

Lickey Hills Primary School and Nursery - School Newsletter

Curriculum Corner - Mathematics

At Lickey Hills Primary School, we believe passionately in giving all children the opportunity to have a deep and secure understanding of mathematics. Mathematical skills are essential to everyday life; critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment. Maths gives a foundation for understanding the world, the ability to reason mathematically and problem solve, and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject. Take a look below for a little taster of some of the maths learning happening in school this spring.

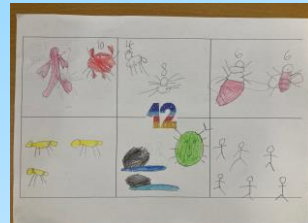
EYFS - Mastering Number

Much of our mathematics in Early Years follows a fantastic programme from the National Centre for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics (NCETM) which aims to develop good number sense, fluency and flexibility with number. One of the key representations used is a 'rekenrek' - a little abacus of 20 beads which highlights the structure of 5, numbers that are greater than 5 (5 and a bit), 10 and 20. This half term the children have used rekenreks to subitise and explore number composition. We remember, 'Count, not amount!'



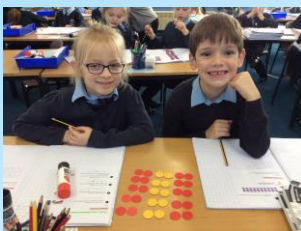
Year 1: How do you make a number?

Year 1 children have been continuing their exploration of the composition of number this half term. The composition of number means understanding that numbers are made up of other numbers. Understanding these relationships helps throughout the children's maths journeys - after all, $2 + 3$ helps us to calculate $2000 + 3000$ and $0.02 + 0.03$! After reading a super book called, 'One is a Snail, Ten is a Crab - Counting by Feet' Y1 children created their own pictures to show 12.



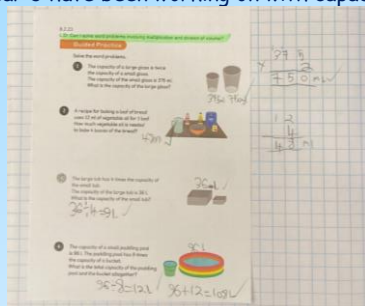
Year 2: Division and Fractions

The idea of mathematical representation to help us 'see the maths' doesn't stop in Early Years. Using a range of manipulatives, is a way of revealing the mathematical structure within a concept and gaining insight and clarity to help solve problems. Over the last few weeks, Year 2 have been exploring what it is to divide and have discovered that this can either be through sharing or grouping. We also spotted how finding fractions of an amount is the same! Here we show how coloured counters can reveal the groups you can make in 30...



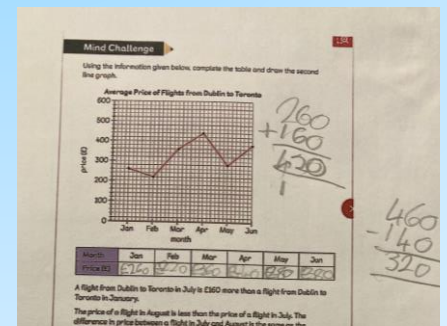
Year 3: Lesson Structure

Across KS1 and KS2 you can walk into any classroom and see maths lessons following a similar path which helps us to learn new ideas. Each lesson starts with fluency - practising our arithmetic strategies and Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs). Then children work with their teachers in our 'Guided Practice' - having a go, with support, before independent tasks. Here you can see the Guided Practice word problems Year 3 have been working on with capacity.



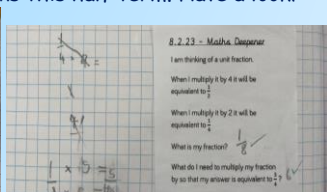
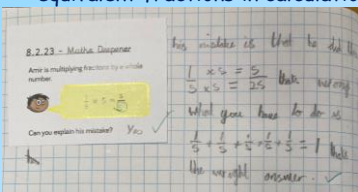
Year 4: Mathematical Thinking

One thing we learn to do at LHPSN is to apply our new mathematical knowledge and skills to unfamiliar problems that challenge our thinking and deepen our understanding. Children in Y4 have been learning how to create and interpret line graphs. These 'Mind Challenges' help them to reason and make connections between new and existing knowledge.



Year 5: Deepen It!

Our Maths - No Problem! workbooks give us a great opportunity to secure our learning each day in our independent tasks. They challenge our thinking by presenting problems in different ways. If we finish these quickly, we look at 'Deepen It' challenges - opportunities to secure our new knowledge. Year 5s have been 'Deepening it' with equivalent fractions in calculations this half term. Have a look!



Year 6: Challenging our Thinking

Year 6s have been deepening their thinking in applying a range of number operations in the first steps towards understanding algebra. Algebra is a fascinating area of maths - one that allows us to see and describe patterns, to determine rules and also allows us to explore real-life applications. Take a look at these problems. What great maths detectives (Can-Do Kangaroos!) we have in Year 6!

