

Maths Newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter of this new academic year. It's been a busy start to the year as always. Whilst the teachers have been getting to know the children in their new class, there has been lots of fabulous maths learning across the school. If there are any questions regarding maths at school, Mrs White is always happy to chat anything maths!

Mastering number



From September 2021, children in Reception and KS1 have been part of a new project called Mastering Number run by the NCETM (National Centre for the Excellence in Teaching Mathematics). The project aims to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to Year 1 and Year 2. The aim over time is that children will leave KS1 with fluency in calculation and a confidence and flexibility with number. Attention will be given to key knowledge and understanding needed in Reception classes, and progression through KS1 to support success in the future. A key feature of this project is that children are taught **not to count on** when adding small numbers together but instead they will experience 'seeing' the numbers through patterns, manipulating resources such as a Rekenrek (like an abacus) and lots of practice. For example, children by the end of KS1 should be able to automatically recall facts such as $3 + 4$ without the need to use their fingers to count on. Some of the ideas from this project are also being rolled out into KS2 to ensure that they have these basic skills to apply to other areas of mathematics. The CBeebies programme Numberblocks, is a big part especially in Reception and Year 1. Numberblocks is a BAFTA award winning programme which has been designed and made by the NCETM. Research has shown that children who are unable to recall and use these facts fluently struggle later on in KS2.



What can you do at home?

Allow your children to watch Numberblocks— it's brilliant and they love it!

Encourage your child to subitise to 5—recognise the quantity rather than counting individual parts similar to how you would know the number on a dice.

Stay and play

Thank you to everyone who came to school in September and experienced the Longman's Hill maths trail. The maths on that day was taken outside where children spotted maths in the outdoor environment. Measuring, pattern spotting and code cracking were just some of the maths skills being explored. There will be another opportunity to come into school in the Spring Term to join in with a maths session. Look out for dates in the newsletter.

Half termly Maths Award

Rec Minnie Singh
Y1 Alfie Rowbottom
Y2 Reggie Petch
Y3 Elijah Hally
Y4 Zachary Todd
Y5 Caiden Westerman
Y6 Hadley Deakin-Smith