

Market Drayton Learning Partnership Newsletter June 2015



Friday 3 July – Launch Event to set world record!

Pupils and staff across the three schools will be coming together as a community of learners for a series of fun and ambitious cooperative activities to mark the launch of the Market Drayton Learning Partnership.



Three schools together: A small working party is planning the day, while groups of teachers plan the morning's activities

- All pupils from Years One to Ten will assemble at Grove School and then split up into cross-phase teams. Assigned staff, and year ten guides, will stay with each team through the day.
- During the morning each team will take part in two activities, one based in sports and PE, the other from science, drama, fun with words and numbers, art, or choral singing.
- After a joint picnic lunch, pupils will aim to set two world records: for the largest collection of gingerbread people (supported by Images on Food) and for the largest human representation of a gingerbread man/woman.
- A joint choir with voices from all three schools will bring the event to a close.
- Reception children will join the event from lunch onwards and a group of children from Longlands Primary School will join in the record-setting attempt.
- Parents are welcome to attend from 1pm to watch the gingerbread record setting attempt.

In case of extreme bad weather, the launch event will be rescheduled for Tuesday 14th July.

Input from the community

In the autumn term all those in the Market Drayton schools' community will be invited to become members of the cooperative trust which is the Market Drayton Learning Partnership, with the right to vote at the Trust's AGM. Parents involved in the three schools as members of their PTFAs, school governors, etc will be invited to a meeting to discuss the work and development of the MDLP and elect representatives to its stakeholder forum. Similar meetings will be held for staff and for pupils, who will also elect representatives. From the following term, this newly elected stakeholder group will meet three times per year. It will help the Trust meet its objectives, offering creative, realistic ideas for its development. It will also elect one of its members to become a Trustee and serve on the Board.



Improving Outcomes

Students and pupils across the schools, with the support of their teachers and other staff, are currently working hard with a focus on exams, tests, and other key assessments of their achievement and progress. For governors, headteachers and other senior staff in the schools, now is the time to start the cycle for next year's school improvement plans. A key part of this will be these priorities for collaborative work in the learning partnership:



- Joint approaches to teaching problem solving and expanding the impact of the Big Maths programme.
- A focus on writing skills, and the development of a clear progression in spelling and grammar.
- Staff from all three schools participating in an action research programme which will support them in improving their classroom practice. The Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme (TEEP) is based on research and best practice and has been shown to increase the engagement of pupils in their learning, improve behaviour in lessons, increase active learning by pupils, increase higher-level thinking, and improve attainment.



Education in our town – celebrating the past, working for the future

- Following the fascinating museum display and fantastic musical performances and fireworks at **Market Drayton Junior School** in March, the school will be completing its celebrations of its centenary with a 1940's-themed garden party from 3.30pm to 5.30pm on Friday 10th July.
- **Grove School** is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its establishment as a comprehensive school serving all secondary-age pupils in north-east Shropshire. There will be a 'reunion exhibition' on Wednesday 1st July.
- It's 30 years since Grove School's PTA bought **The Birks** in the Lake District's Duddon Valley as a field and study centre. In celebration of the way this special place has woven its magic and left a deep impression on the young people of Market Drayton there will be a Summer Ball (at the school) on Saturday 20th June.
- **Mount Lane Nursery**, which makes such a positive impact on the early learning of many of the town's youngest and works closely with all the schools, is 25 this year. An anniversary party starts at the nursery at 12 noon on Sunday 7 June.
- Educators and schools across the town are working together more closely than ever to ensure they build on past successes and improve provision and outcomes for the future.

The vision of the Market Drayton Learning Partnership is **“to work as a community to support our children and young people in their enjoyment of learning, raising their aspirations and their achievements as learners now and for the future.”**