

Visible Learning:



*Parents' Information
Booklet*

Woodburn Primary School

2016

Visible Learning



What is Visible Learning?

Visible Learning is an approach to learning & teaching. It is based upon a large amount of evidence from American researcher John Hattie. He was interested in the factors which impact positively upon teaching and learning and in turn, the factors which raise attainment. Here are some of the key ideas from the Visible Learning research:

- The whole school community should have a shared language of learning.
- Learners should be at the centre of a Visible Learning approach surrounded by inspired and passionate teachers.
- When learning is made 'visible' (teachers know what they are teaching and learners know what they are learning), achievement increases.
- A visible learning approach supports pupils to become assessment capable learners who know where they are in their learning, where they are going next and how they are going to get there .
- Effective feedback is crucial - it should be personal for each child and 'just in time'.
- The greatest effects on learning come when pupils are their own teachers and when teachers are learners.

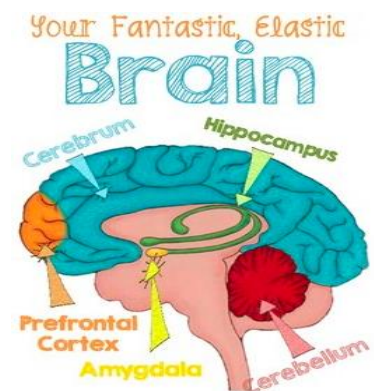
What does Visible Learning look like at Woodburn Primary?

'Learning Settling In Phase'

During term 1 (until the October break), Everyone at Woodburn Primary undertook a 'Learning Settling in Phase'. This allowed us to establish learning expectations with our pupils. Pupils have focussed on what they think makes a 'good learner' and we have explored 5 main themes, each of which are described below.

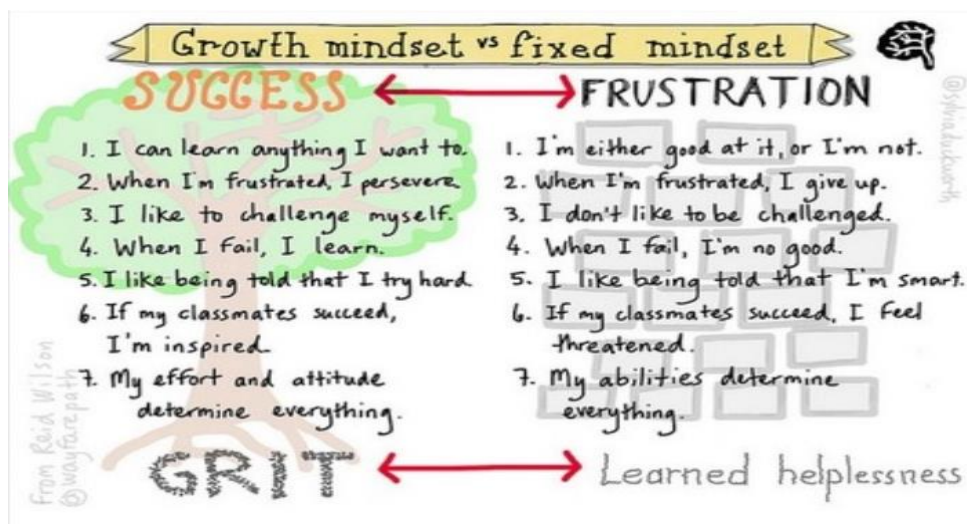
1. The Brain

Pupils have been learning about the parts of the brain. They are learning that the brain can grow and make new connections when you learn new things or take on challenges.

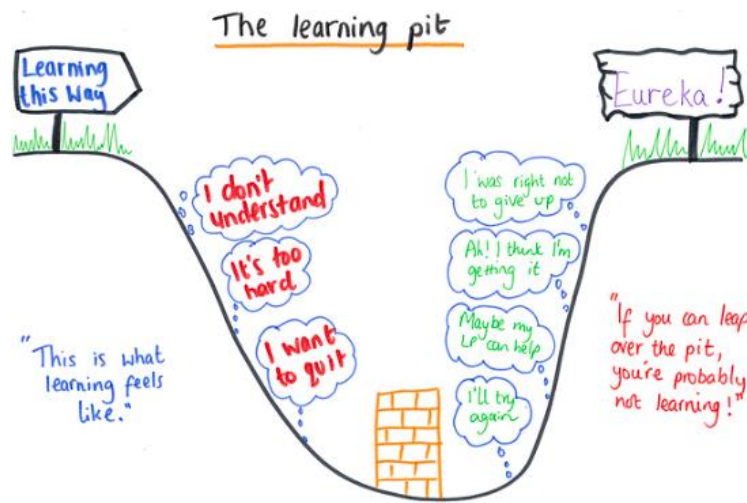


2. Mindsets

Fixed and Growth Mindsets have been a focus and a growth mindset culture is developing throughout the school.



3. The Learning Pit



The Learning Pit is an imaginative way to help pupils with their learning. It helps children to understand that challenge is a good thing and supports pupils to develop strategies for when they are stuck in their learning both in and out of school.

4. Making Mistakes

Pupils have been exploring mistakes as opportunities for learning. They are given opportunities to share examples of 'marvellous mistakes' which they have learned from. A culture is being promoted in which mistakes are a 'good thing which helps us to learn'.

A person who
never made a
Mistake
never tried anything new.

-Albert Einstein

5. Thinking about thinking

A meta-cognition/thinking about thinking focus concluded the 'Learning Establishment Phase'. It encouraged the children to talk about their learning and to discuss their thinking when solving problems and finding solutions.

Following our Learning Settling in Phase, Woodburn Primary School began to focus on developing the use of our Learning Skills through the use of our Woodburn woodland animals.

Introducing our Learning Skills

Our Woodburn Learning Skills help us to develop growth mindsets and learning dispositions. These characters were introduced on a weekly basis after the October holidays and are used in all classes throughout the school.

No.	Woodland Animal	Learning Skills
1	Chameleon	Creativity - Use your imagination
2	Cuckoo	Concentration - Focus
3	Dragonfly	Determination - Keep Going
4	Hedgehog	Have a go - Make attempts
5	Iguana	Investigate - Be curious
6	Monkey	Motivated to Learn - Enjoy Learning
7	Python	Perseverance - Don't Give Up
8	Tarantula	Team Player - Co-operate

How can I support my child at home?

To support our work in school on developing a language of learning, we would encourage you to discuss learning at home too. Here are some ideas of questions you might like to use at home:

- *What was the best thing that happened at school today?*
- *Tell me something that made you smile at school.*
- *Tell me about something you learned or something you did.*
- *Was there anything you found really tricky? What strategies did you use to help you in your learning?*
- *Tell me one thing you learned at school today and I'll tell you one thing I learned at work.*
- *How were you challenged in your learning today?*
- *What are you working on in Art /PE /Numeracy/reading/writing etc?*
- *What are you looking forward to at school tomorrow?*
- *Did you make any mistakes at school today? Tell me what you learned from them.*
- *What challenged you most today?*
- *What was the nicest thing you did for someone else today?*
- *Do you have any questions that maybe your teacher could answer tomorrow?*
- *What are your next steps on your learning journey in numeracy/science etc?*



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You can also keep up to date on our website:

woodburn.mgfl.net

