

Times Tables

Here at Saint Mary's, we promote the love of learning times tables through using the counting stick, games, chants and an online platform called, Times Tables Rock Stars. The counting stick is a useful tool to promote confidence and flexibility in children's counting skills and helps to secure the relationships between certain multiplication facts, providing them with strategies for the calculation. This results in an increased number sense through reasoning and an ability to calculate easily what they don't know by heart. When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to complete more complex calculations.

Times Tables Rockstars is a challenging, interactive website which allows children to learn their tables through repetition, competition and simulates the Y4 multiplication check in a feature called 'sound check'. Teachers can track each child's, each class' and their school's progress on line. Times tables are recognised as essential to access many mathematical concepts and knowledge will be assessed at the end of Y4, from September 2019, by a National test.

Children at Saint Mary's are tracked and monitored regularly to assess progress. Throughout each lesson formative assessment takes place and feedback is given through marking and tasks to ensure that the objectives are met. The teaching of Maths is also monitored through book trawls, learning walks and lesson drop ins. Year 2 and Year 6 use previous SATs testing documents to assess children and Year 1, 3, 4 and 5 use Rising stars to assess progress termly. The data collated after these assessments, and through assessment for learning used daily, are used to inform planning and also provide underperforming pupils with additional support and higher attaining pupils with stretch and challenge. As misconceptions are addressed quickly, children are given opportunities to practise concepts and can articulate their understanding. From this, children can then apply their knowledge and understanding to a variety of contexts and in different ways.

As a result of our Maths teaching at Saint Mary's you will see:

Children talking enthusiastically about maths

Engaged children who are all challenged.

Children using a CPA approach to mathematics

Children demonstrate a quick recall of facts and procedures.

The chance to develop the ability to recognise relationships and make connections in maths lessons.

Lessons that use a variety of resources to support learning.

Children with a 'can do attitude'

Children that show a high level of pride in the presentation and understanding of the work

Learning that is tracked and monitored to ensure all children make good progress.

Intervention to help children keep up rather than catch up.