



MATHS NEWSLETTER

ST BEDE'S PRIMARY
SCHOOL



AUTUMN TERM 1

OUR AIMS

AT ST BEDE'S, WE AIM TO EQUIP ALL PUPILS WITH THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO SOLVE A RANGE OF PROBLEMS THROUGH FLUENCY WITH NUMBERS AND MATHEMATICAL REASONING. CHILDREN ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEE THE MATHEMATICS THAT SURROUND THEM EVERY DAY AND ENJOY DEVELOPING VITAL LIFE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE IN THIS SUBJECT.

OUR CURRICULUM THIS TERM

KS1	Place Value (within 20), Addition & Subtraction
LKS2	Place Value, Addition & Subtraction
UKS2	Place Value, Addition & Subtraction, Fractions

WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON?

Our St Bede's Mathematicians Are Off to a Great Start!

Our young mathematicians at St Bede's have made a fantastic start to the new school year as they settle into their new classes. In Early Years, children are busy developing those all-important first mathematical skills that will form the foundation for their future learning. Across the rest of the school, pupils are building on their existing knowledge and deepening their understanding of key mathematical concepts, ready to tackle new challenges as the year progresses.

Each term, this newsletter will highlight a different maths **manipulative** (hands-on learning tool) used in school. We'll explain what the manipulative is, how your child has been using it in class, and provide some simple ways you can support their learning at home.

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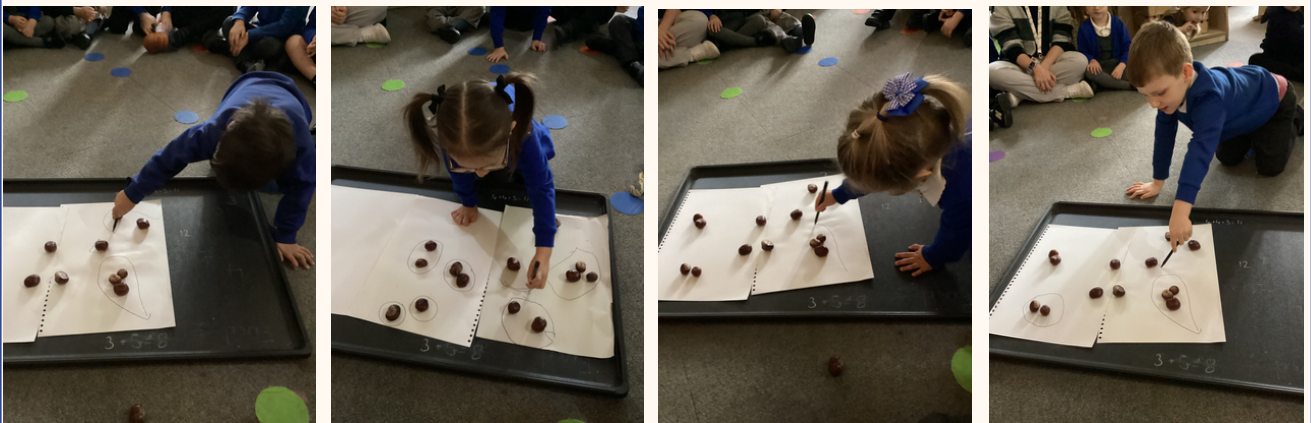
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EARLY YEARS FOCUS

In Nursery, we have been working on recognising amounts up to 3 without counting! They have been using natural objects such as conkers to recognize patterns in how they land on the tray. Super Subitising nursery!



In reception, we have been learning how to subitise numbers to 3. Subitise means when we can see how many objects there are without needing to count. The children loved making their own Numberblocks using print and pens. We were able to work in pairs and find different ways to represent 1, 2 and 3



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MANIPULATIVE FOCUS

Counters!

Counters are small objects (like buttons or discs) used as a concrete resource in primary maths to help children understand key concepts in a hands-on way. They are especially useful for younger learners because they make abstract ideas more visual and practical.

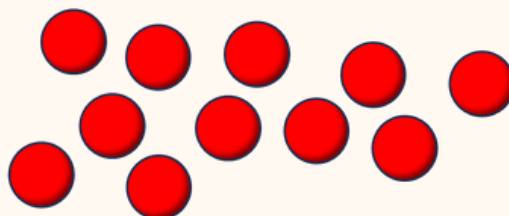
What are counters used for?

- Counting and number recognition — children can move or group counters to count more accurately.
- Addition and subtraction — using counters to add or take away helps children see what's happening.
- Grouping and multiplication — children can group counters to understand repeated addition or times tables.
- Sharing and division — they can physically divide counters into equal groups to learn about dividing numbers.
- Understanding patterns — sorting counters by colour or shape supports thinking and logic skills.

Why are counters helpful?

- They make learning visual — children can see and touch what they're working with.
- They help build confidence and understanding before moving on to written methods.
- They support problem-solving in a fun and engaging way.

Let's have a look at how the children of St Bede's have been using counters in their maths recently and read to the end to see how you can use counters at home.



