

Maths at Howley Grange

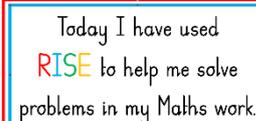
Here at Howley Grange Primary School, we plan for a broad Maths curriculum which aims to inspire, engage and motivate children while building their confidence and love of Maths. As a school we have raised the profile of Maths. Pupil voice now tells us that children now enjoy Maths, in doing this parental/carer support has been and continues to be crucial. To keep you up to date as parents and carers on how best to support your child at home with Maths, below is a brief summary of initiatives being continued or introduced this academic year.

Mathematician of the Month

Mathematician of the Month continues throughout the school from Reception to Year 6. Each teacher at the end of each half term chooses one child who has been impressing them in Maths. These children are then presented a certificate in Achievement Assembly. Children are chosen for their own personal achievements and reaching personal goals and this award does not have to be based on academic achievements, rather that of effort, confidence and attitude towards the subject. Mathematician of the Month has proved successful in helping to raise confidence and self-belief in Maths, a key aim of ours. Pupil voice carried out states that children are proud to receive a certificate and that they like having something to work towards. Children also state that they like having their picture up in the hallway as it gives them a confidence boost.

RISE

RISE also continues to be used within our Maths teaching here at Howley Grange. RISE is our own way of teaching problem solving and reasoning and has proved successful in helping children RISE in both confidence and attainment. During verbal feedback from Ofsted, it was said that RISE is an effective way of teaching problem solving and reasoning. RISE is displayed in every classroom, reminding children of the 4 key steps in solving problems and how to reason. Children now know that R is Recognise (Recognise what they already know, what they need to find out and what skills they need to solve the given problem). I is Identify (Identify the key points in the problem/ highlight these). S is Solve (Solve the problem) and E is Explain (Explain how you solved it, how you know the answer is correct or what you would do differently if the answer was not correct). Our children here at Howley know that using these 4 steps gives them



Today I have used
RISE to help me solve
problems in my Maths work.

a better chance of solving problems correctly using prior knowledge and skills they have been taught. When children use RISE to support their Maths work in school, a sticker will be placed in their books identifying this. At home, to support your child, please remind them about RISE and help them to solve problems using these 4 steps.

Snappy Maths



Snappy Maths is one of our new initiatives for this year and is already proving to be very successful. Snappy Maths is a progressive programme that runs from Reception through to Year 6, outside of the daily Maths lesson. It is aimed at raising children's rapid recall of number bonds and table facts and is linked to the objectives for each year group. Children engage in Snappy Maths every day for 5 to 10 minutes, in this time they are taught number skills including table facts and number bonds through 3 activity types: 'chants', 'circle games' and 'show me'. All feedback on this new initiative has been positive. Pupil voice states that Snappy Maths is good as it helps children get quicker and better at times tables and number bonds. Children state that it really helps them and that they like it because it is fun and repetitive. To support your child at home, you can practise chanting the times tables (they can teach you the moves to go with them), supporting number bonds to 5, 10 or 20.

TT Rockstars

When it comes to the times tables, speed AND accuracy are important. The more facts that your children remember, the easier it is for them to complete harder calculations. So, to support children's learning of the times tables 'Times Tables Rock Stars' was launched as a new initiative, earlier this year. Times Table Rock stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help children master their times tables. In school, your child participates in a 3 minute times table practise session every single day. This is completed in a fun and engaging way and will help them work towards becoming a Rock Star. Being a Rock Star means they can answer multiplication questions in less than 3 seconds! To support your child at home, please encourage them to participate in times table practise by logging on to the TT Rock Stars. To further your child's speed and



confidence, accuracy of

the times tables, support from you and practise at home is essential. At home your child can play on a selection of games, found on the website. Pupil feedback has been extremely positive, it states that TT Rockstars is really helping and children say they really enjoy doing it every morning. Both staff and children have expressed that it has really helped times table knowledge while being fun at the same time. Children have said that they are now finding times tables easier and have increased confidence. Children are willing to have a go. One child in Year 6 wrote during feedback that "TT Rockstars was a great idea to bring to Howley Grange as I have now gone from a score of 33 in 3 minutes to a score of 60 in 2 minutes. I love it".