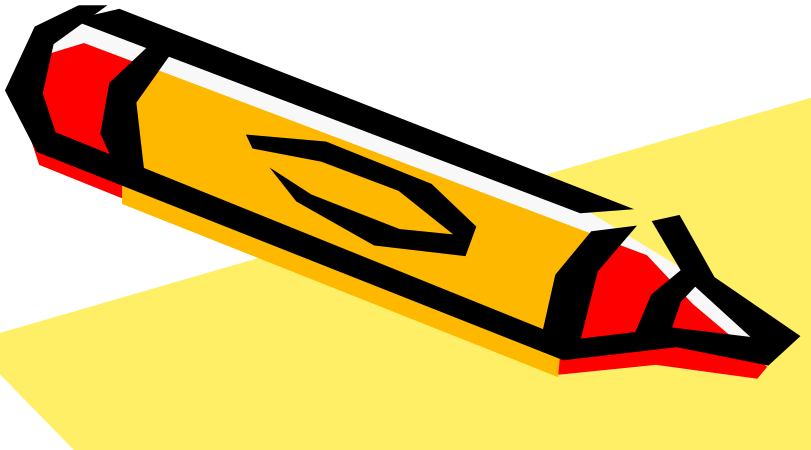
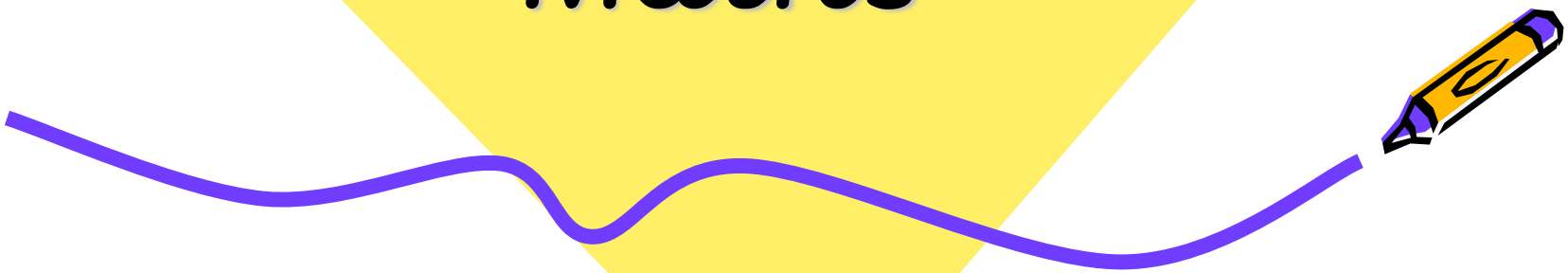
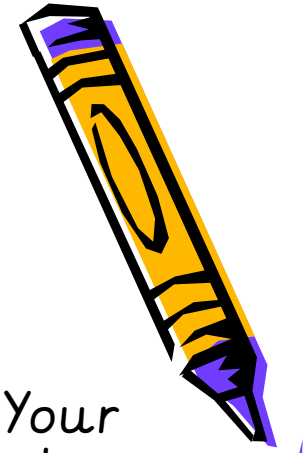


Helping your child at home

Maths



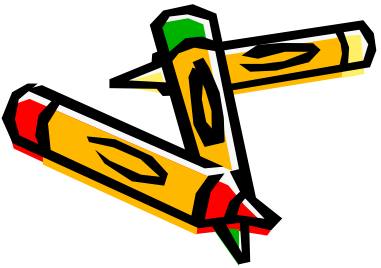
Welcome



- Thank you for taking the time to read this. Your child will make the best progress if **school** and **home** work in partnership **together**.

- If you have any questions or would like any further information, please speak to your child's class teacher or send a message via the Class Dojo app.

- We will use Class Dojo to send you activity ideas to try at home. Look out for little video clips too.



End of year expectations

At the end of Reception, the majority of children are expected to achieve the Early Learning Goals.

Here are the Early Learning Goals for Mathematics:

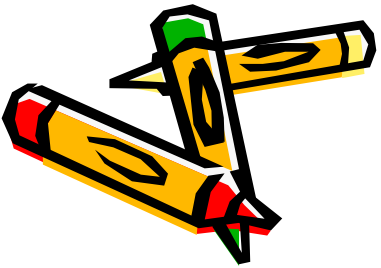
Number

Children at the expected level of development will;

- Have a deep understanding of number to 10 including the composition of each number.

- Subitise quantities (recognise without counting) to 5.

- Automatically recall number bonds to 5 (both addition and subtraction) and some bonds to 10, including double facts.



End of year expectations

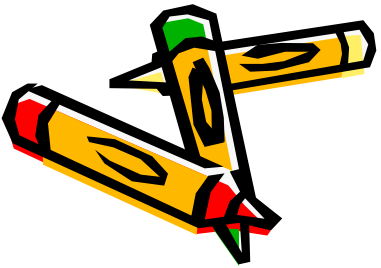
Numerical Patterns

Children at the expected level of development will;

- Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the number system.

- Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity.

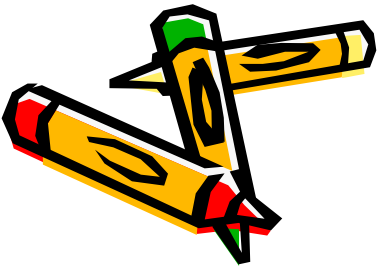
- Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10 including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed evenly.



What happens at school?

