



St Marie's Maths Curriculum

Intent

At St Marie's we follow the Mathematics Mastery approach through the Ark Curriculum programme from EYFS to Year 6. The programme is underpinned by three key principles: Deep conceptual understanding, mathematical thinking and mathematical language. Instead of learning mathematical procedures by rote, we want our children to build a deep understanding of concepts, which will enable them to apply their learning in different situations. We recognise mathematics is a skill that is used daily and is an essential part of everyday life. Therefore, it is essential mathematics forms an important part of our broad and balanced curriculum. We want to ensure children develop an enjoyment, enthusiasm and confidence for maths that will stay with them throughout their lives, empowering them in the future.

Implementation

The programme followed at St Marie's provides curriculum resources alongside professional development. Teaching staff are trained in implementing the approach in their classrooms, ensuring consistency throughout school. Our curriculum is cumulative - each school year begins with a focus on the concepts and skills that have the most connections, and this concept is applied and connected throughout the school year to consolidate learning. Mathematical language is a key principle of our approach, at the start of each new topic, key vocabulary is introduced and revisited throughout lessons and embedded as the topic progresses. Children are taught through the Concrete – Pictorial – Abstract approach. This allows teachers to show clear modelling and reinforce the learning by going back and forth between the representations, building children's conceptual understanding. Lessons are planned using a six-part lesson structure, allowing the lesson to be pacy while the children acquire a new skill, apply the skill and deepen the skill within the lesson. Feedback is given on children's learning in line with our marking and feedback policy. Formative assessment within every lesson helps teachers to identify misconceptions, children who are ready for a challenge or the children who need to access support through same-day intervention. Regular Maths Meetings form a vital part of our curriculum providing opportunities to consolidate learning outside of core maths lesson. They provide a fun way to practise applying knowledge and skills on a regular basis, helping to continually build on the mastery of key concepts. To broaden children's experience of maths and promote valuable connections to be made across the wider curriculum, we hold an annual Maths Week; children enjoy maths through stories, work collaboratively with peers to problem solve, use their critical thinking skills and take part in whole school and national maths challenges.

Impact

Our approach allows children to develop their mathematical fluency while being able to apply this knowledge through reasoning and problem solving. Therefore, children can move between different contexts and representations of maths flexibly. Children can show a concept in multiple ways and use mathematical language to explain their ideas. By the end of Year 6, we aspire that a St Marie's mathematician will have developed a bank of efficient and accurate skills enabling them to calculate effectively and apply their deep mathematical understanding to the wider world.