

Nonsuch Primary School



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Headteacher – Ms S Hawker

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Dear Parents,

After consultation with the Parent Council and discussions as a staff, Nonsuch Primary School has decided to move towards a system of providing the children with their mathematics homework online from years 1 to 6; the existing paper-based homework for mathematics will be discontinued. If your child does not have access to an internet linked computer or tablet device at home, they will be able to complete their homework in the Media Centre, during certain lunchtimes each week. Please put a note to your child's class teacher in the contact book to request this.

We have purchased a programme called Mathletics, which is a web based mathematics scheme. Mathletics is used in many schools, as a tool for homework, and it increases pupils' confidence with their mathematical skills.

The programme allows children to choose activities to do. However, your child's class teacher will set weekly activities as homework, which your child must complete before they go on to choose their own activities from the many available on Mathletics. Your child can login, using the details on their login card (in their contact book), by going to www.mathletics.co.uk. For the younger members of our school community, you will need to assist them with their logging on. It is also a good idea for your child to have a pencil and piece of paper by them for any jottings they wish to do to assist with their online work. Homework will be set and completed in line with the current system in place for your child's year group.

The programme monitors your child's progress and so it is vital that no-one else accesses their account or "has a go", while they are logged on.

Below is a guide to some of the key features of Mathletics, which your child can use.

	<p>In Live Mathletics, your child can challenge other pupils to real-time mathematical races, which will test the speed and accuracy of their mental calculations. They can choose to compete against pupils from school, their class, the computer or from right across the world.</p>
	<p>Mathletics knows which year group your child is in and will provide exercises on all topics from the UK's National Curriculum, pitched at their age group. Your child is free to choose from these exercises, but some of these activities will be set for homework, which must be completed before any other area of the site can be accessed. The level of challenge for the year group is said to be 'core' and it is possible, for most topics, to select 'something easier' or 'something harder'.</p>
	<p>The Problem Solving activities present mathematical-based problems in a real-life context. In this area, your child can use the range of number skills they have developed to solve a variety of problems in an exciting game-based environment.</p>

	<p>A mathematics dictionary is provided, so children and parents alike can look up terms they may have forgotten!</p>
	<p>Rainforest Maths is a separate area within Mathletics. These activities are designed for students up to year 6 and have a rainforest theme.</p>
	<p>Meet Max the Cat and his band in the Times Tables Toons. They have created 11 great music videos to help you master multiplication. From the Disco Strut to the Jungle Boogie, these songs are a great way to learn times tables!</p>

There is a Parents' Area, where you can view your child's scores and track progress. To register for this free service, you will need your child's username and password.

- i) Visit www.mathletics.co.uk/parents.
- ii) Complete the fields and click submit.
- iii) Make a record of your username and password.

There is also a useful guide available, which should answer any of your questions. This can be found by clicking on the 'guides' section at the bottom of the Mathletics homepage, followed by 'guides for students' and then 'getting started'. This explains what your child can do if they are unsure of a concept. Paper copies of this guide can be requested from the school office.

We believe that Mathletics will be a valuable tool for assisting our pupils with their mathematical understanding and knowledge.

Please do not hesitate to leave us feedback on how you are finding the programme.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chamberlin
Assistant Headteacher