



Be the best you can be, every day



Dear Parent(s),

Thank you to those of you who attended our Maths Evening for Parents last week. For those of you who were unable to make the meeting the PowerPoint is available on the school website, following the link below:

<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Maths&pid=422>

At the meeting we discussed a whole-school program we are introducing to increase number sense, thereby continuing to raise standards in Maths. This programme involves the learning of **Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)**. These are designed to support the development of the mental skills that underpin much of the maths work in schools. They are particularly useful when calculating, be it adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing.

KIRFS are skills which have been introduced during mathematics lessons and therefore children should understand the concept behind them. Being able to then recall these facts instantly will allow further lesson time to be spent on new concepts.

Each half term children in every year group will be given KIRFs to practise and learn at home. The year group KIRF to be focused on that term can also be found on our website:

<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Key+Instant+Recall+Facts&pid=454>

By clicking on each of the KIRFs listed, a useful information sheet can be found explaining the relevant KIRF and giving ideas how that KIRF can be practised and learnt. ***It is important that each child know the KIRF thoroughly and can recall specific facts instantly.***

Whilst children have a wide range of abilities in mathematics, the KIRFs are designed to be a set of facts that need to be learnt thoroughly as they build on each other year on year. ***Again, we stress that the children must aim to know their KIRF inside out, back to front and with instant recall.***

We strongly encourage you to engage with your children in the learning of their KIRFs; fun, practical ideas are included on the sheet and should be undertaken regularly as part of their homework schedule. We know that, by internalising these key facts which have been carefully structured to build upon each other term by term, year by year, children will leave North Downs Primary School with a much stronger foundation of mathematical understanding to build upon.

We hope that you enjoy working alongside your children with this mathematics work. Should you have any questions about the KIRFs programme, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Carol Tubb
Maths Lead