# Maths Newsletter September 2020

## Welcome back

We are so excited to have our fantastic pupils back in school with us. They have made a great start to the Autumn term and settled down well into their maths learning.

## Maths at Featherstone

At Featherstone Primary school we aim to provide a broad, balanced and enriched mathematics curriculum which:



Provides children with the necessary mathematical skills for their future.

Enables them to apply their skills across a range of contexts, problems and across the curriculum. Allows them to think critically, and effectively communicate mathematical reasoning and understanding.

As a result of this, children at Featherstone develop into confident mathematicians, able to use their knowledge and skills as a secure building block to further education and successfully prepare themselves for everyday life situations.

Maths at Featherstone is carefully and sequentially planned so that learning builds upon what children already know. We have carefully chosen the methods used to teach children and take them through a concrete (physical), pictorial (picture) and abstract (written) methods of calculation.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are committed to ensuring all children receive the complete mathematical curriculum. We have identified the areas of maths that were not taught in school during school closures and identified where to include these within their current year group's curriculum. Teaching staff are constantly using their assessments to pitch learning to suit the needs of the class and adapting their teaching to reflect this.

### TT Rock Stars

TT Rock stars is an excellent way to embed multiplication and division facts. The national curriculum states that by the time children finish Year 4 that are fluent in these skills up to  $12 \times 12$ ; this coincides with the Year 4 multiplication check.



Class teachers (Years 3-6) will have reissued log in information for children and will be using the platform in school to support the learning of times tables.

Spending 5 minutes a day practicing is an excellent way to develop fluency and confidence in this skill.

If you do not have your child's log in information please speak to their class teacher.

#### KS1 & KS2 Statutory Assessment

Due to the pandemic the last year's Year 2 and 6 children did not take their SATs papers.

Guidance given has stated that the children currently in Year 2 and Year 6 will take their tests in May 2021. The Year 2 and Year 6 staff will be working with these children to help prepare them for this.

#### Year 4 multiplication check.

Learning multiplication and division facts is particularly important for those children in Year 4 who will take their multiplication check in June. This is an online, timed assessment based on 25 multiplication questions.

Children practice their multiplication and division facts daily in school. TT Rock Stars, on sound check mode, mimics the test that the children will take and therefore is an excellent resource to practice.

Children will be having a practice test in March before the actual test in June. A letter will be sent closer to the time but if you have any questions or concerns please speak to your child's class teacher.

### Parent Home Learning.

We recognise the importance of parents and carers being able to support their child in maths learning at home using the methods that we use in school. At the end of each taught maths unit, you will receive a parent home learning booklet which gives an overview of the maths learning children have completed.

This breaks down the national curriculum objectives that have been taught into a range of sessions. For each session, there are example questions children can complete to become fluent in this skill. Class teachers will explore how to extend children into reasoning and problem solving using these skills.

The aim of this document is to help support reinforcing the maths skills children have learning in school.

If you have any questions please request to speak to your child's class teacher or myself (Miss Whitehouse).

