Mathematics

At Kensington Avenue Primary School we aim to inspire all children to reach their full academic potential. In mathematics this means ensuring a curriculum that is fully inclusive of all children which:

- Develop children’s knowledge and understanding of Mathematical concepts whilst enabling them to practice and hone skills and methods;
- Enables them to reason mathematically and think critically and communicate their understanding;
- Give them opportunities to apply learnt mathematical skills in different context across the curriculum;
- Can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.

The Early Years Foundation Stage is the statutory framework we teach to all children in our Nursery and Reception classes. We currently teach the Primary National Curriculum (introduced in 2014) for mathematics for children in Years 1 to 6. Children are taught in their class by their teacher. Some children may work with other teachers or teaching assistants on specialised programmes to support their learning further.

At Kensington Avenue, we use Numicon as our main resource in the planning and teaching of mathematics. We feel that having as a core resource, we can ensure consistency and clarity throughout school. The Numicon approach to the teaching of mathematics is a proven approach to teaching maths for the Primary National Curriculum 2014 and beyond. Numicon places problem-solving, reasoning and conversation at its heart, and supports a curriculum in which depth and the mastery of core concepts are the key aims. Lessons follow a practical approach which involves the use of physical resources e.g. counters, bead strings, Dienes Base-10, number lines, Numicon, Cuisenaire, to develop and enhance their learning of each mathematical concept.

If you want to buy your own ‘Numicon’ pack, you can purchase one directly from the numicon website – Please click here to go to the Numicon website

For more information about Numicon, please click on the link below:
https://global.oup.com/education/content/primary/series/numicon/?region=uk

We use the Mangahigh website as a way of increasing the children’s enjoyment whilst practising maths. As the site gives access to a range of interactive games and practice questions; teachers direct their class to particular areas of the site to support what is being taught. Each child has been set up and should therefore be encouraged to use the website at home.

We have implemented the Assertive Mentoring system in Kensington Avenue Primary School. Assertive Mentoring is a system which places the child at the centre of their learning experience. Children are regularly assessed: They sit a weekly basic maths test (first with prompt sheet) according to their level of ability. During the week, the teacher will review facts, address any misconceptions and develop the children’s mathematical skills and understanding. The children also review their learning from the previous session and are encouraged to consolidate their learning through asking questions, practising skills and investigations before resitting the test a second time (without prompt sheet). At the end of the half term the children sit a half termly assessment, which is linked to the weekly assertive mentoring basic skills. Any resulting gaps in their skills and knowledge will become their targets and will be addressed over the following half term by their teacher.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

When you attend Parents’ Evening, the class teacher will discuss your child’s progress with you and his/her targets for the next half term. As part of this discussion, the teacher will explain which stage your child is at for Maths. Please use the prompt sheets for the stage that your child is at to support her/his Maths learning. To maximise your child’s learning, you should stay on that stage until the teacher tells you that your child is ready to move onto the next stage.

Check out these helpful websites by clicking on each logo: