

# Golden Rules



Getting the balance right between making maths fun AND keeping up regular short bursts of number bond practice can be tricky at times. Here are some dos and don'ts to help you out.

✓ DO 'little and often!' Working on maths doesn't have to mean sitting in front of a workbook for hours on end. Why not count the stairs as you go up in a shopping centre? Can you climb two at a time? Can you count backwards as you go down?

✗ DON'T push a skill, especially if your child is becoming confused or feeling under pressure. If your child doesn't understand, it is best to talk to their teacher rather than try to show them something in a different way.

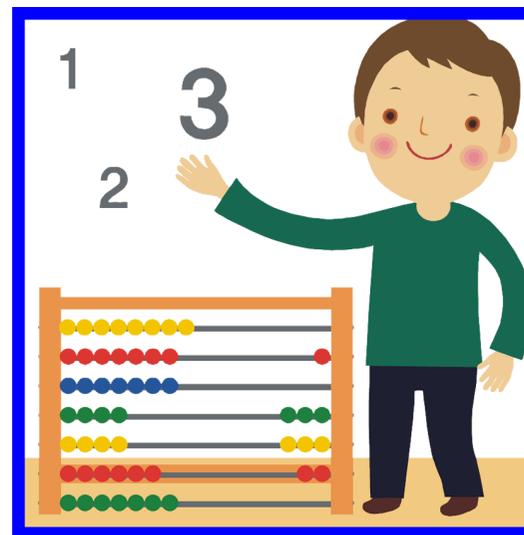
✓ DO praise your child's efforts. Try not to point out mistakes every time or continually use the word 'but'. There is more than one way to work something out and children need to feel confident. A confident child makes a better learner.

✓ DO play games! Using dice, dominoes, track games and cards are all excellent ways to use and apply number skills without knowing!

✗ DON'T forget, methods of teaching maths have changed since we were at school. They do not use the same written methods until much later. Maths is about 'numerical fluency'. Children should feel confident with numbers and understand how they work. There is a leaflet available from school or on our website explaining today's methods

# St Mary's

Church of England Aided Primary School



## Help Your Child with Numbers Year 1



## Regular practice using numbers

Children need to keep using numbers and to practice their number bonds if they are going to remember them. Try to build in a regular time when you can play number games together. Simple additions and subtractions with numbers less than 10, which number comes before or after a given number, or remembering number pairs that make ten.  $4 + ? = 10$ , what would you add to 3 to make 10?

## Make it Fun

There are lots of games you can play so your child will not even realise they are learning! How about Secret Numbers ...

Write the numbers 0 to 20 on a sheet of paper.

Ask your child secretly to choose a number on the paper. Then ask him / her some questions to find out what the secret number is, e.g. Is it less than 10? Is it between 10 and 20? Does it have a 5 in it? Is it odd? They may answer only yes or no.

Once you have guessed the number, it is your turn to choose a number. For an easier game, use numbers up to 10. For a harder game, use only 5 questions, or use bigger numbers.

## Reading and Writing Numbers

Do help your child to write numbers, starting at the top and running the pencil down the numeral. When they start to write 2-digit numbers, talk about the value of the first digit, reading 65 as sixtyfive.

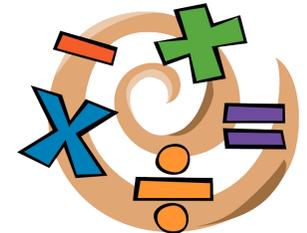
## Enthusiasm

Let your child see you using maths in everyday life. It helps them to understand why it is important. Read out the numbers in recipes, count out loud the right number of eggs for example. How many knives and forks do we need now that Granny and Grandpa are coming over for dinner.



## Your child will be able to do many of the Following:

- Count forwards and backwards from any number to 20 and put numbers to 20 in order.
- Increase and decrease quantities-understanding what happens if they have ten sweets & eat three.
- Count forwards and backwards in tens.
- Add and subtract two numbers under 10.
- Read and write numbers to 20.



## Can you help your child make progress?

- Help them to learn all the pairs of numbers that make 10, e.g.  $3 + 7$ ,  $8 + 2$ .
- Play simple counting games such as dominoes or snakes and ladders.
- Demonstrate counting in twos, perhaps when putting away pairs of socks.
- Ask real life questions e.g. how many eggs will have left if I use three?

