**Mathematics**

**Ways to Help at Home.**

We are very keen for parents to become involved in supporting their child with Maths at home, but it can be difficult to know where to start. So below are a few ideas which may help you going forward.

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| Positive Experiences | Firstly, it is essential that you try to refrain from discussing any negative experiences **you** had around Maths as a child. You would be surprised how easy it is for children to assume that because you did not like Maths or you found it hard, that they should feel the same. This is truly what we don’t want, so focus on the positives! |
| What we are learning sheet. | Refer to the ‘What We Are Learning Sheet’ on the school’s website. Details of what your child is being taught that week is recorded there, along with the rest of your child’s subjects. You can use this to ask more specifically about their day.  |
| Board and card games. | Games are a fun way of getting involved with Maths. Snakes and Ladders, Shut the Box, Uno, Top Trumps, Dominoes are a few that you can start with. Dobble although not number based helps to improve focus and concentration. It sharpens the neural pathways that help us to recognise similarities and differences which is an important part of developing number sense. |
| Cooking together. | Baking/cooking is a lovely way to become involved in everyday Maths and you get a delicious treat at the end of it. Measuring out ingredients together using scales. Setting the timer and temperature. How much more do we need? Using a recipe as a reference point also helps with reading, instruction writing and Maths all at the same time! |
| Money, money, money. | Nowadays we all use our debit and credit cards to pay for things and so the use of cash is becoming less and less. Despite this it is a really good idea to have a selection of coins and notes on hand to play with/ and use. Recognising coins even in Foundation Stage is important as using these coins helps to cement their worth. Going to the shop and buying something or creating your own shop at home is really useful and great fun too. |
| Helping around the home. | DIY is also a useful way of getting children involved in everyday Maths. Measuring a space for a bookcase or comparing the length of a piece of wood to see which is most suitable, is time well spent in order for measurement to become something your child is comfortable with. How many paces do you estimate it will take to get to the kitchen from the front door? Let’s find out if you are right.  |
| Journey to and from school. | On the way to school there are so many opportunities to engage in Mathematics. Looking at odd and even numbers on the doors of houses. Numbers on car number plates. Which is bigger? Which is smaller? Skip counting in 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s. Playing fizz buzz. How many red cars do you see on the journey? |
| Hundred squares. | Even using a simple hundred square to discuss one more, one less, or ten more, ten less is really useful. |
| These are just a few ideas and of course you may already have some favourites of your own. |

**Maths Websites:**

Here is a list of a suitable websites you may wish to use when supporting your child.

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| BBC Bitesize | <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39> |
| NRICH | <https://nrich.maths.org/> |
| Maths Zone | <https://mathszone.co.uk/> |
| ICT Games | <https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html> |
| Math Playground | <https://www.mathplayground.com/math-games.html> |
| Topmarks | <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16> |
| Hit The Button | <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> |
| I See Maths | <https://www.iseemaths.com/maths-games/> |
| Numberblocks | <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks> |
| CBeebies Numeracy | <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics/numeracy> |

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