief and self-confidence in order to become creative thinkers and independent, successful learners. We strive to promote mutual respect for the whole community, learning to communicate with a wide range of audiences, thereby preparing children to meet the challenges beyond the learning environment. We offer a stimulating, exciting and enriching curriculum through which children are challenged, motivated and inspired to take risks becoming life-long learners.

But what does this actually mean for my child?

We want to ensure that every child who attends Malmesbury Park has an amazing experience and really does achieve well.

How do you teach self-belief and self-confidence and why?

We want all children to be confident and know that they can achieve their best no matter what challenges they may face. We teach them through the following actions:



Why do you focus on mutual respect and being able to communicate with a wide range of audiences?

We are preparing children for a future which will be different to now. They are growing up in a world full of technology which is changing rapidly. They are going to be working in a 'smaller' world as technology enables rapid communication.

Mutual respect	Communicate with a wide range of audiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The use of the ethos value: respect.• Assembly theme focus on respect• Agreed and shared vocabulary across the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class assemblies - children learn to speak publically.• Theatre productions such as 'Mulan'.• External events e.g. Carol Concert to large, unknown audiences.

Isn't the curriculum just maths and English?

We believe that the curriculum is the whole experience that a child has from the moment they step onto the playground in the morning to the moment they leave at the end of the day.

We definitely want children to do really well in their maths and English. We want every child to be able to read well and to love books as they leave the school.

Why such a focus on reading?

Reading is key to opening up the world for children. It enables them to apply for jobs, be aware of what is going on around them and allows them to take part in many opportunities that will come their way.

We want all children to read well when they leave in Y6. Did you know that to access the secondary school curriculum children need a reading age of more than 9 years?

Surely maths is just as important?

It certainly is. We use Maths Mastery in FS2, Y1 and Y2 which is a very practical way of teaching maths. This will go into Y3 from September. Y4, 5 & 6 use the Busy Ants scheme.

We encourage everyone to learn their tables. If you want to help at home—take a little bit of time everyday to practice them. Look on the website at our maths videos for other tips.

What about other subjects such as art and music?

We really believe in all the arts subjects as can be seen through our annual Music Art and Dance (MAD) week. We have a carefully planned project approach to our learning. Watch out for the next Mrs. Green's Gems as all will be explained.

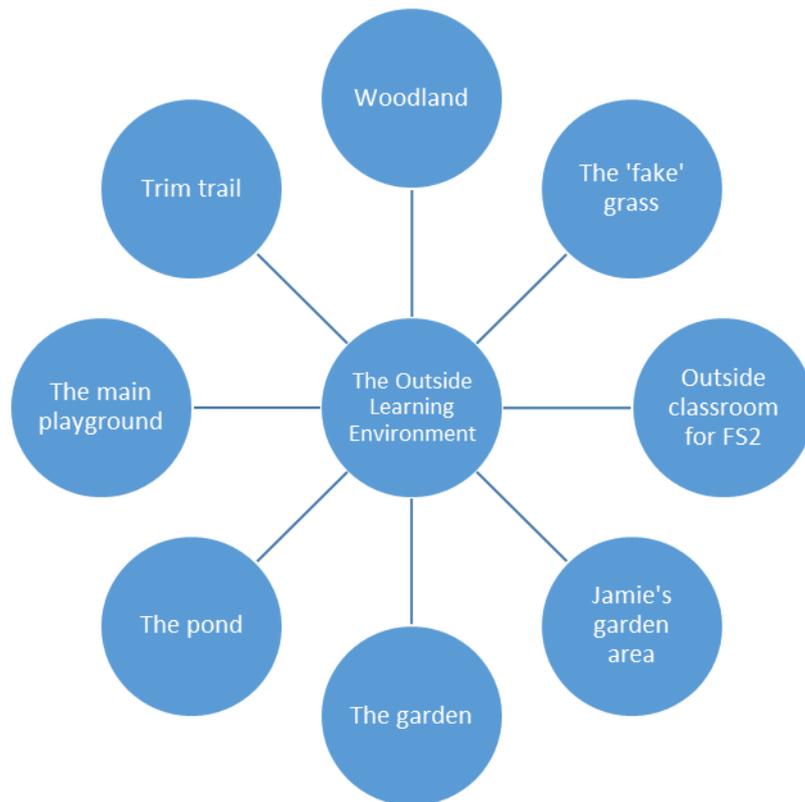
What do you mean by the learning environment?

We believe that if we are to feel proud of our learning then we all need to be in a well looked after and cared for environment. We see the learning environment in two parts: inside the building and outside.

We are a large school on a quite small space of land.

We have tried to 'break-up' the outside space into different areas so that the children can have a wider range of opportunities and learning spaces:

The learning environment		
Classrooms are neat, tidy and organised to help the children access their learning.	Displays are high quality and changed regularly.	Classrooms, corridors and shared spaces are well decorated and maintained.



Ofsted said in January 2018:

"...You are resolute in your vision to ensure that every pupil achieves well at Malmesbury Park. You set high expectations and the school improvement plan provides structure and focus for improvements to be made each year."

Look out for the next issue in the autumn term—The curriculum