

Maths at Glenmere

We have had a great year in our maths lessons across the whole school from deepening our knowledge of the mathematical concepts through pictorial, practical and written methods in order to develop a deep understanding, confidence and competence in Maths and improve our fluency. Maths continues to be strong across the school and something the child enjoys and thrives in. Maths fluency means that children will be able to use their skills to know the best way to figure out a maths problem. It also means developing number sense and it means using those skills in a variety of contexts.

What have we been up to in maths?

In **EYFS** the children have been developing their number sense of the numbers up to 20 and beyond! Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. The children have had varied and frequent different ways to do this through use of manipulatives, active maths, enhanced provision and of course their rainbow challenges!



KS1 children have developed confidence and mental fluency with whole numbers, counting and place value. They have enjoyed a lot of physical maths using maths manipulatives to embed their knowledge of numbers further. The children have also been developing their ability to recognise, describe, draw, compare and sort different shapes. We have noticed a huge improvement to the maths vocabulary the children have been using in key stage 1 too!

KS2 children have been developing their efficient written and mental methods in maths. They have also been challenged to apply their maths knowledge to solve a range of problems across all their topics in maths. This has involved using our CPA approach to maths to develop increasing accuracy and mathematical reasoning. The children in key stage 2 have been really challenged this year by some higher-level reasoning problems during their maths lessons; they all have developed such great resilience and thrive for challenge from this!



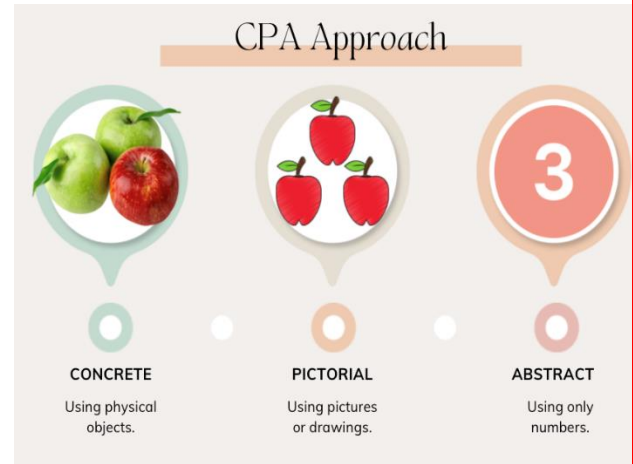
Parents workshop

The children had the opportunity to showcase their learning to parents when they were invited into take part in their children's maths lessons. It's always good to see how much how parents enjoy being part of their children's learning, so thank you!



Active maths

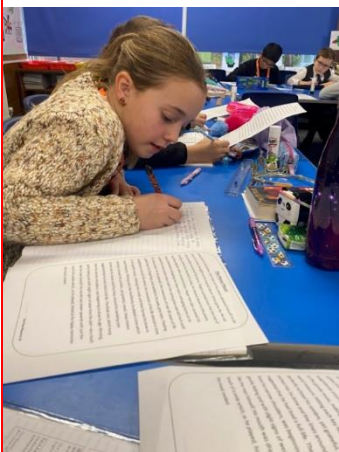
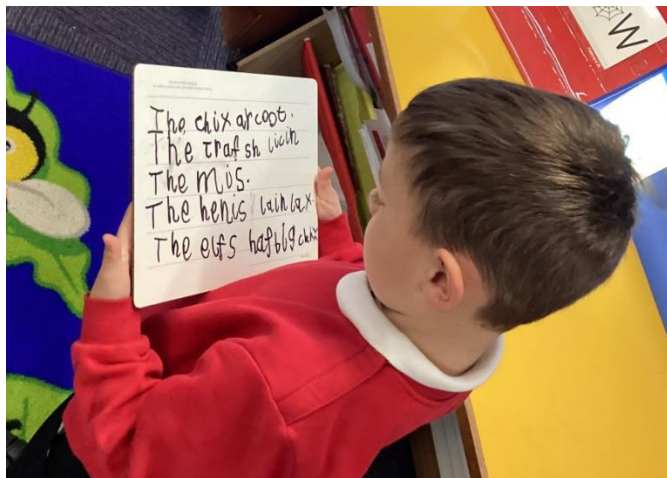
As well as all that maths we do in the classroom; we often enjoy our cross curricular link to physical education with our active maths lessons. This has been great for the children to see their mathematical concepts in different ways and most importantly.. just fun!



