

13th September 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you are all well and your child has settled into the new year at CMS. As we all start to settle into new sets and different environments with new staff, I wanted to write to you to explain a few changes we have made to the setting of pupils in Maths in Year 6 this year.

We are always open to change in school, but only if it is for the benefit of our pupils and their learning experience. We are always thinking of new, innovative approaches in class with our teaching methods and the resources that are available to us. Therefore, we have decided to trial the change in approach to setting and to largely separate boys and girls in their teaching groups for Maths. This is a new way of working for us, both from a staff and pupil perspective. It is based on research that shows that, in general, boys and girls like to learn differently in Maths. The rationale behind these changes is to see if it has a positive impact upon the learning of both the boys and girls.

We are in the 'trial stage' of this transition and we will assess the situation closely at half-term. As always, we will always seek the feedback of our pupils, parents and the staff teaching them. We are not afraid to change things promptly, if they are not working, but we know that we need to have an insight into the research that is available to us that supports a boy and girl split in teaching groups, and it having a positive impact.

Moving forward, we will keep you informed of any changes that we feel are necessary and please do continue to communicate, if there are any concerns, via your child's form tutor in the first instance.

Thanks for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

M. de Wit

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