

MATHS

At St Catherine's we believe that having a sound understanding of maths is an essential skill for life in our ever changing modern world. We strive to develop a love and passion for the subject in our pupils by fostering a supportive, yet challenging and visually stimulating, environment where all children will achieve and grow in confidence.

Our core mathematics programme is 'White Rose Maths'. We selected this programme as it supports our philosophy of how good maths teaching should look. The small-step approach enables us to detect and analyse any misconceptions early on in each child's understanding, and has a good balance of computation and problem solving skills which are necessary for life.

Maths is about connections and relationships. Therefore, we challenge the children to build on and use their strong factual knowledge to develop strategies and procedures to solve mathematical problems.



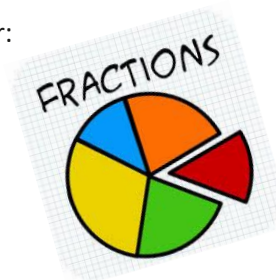
We use an approach which allows children not only to be able to find the answers, but also to be able to explain the reasoning behind their lines of enquiry using accurate mathematical vocabulary. Following on from this they can quickly move on to problem solve using their own initiative, often in real-life contexts.

At St Catherine's, the main skills that we aim to teach our children are:



- the use of practical equipment, such as Numicon and number lines, in order to develop a secure understanding of key concepts
- the development of a broad range of skills in using and applying mathematics
- a fluent knowledge and recall of number facts and the number system
- an ability to think independently and to persevere when faced with challenges
- a fluency in performing written and mental calculations and in using mathematical techniques
- an ability to embrace the value of learning from mistakes and false starts.
- an accurate use of mathematical vocabulary

Maths topics that we cover and revisit and build upon each year:

- Calculation
- Fractions
- Decimals
- Shape and space
- Measurement –
- Time, money and data handling



Helping your child at home:

- Encourage them to go on  and/or  several times a week
- Talk about time, involve them in counting and using money
- Play games involving number
- Make maths fun and real



Useful websites

Games to support all areas of maths.

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

Learn to tell the time

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/measures.htm#Time>

Games to learn about fractions