English at Glenmere

We have had some fabulous English work over the past year, including visits from different authors as well as whole school writing weeks where children across the school all have the same theme and book and use this for their writing. Children have continued to develop their writing skills over the year, the library and books around school have been updated and there is a real enthusiasm for learning.

Over the year, children and teachers have worked hard to develop understanding of handwriting, spelling and grammar - all key elements in writing. Those who have difficulty with one of these areas or more, can find the other elements of writing more challenging and supporting children with these difficulties will overcome barriers and build their confidence - something we want for all children at school. Children have been using specially designed books with highlighted lines to enable them to see the height of different letters and these books aid their handwriting. It is clear that children are taking more pride in their work and is something we continue to develop.



What have we been up to?

Across the school, children have been writing for a range of different purposes. Children in EYFS focus on the element on writing to entertain, looking at using our Talk for Writing structure to orally retell stories they know well and then innovate their own version of the story changing say a character or setting. In Key Stage 1, children have continued to work on the writing to entertain but also developed their understanding of writing to inform -

including writing instructions on how to capture a dragon and writing recounts after going on nature walks at Brockshill. Children in Year 3 and 4 have then been introduced to persuasion and the power of persuasive language as well as continue to use the purposes from Key Stage 1. There have been some incredibly persuasive arguments and use of language across Key Stage 2. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 have then learned how to debate, writing balanced arguments. The level of formality is something that they have worked hard on to make their writing convincing of their point.

Phonics workshops

Early on in the year, we were joined by many parents to in our phonics workshop where you are shown some of the basic knowledge linked to the teaching of phonics before joining the children in the classroom. It is always lovely to be able to show everyone



the different activities that can be used to support children at home. We know and understand phonics can be a hard to grasp as adults, especially with some of the technical language children will often come home saying. We are looking at ways in which we can continue to support parent subject knowledge in the new school year.



English afternoon

The English afternoon is always an enjoyable event where you are able to head into the classroom to see a variety of writing activities, linked to the grammar expectations in the different classrooms, as again, we know the terminology children know now can even test us as adults. We always love the enthusiasm shown by family members and the engagement in these sessions.

English enrichment

We have been lucky enough this year to have authors visiting across the school, however, this year we have worked on gaining a range of authors who not only show their books but also show children how to be writers, teaching them the skills needed. Children in EYFS and Year 1 were shown the process of being an illustrator and understanding the importance of pictures within picture books and the children (and teachers) loved it. Pupils in KS2 were joined by two different authors, both of which ran writing workshops which engaged and excited the pupils



English in and around school

An English newsletter wouldn't be an English newsletter without the recognition of the incredible work of the Reading Squad around school. Children have continued to develop that love of reading. They have organised the library and supported the younger pupils! To the Reading Squad - thank you!

Summer writing challenge

As a challenge over the summer, we would like children to choose something to write about - something that interests them because we all know children write best when it is interesting to them.

This may be a story, a diary entry, a recount of their favourite day, a recipe for something they have maybe baked at home (or even an adapted recipe), something they feel especially passionate about or maybe a letter persuading you at home of something they would like. There needs to be a clear purpose - to entertain, to inform, to persuade or to debate as well as an audience. The story could be for a younger sibling or a letter to a local MP. Children can bring in their final pieces after the summer holiday where we will create a book of all the different pieces of work that will be added to the school library!

Thank you, Mrs. Pell and Mrs. Carton