

# Welcome

The aim of this morning is:

- to provide an overview of the mental strategies contained in the new maths curriculum.
- to explain how the Number Stars activities will feed into this.

# The curriculum

- The mental maths expectations in schools across England - *National Curriculum progression document*.
- The aim of having secure mental strategies is intended to both support the children in their overall understanding of number, and also improve the accuracy of their written methods as the styles of question gradually become more challenging.

# Strategies for memorising number facts.

- There is no wrong way. The aim is to match the method that most suits the individual child – *Strategies for memorising number facts.*
- *NB: calculation videos are due for release in the coming months*



# Further ideas for home

- *'Oak Lodge Progression in Calculation' leaflet.*

## Resources that your children will use to help with calculation

### **Dienes**

Dienes, although it has been used in schools for years, is a crucial step in knowing what a 'one' (unit), a ten, a hundred and a thousand look like and how they can be added together and split up to form smaller and larger numbers.

### **Cuisenaire Rods and a number track**

Although these little rods that represent integers from 1 to 10 can be used for a range of aspects of maths, we normally use them for multiplication and division. They are also really useful for addition.

### **Numicon**

Numicon is an especially useful resource as it can be used for teaching all four operations as well as fractions, decimals, percentages and a range of other aspects of maths. Each piece represents an integer from 1 to 10. The children love using it as it is colourful and tactile.

### **Numberlines**

Numberlines are a mainstay of teaching calculations. We have pre-numbered and blank numberlines in school that children can write on, or they can draw their own as appropriate for the calculation.

# The Number Stars

- The process of the school: we are using mental maths cards (*mental maths objectives and cards*) and weekly times tables tests.
- These will then be challenged by an initial Number Star activity chosen by the teacher.
- If your child gets all of them correct (in the allotted time frame) they will be awarded a certificate and move on to the next Number Star activity in the next half term.
- If they get any wrong they will simply stay on the same Number Star and have another go in the following half term.
- The idea is that the child moves along at their own pace and that the activities will highlight any facts that the children are uncertain of.
- A letter will go out to explain whether the child did/did not achieve the Number Star and which objectives the activity focused/will focus upon.
- A further aim is to highlight the need for resilience - this is a key aspect of the Number Stars.

# Your turn



Questions