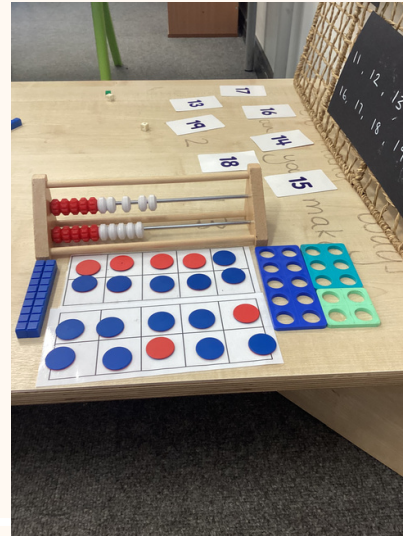
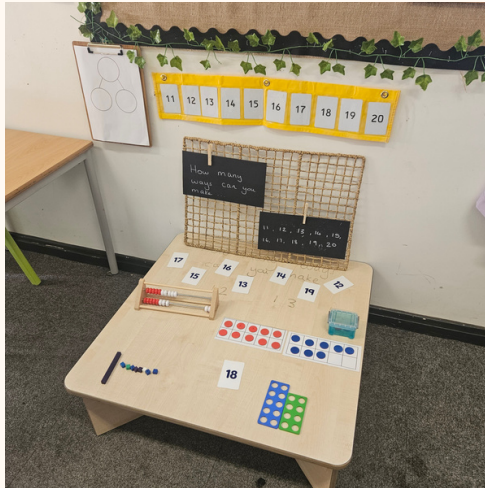
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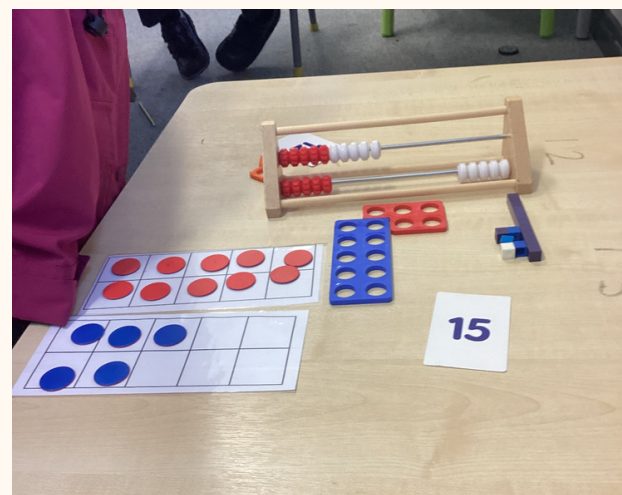
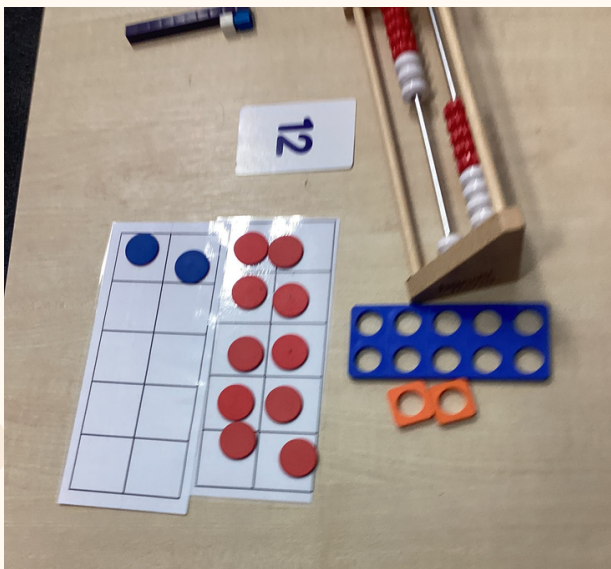


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WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON?



In KS1 children have been using counters to represent numbers to 20. By representing teen numbers using counters on a tens frame, they have discovered that they are made of 1 ten and some ones. Further, counters have supported with them securing quick recall of 1 more and 1 less than a given number.



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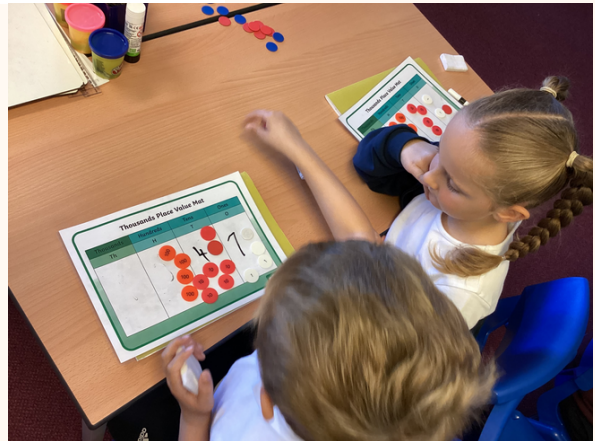
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WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON?

In LKS2, children have been learning to compare numbers up to 1,000. When comparing numbers, it's important to begin by looking at the digits in the greatest place value column, such as the hundreds. This helps to quickly identify which number is larger or smaller before moving on to the tens and ones if needed.