The children need to learn to;

- Count forwards and backwards and count on or back from a given number
- Count sets of objects or actions
- Compare quantities
- Subitise (instantly recognise without counting) quantities to 5
- Talk about number composition (knowing that numbers are made up of two or more other smaller numbers)
- Say the number that is **one more** or **one less** than a given number
- Recall addition and subtraction facts e.g. 5+2 = 7, 6-4 = 2
- Recall the odd and even numbers
- Recall doubles and halves within 10
- Count in 10s

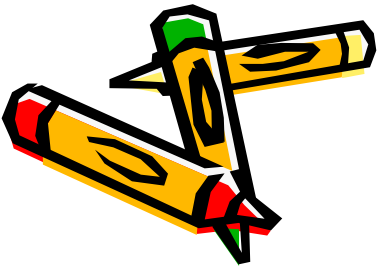


Teaching and Learning

- The children have a Maths lesson every single day after lunch. The lessons are practical and develop the children's skills in a fun and 'hands on' way.

- Staff also spend time engaging with children in maths games and activities 1:1 or in small groups throughout the day, as well as supporting their mathematical development through play.

- A wide range of maths resources are available for the children to access freely in the classrooms. This enables them to go away and independently practise the skills they have learnt.



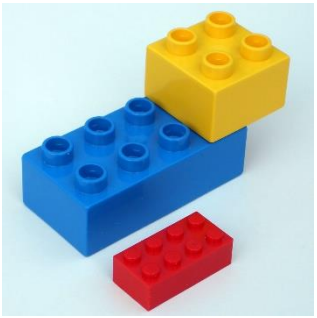
Subitising

- Subitising is the ability to look at a small group of objects and instantly know how many there are, without needing to count them.

- Subitising is an important mathematical skill that we all use in our everyday lives. It is something that we are doing constantly, often without realising.

How can you help?

- Place a small quantity (up to 4) of objects (buttons, Lego pieces, sweets, berries etc.) down and ask your child 'How many can you see?' Encourage them to say without counting.



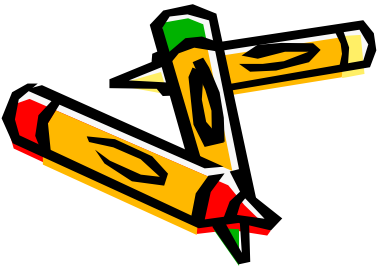
- Play dice games – children quickly learnt to subitise the familiar dot patterns on a dice.

Counting

- Counting is a basic and important skill for children to learn and master. In school, children are encouraged to explore counting out loud, counting objects, pictures, sounds, actions and matching quantities to numerals.

- Children need to understand that each object counted represents one more, and that the final number said is the total number of objects in the group.

- In Reception, we also teach children how to count **on** or **back** from a given number. They learn to hold a number in their heads and continue to count from that point.



Counting

How can you help?

It's easy to provide counting opportunities during your normal daily routines...

- How many pieces of apple are on the plate?
- What happens if I add one more?
- What happens if I take one away?
- Can you give me five cars/blocks/teddies?
- Can you start counting from four and stop at nine?
- Can you **count on** from five?
- Can you count forwards and backwards?
- Let's count these stairs
- Can you count jumps or hops?

Composition

- In Reception, children learn that numbers can be made up of two or more parts (or smaller numbers) e.g. five can be made up of three and two. It can also be made up of four and one.

- We provide lots of opportunities for children to explore splitting numbers into smaller parts or groups.

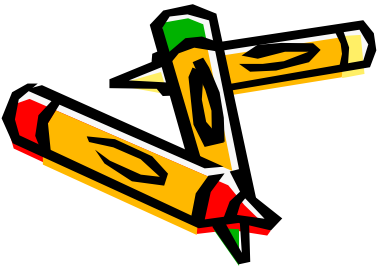
How can you help?

- We have four strawberries. How could we share them out between the two of us? Can you think of another way to share them?

- Can you show me five fingers? Can you show me five in a different way?

Comparison

- In Reception, children learn that sets can be compared, using the language of 'more than' and 'fewer than'.
- When comparing groups of objects, they learn to identify which group of objects has 'more' and which group has 'fewer' objects.
- They learn to match groups of objects of the same quantity.
- They need to know that the quantity of objects stays the same when they are spread out or moved closer together. They learn that objects will appear different if they are spread out or different sizes.



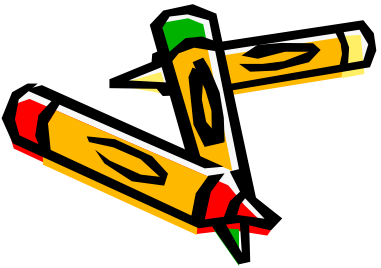
Comparison

How can you help?

- Give your child lots of examples of what 'more' and 'fewer' look like. Start with very obvious comparisons, such as comparing a set of two objects and a set of ten objects.

- Remember to model the language of 'more' and 'fewer' for your child to learn e.g. 'Oh look, you have six raisins and I have three. You have more than me/ I have fewer than you'

- Hold up e.g. five fingers on one hand and three fingers on the other hand and ask your child 'Which hand shows more/fewer?'



Useful resources

- Mathletics is an online program which enables children to practise their maths skills through fun activities and challenges. We will provide your child with their own personal login details to access the Mathletics site.
- Counting songs and number rhymes are a fantastic way of developing children's understanding of number and quantity. Most children love singing these familiar songs with an adult while counting along on their fingers. Follow this link to find some suggestions.
- The BBC website has some good interactive maths puzzles and games which are suitable for children in Reception.
- Cbeebies Numberblocks engages children in maths because the characters *are* the maths and they behave in mathematical ways. The series are all available to watch on iPlayer.
- Jack Hartman has some catchy songs on Youtube, which encourage children to subitise.