



Information for Parents

This information has been provided to give practical ideas and suggestions for helping your child with Maths at home and make Maths fun!

We know that parents are keen to help with their child's education but may find they do not understand what their child is doing as it is different to the way they were taught or find they confuse their children with their methods. Please refer to our calculation policy which shows step by step the methods taught in school. This can be located in the Parent section – How to help your child at home.

For further information regarding our approach to the teaching of Maths, please refer to the Teaching and Learning section – School Curriculum.

Children MUST know their tables by the end of Year 4 (up to 12x12) and their division facts related to those e.g. 56 divided by 7=?.

The best way support your child at home is to practise mental maths i.e. doubling, halving, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division bonds / facts. All current weekly homework tasks relate to this area of maths.

There are lots of games online to help with this. Please refer to 'Parent-friendly Maths websites'.

For a copy of our Mental Maths Programme please refer to the Parent section – How to help your child at home.

Some useful tips.

- When a child gets a question wrong, it is tempting to tell them they are wrong and how to correct it. Why not ask them to explain their method and help them spot their mistake.
- Similarly if a child gets a question right, get them to explain how they reached their answer, perhaps pretending not to understand their reasoning.
- 'Play' Maths with your child — games are full of maths and are an ideal way to engage mathematical thinking.,
- Consider questioning when playing e.g. Can you be the banker and change £500?

- Make Maths a casual part of what you do while you're doing something e.g. How many more plates do I need? Have we got enough for the bread and milk? Did you see the number 23 bus? I was wondering, is 23 a prime number?
- Make Maths 'hands on'—remember the three C's of everyday maths: cash, clocks and cooking. All three perfect opportunities to practise maths.

Maths props to have in the house

1. A prominent clock - try using both an analogue and digital clock. Can you compare the two?
2. A wall calendar - not only good for noticing days and months, but also for finding patterns e.g. 7 times table
3. Board games with dice or spinner - why not make your own board game?
4. Pack of playing cards - not only can you learn about counting but also chance and probability.
5. Calculator - you can discover so many patterns with calculators, not just basic computation.
6. Measuring jug - discover both imperial and metric ways of measuring.
7. Scales - traditional balances can show counting as well as measuring.
8. Dried beans, pasta - useful for counting, dividing and finding the difference.

Fun ideas to try at home

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/everyday-ways-make-maths-fun>

Parent-friendly Maths websites

The School Run gives parents insight into how Maths is currently taught, as well as activities and SATs practice papers. It also has a glossary of Maths terms.

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/subject/maths>

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/primary-numeracy-glossary-for-parents>

BBC Bitesize offers a range of computer-based Maths games at KS1.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/maths/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>

[http://www.transum.org/Software/Fun Maths/](http://www.transum.org/Software/Fun_Maths/)

Other sites:

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/>

<http://www.mathszone.co.uk/>

[www.mad4maths.com/multiplication table math games/](http://www.mad4maths.com/multiplication_table_math_games/) - a fun website for pupils to practise recall of multiplication facts with quick recall.

BBC Learning has a portal to enable parents to search for resources for Maths and other subjects:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents>