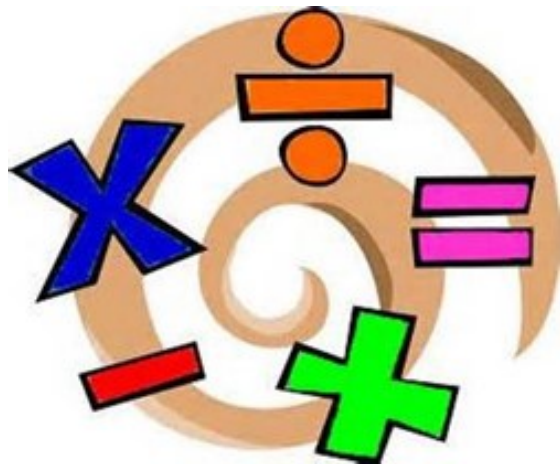




Helping your child with Mathematics



Our approach to teaching Mathematics

Doddinghurst Infant School follows the New Primary Curriculum for Maths. This means one lesson each day (at least 45 minutes a day)

These lessons can start with mental arithmetic, for example, counting aloud or multiplication tables; followed by teaching of focused concepts in a cycle over the year. The lesson ends with a 'plenary' - a recap on the learning covered that day allowing the class teacher to pick up on areas the children haven't understood.

The emphasis is on mental arithmetic with children often being asked if they can 'do it in their heads' before attempting it on paper.

Children in Years 1 & 2 are not expected to use written methods of calculation at all until they have grasped the concepts of tens and ones and are confident users of number.

Homework

Our homework policy aims to improve educational standard throughout home and school, whilst developing the concept that learning is a whole life experience and not just confined to school. Parents are therefore actively encouraged to be involved in their children's education through the homework they receive.

You can assist them through the following:

- Children may know a different method for writing calculations than the one you were taught at school – allow them to explain their own way as well as showing them yours – there is no right or wrong way to get the right answer.
- Use a ruler or tape measure as a number line or draw one on a piece of paper to count along.
- Read through the questions *slowly* underlining important parts
- Sketch out ideas in any way that is comfortable on another piece of paper.
- Encourage your child to explain what they think the work is about and what they can remember from their lessons that week.
- **DON'T PANIC!!** Maths can bring out strong emotions. If you are totally stuck move on and come back to it later – it might make more sense!

How is my child supported with Mathematics?

Some children find mathematical concepts easy to understand and others can find them difficult. Within each classroom the children receive different levels of activity which are suited to their needs. Some year 1 and 2 pupils are receiving early morning intervention in maths to support and challenge their mathematical thinking.

The children have daily maths meetings where the children have the opportunities to solve a variety of problems.



Maths Week

We have a Maths, Science & Technology themed week in the year. We will have visitors, fun activities & competitions. Look out for further news.

How can I help?

Maths is everywhere in the real world and children need to be able to understand and explain its practical uses.

Encourage them to:

- Read the numbers around them, for example, on car number plates etc.
- Play games such as cards or dice rolling games.
- Find opportunities to count aloud or sing counting songs
- Find totals from prices in shops and work out the change.
- Weigh & measure ingredients in the kitchen
- Tell the time on both digital and analogue clocks & watches.
- Read train and bus timetables and try to interpret them.
- Learn their multiplication tables by heart. Children are expected to know all of their tables by heart by the time they are in Year 5.
- In infants, children are expected to learn the numbers that add up to 10 by heart.

Useful website



You may find these websites useful when looking for mathematics online!

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bite_size//numeracy/

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>



You can also make use of the children's online access to Abacus

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>