

'Learning by Heart'

Developing children's knowledge of mathematical facts so that they know them 'by heart' is a valuable tool to support calculation strategies, and also helps to build confidence. Regular practice is needed to secure knowledge and help children instantly recall facts.

We encourage children to think 'Can I do this in my head?' Having a range of number facts at their fingertips really empowers the children and enables them to approach tasks with confidence.

Autumn Term 1: Begin to continue, copy and create repeating patterns.

Ways you can help at home:

1. Encourage your child to find a variety of patterns around the home or out and about. Colour patterns are a great way to encourage this.



2. Begin to build patterns using toys or objects and see if your child can copy the pattern independently.



3. Children can use toys such as blocks or cars to create a variety of patterns. Build a simple pattern such as ABABAB and encourage your child to continue it.
You could then develop these skills and create harder patterns such as ABBABBABBABBA etc.

There are lots of interactive games online to help your child develop these skills, for free. Visit www.TopMarks.co.uk and select ordering and sequencing to access pattern games or scan the QR code below.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/shape-patterns>



Vocabulary

Sequence Pattern Colours Next Then

Autumn Term 2: Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.



Ask your child all about Numberblocks and the characters that are used in school.

Ways you can help at home:

1. When playing at home, encourage your child to count by asking questions. For example, if your child is playing with dolls or lego, ask them how many they have altogether.
2. Model counting aloud at home with your child. When children begin to count, they may often count too fast or chant; model counting slowly and pointing/moving objects as they are counted. Counting can be done almost anywhere!
3. As mentioned above, when your child is counting objects in order, encourage them to point/move the items as they are counted so your child counts effectively and accurately.
- 4.

Counting can be done anywhere with minimal resources. It is highly effective when using things your child is interested in, e.g. cars, dinosaurs etc. Encouraging your child to count accurately within 5 at home will increase their confidence, readiness and independence when counting objects within 10.

Our school uses Numbots as a fun way to learn maths skills. Your child has a login so please ask your child's class teacher for their login details. Numbots is an app that you can download for free on any device or access it on a browser using the QR code below.

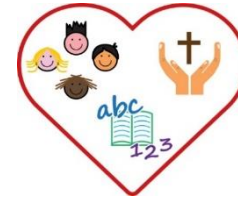
<https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/children/our-learning-zone>



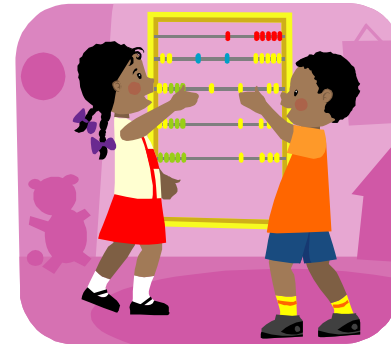
Vocabulary

Next more less number many count altogether touch

St Matthew's C.E. School and Nursery



Help your child to learn maths facts
Reception



Parent's and carer's guide to supporting their
children with the
'Learning by Heart' programme
Autumn 2021