Flimby Primary School – Maths

Intent

How we have planned our maths curriculum

At Flimby Primary, we intend for all children to develop a sense of curiosity and excitement for maths. We follow the Smart Maths curriculum which is a unique mastery approach to teaching maths with the aim that all children will be successful.

Implementation

How we teach our maths curriculum

Maths lessons are taught daily from EYFS up to Year 6 by class teachers. Concrete objects, big actions and special vocabulary (which make up the learning system) are introduced in Reception. These continue to be used throughout school up to Year 6. The learning system ensures a consistent whole-school approach to teaching maths.

Maths sessions are taught using the Smart Maths teaching cycle. This begins with direct instruction where the teacher shares the new skill/method with the children. Guided Practice follows, where the teacher models the skill and the children have a go at the same time as the teacher — this makes sure that children know what their end learning should look like. The children then move to the Partner Teaching stage of the cycle where children teach their partner the correct skill/method. Some children may then move onto Independent working towards the end of the topic block.

Teachers use Smart Maths medium term planning to support with their daily lesson planning. Maths is taught through five different strands:

- Arithmetic 1
- Geometry
- Data & Measure
- Arithmetic 2
- Reasoning

A lesson is considered as learning that takes place over a period of time and these 5 strands are revisited consistently throughout the year to ensure that children are remembering more and learning more.

Differentiation happens through concrete-pictorial-abstract teaching so that all children are able to achieve the same learning objective but through the use of differentiated resources/way of working. Many concepts are introduced using paper cups as the concrete object.

Impact

The difference we aim to make for our children

Emphasis is placed on fluency first to develop quick and accurate number skills. Conceptual alongside procedural understanding from EYFS, leads to strong reasoning and problem-solving skills further up the school.

Consistent use of the Smart Maths learning system means children are learning maths skills and concepts, not teachers.