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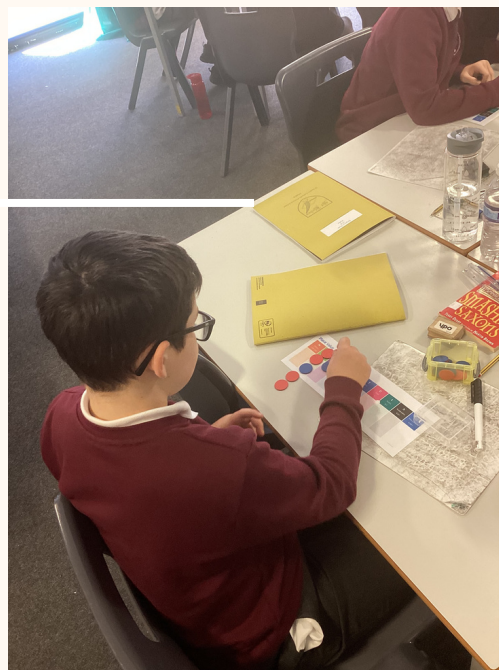
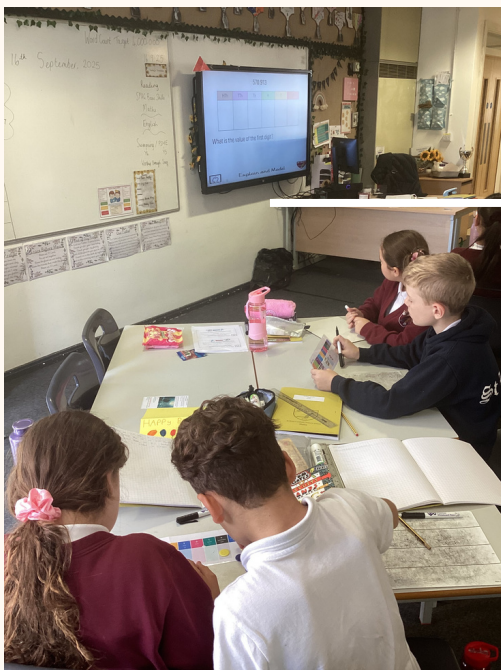
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WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON?

In UKS2, children have been using place value charts alongside counters to explore and understand numbers up to 10 million. By physically placing counters into the correct columns, they are able to partition large numbers and see the value of each digit clearly. This hands-on approach helps deepen their understanding of place value and prepares them for more complex number work later in the year.



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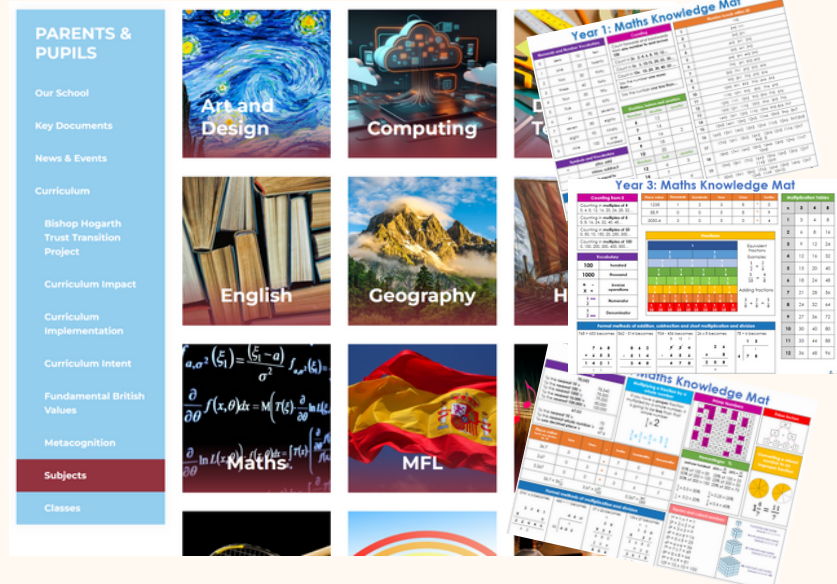


AUTUMN TERM

MATHS AT HOME

- USE COINS, BUTTONS, LEGO PIECES, OR CEREAL AS COUNTERS!
- ASK YOUR CHILD TO SHOW YOU HOW THEY SOLVE A PROBLEM WITH COUNTERS.
- USE THEM TO PLAY SIMPLE GAMES INVOLVING COUNTING, GROUPING, OR SHARING.

To help support your child with maths at home please visit our school website where you can find a wealth of information including a 'supporting your child with maths at home' document and knowledge mats for key learning.



NUMBOTS & TTRS



Children from Year 1 to Year 6 will have now received their log in for Numbots/ TTRS and playing little and often at home is a great way to support your child's fluency.

Numbots is designed to improve recall and fluency in number bonds and addition and subtraction.

TTRS is designed to improve recall and fluency in times tables.

Your child's log in gives access to both platforms