

Mathletics:

A Parent's Guide

Mathletics has helped pupils at Horspath to enjoy maths and increase their breadth and depth of mathematical understanding for several years. Although it is enjoyed by pupils worldwide, there is much more to Mathletics than quick-fire calculation competitions across the globe.

From times tables music videos to interactive flash tutorials and exercises about every maths topic covered in the primary curriculum, this leaflet aims to show what your child can do with Mathletics and also how you can help your child best with this platform.

Basics

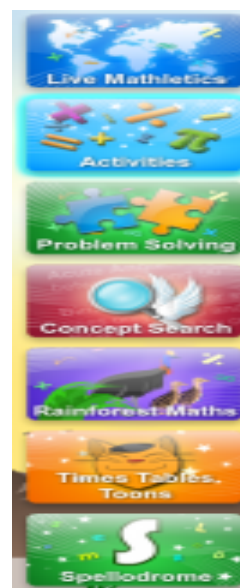
At Horspath, pupils have access to Mathletics through their own username and password. This gives them access to all the mathematical games, resources and activities. You will find it in the front of their reading diary.

Children will have access to Mathletics from year 1 upwards. Mathletics activities can be set for them by their class teacher. Once they have logged on, your child will not have access to all the different games and activities **until** any set activities have been completed. It is important that children do their best in these activities as the scores are stored and monitored to inform planning.

For children who do not have access to the internet at home, the school runs a homework club during the week which your child may attend and access Mathletics then. Internet access is also available at most local libraries.

Overview

When a child first logs in they will be asked to make a profile. Once complete, unless they have set tasks from their teacher, they will be taken to the main page. On the right hand side of the screen there are the different areas:



Live Mathletics Quick fire multiplication versus computer, members of class, members of school or the world. (See below)

Activities: National Curriculum based activities. (See below)

Problem Solving : The Problem Solving activities are a wide range of activities that present mathematical-based problems in a real-life context. In this area, your child can use the range of number skills they have developed to solve a range of problems in an exciting game-based environment

Concept Search Two maths dictionaries so children and parents alike can look up terms they may have forgotten!

Rainforest Maths Rainforest Maths is a separate area within Mathletics. These activities are designed for students up to year 6 and have a great rainforest theme.

Timestables Toons : Meet Max the Cat and his band in the Times Tables Tunes. They have created 11 great music videos to help you master multiplication. From the Disco Strut to the Jungle Boogie, these songs are a great way to learn times tables!

Spellodrome: Not currently used by Horspath School.

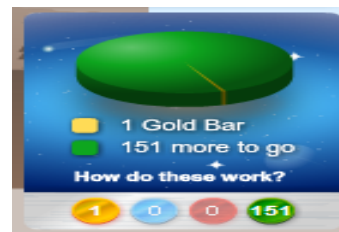
Activities



The Activity area is, in my view, the place where the most focused learning takes place. Mathletics knows which year group your child is in and will provide core exercises on all topics in the UK's National Curriculum pitched at that age group. Your child is free to choose from these exercises. As said earlier, to help your child with what they are learning in class at the moment, you can ask your child, child's teacher or consult the short term plans to see which mathematical topics they are studying at present. The level of challenge for the year group is said to be 'core' and it is possible, for most topics, to select 'something easier' or 'something harder' which would be the level of the year below and above respectively.

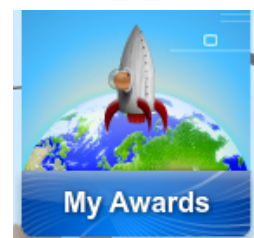


As your child completes these exercises the marks are recorded. The aim for each is to get a perfect score. You can see the colour grade system to the right. If a child receives a red, they will probably need additional instruction from you or their teacher, although there are video tutorials your child can access by pressing the question mark in the blue circle. They can complete the activity multiple times, and will generally improve through repetition.



Gold is when a child achieves 85% or more. This is a 'gold bar' and the number of gold bars is totalled and is available on the left when your child logs in. In addition to the colour grading, points are awarded in each activity which are added for the daily and weekly totals. Using these points, certificates are awarded.

1000 points in a week = Bronze certificate
5 Bronze certificates = Silver certificate
4 Silver certificates = Gold certificate
(A maximum of one certificate in a week.
Point totals reset Sunday night)



To celebrate success we print off Gold and Silver certificates termly to be awarded in assembly. You can also view and print off any of your child's certificates at home using the 'My Awards' link (pictured) in the main menu of Mathletics.

Live Mathletics



In Live Mathletics, your child can challenge other pupils to real-time mathematical races that will test the speed and accuracy of mental calculations. They can choose to compete against pupils from right across the world, or from school or their class.

One weakness of Live Mathletics, in my opinion, is that children can choose a too easy level for these head-to-head games. I recommend that parents keep an eye on what level their child is playing, as clearly a child in year 6 shouldn't be spending time adding up numbers to 20. Practising their mental calculations will also benefit their Maths badge attainment.

In Live Mathletics, points, which go towards the weekly totals, and credits, which can be used to purchase items from the virtual shop, are awarded to the children for correct answers and beating their own high scores. The items available from the shop are items of clothing for their digital avatar.

The focus of each Mathletics Live Level

LEVEL 1

Addition within 10

Addition doubles within 10

LEVEL 2

Addition within 20

Subtraction within 20

Doubles and halves within 20

LEVEL 3

Addition within 50

Subtraction within 50

Doubles and halves within 50

Multiplication facts: 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 10s

Addition within 20: with a missing addend

LEVEL 4

Addition within 100

Subtraction within 100: no exchanging

Doubles and halves within 100

Multiplication facts up to 10×10

Division facts: 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 10s

Addition within 50: with a missing addend

Multiplication facts up to 10×10 : with a missing factor

LEVEL 5

Addition within 500

Subtraction within 100: with exchanging

Multiplication & division facts up to 10×10

Multi-step operations

Addition within 100: with a missing addend

Subtraction within 50: with a missing addend, subtrahend or minuend

Time conversions

Length conversions

Number sequences

LEVEL 6

Decimal addition from 0.1 to 1.0

Decimal subtraction from 1.0

Multiply decimal by whole number

Multiply decimal by decimal

Order of operations with whole numbers

Multiplying 3 numbers

Simple substitution

Patterns of 1 to 10

Sum, difference, product and quotient

Converting mm, cm and m

24 hour time

Thank you for taking time to read this.

I look forward to working with you to support your child in their Maths Development and Independence.

Mrs C Marshall

Pupil Progress Leader @ Horspath Primary