Curriculum Update

Welcome to the curriculum section of the weekly newsletter. Each week we will focus on a different area of the curriculum, sharing information about what and how we teach that subject across the school as well as any tips for how you can get involved.

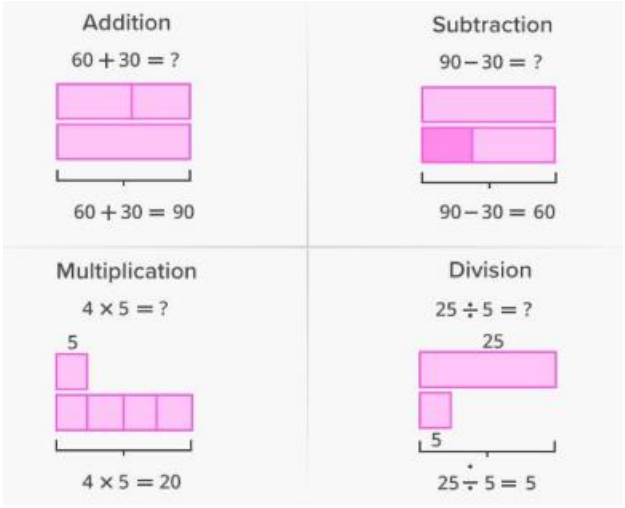
This edition is all about **Maths**

Bar models

A bar model is one of the key methods we use for teaching maths at Acomb.

This method has become more and more popular in schools across the UK due to its success within the Singaporean education system. It works by showing a clear visual representation of a calculation and we use them across the school as the children can draw them easily on the squared paper in their maths books to help with the calculations they are performing.

Some examples can be below:



Who was Alan Turing?

Regarded as the father of computer science and artificial intelligence, Alan Turing, 1912-1954, was a distinguished mathematician and logician who worked at Bletchley Park.

During WWII, he successfully broke the challenging German Enigma machine codes, which enabled the Germans to send coded messages to one another, thereby reducing the duration of war by a significant number of years.

The scientist went on to be an inspiration for numerous films, plays and novels and even a board game!

Simple ways to promote 'maths talk' at home:

1. Use maths talk at home e.g. "If I doubled the number of chips on your plate, how many would you have? "If I added all our sausages together, how many would we have?

2. Memory games – counting in sequences, spotting patterns in the real world, remembering simple maths facts.

3. Watch out for shapes! When in the car, walks or at home, try to spot different shapes! This really supports a deeper level of understanding.

4. Times Tables – practice makes perfect! Anytime and anywhere!

5. Involve children in problem solving in the supermarket "How much would it cost for X and Y? How much would 3 items cost? How much change would I get from £10 note?

Useful maths links:

We have lots of helpful videos and guides on our website that show you how we teach various aspects of maths.

These cover the four operations, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and also maths objectives that you can support with at home.

Other websites:

https://urbrainy.com/mtc (Multiplication questions)

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16 (range of maths games for all ages)

https://numbots.com/ (Key Stage 1 focused website to recall fundamental maths facts – all Acomb children have a log-in for this)