

Holy Trinity Academy

Mathematics Department

Welcome back to HTA Maths - we hope you had a lovely Summer holiday. This booklet will provide you with some reminders and new information for the year ahead.

Equipment

All pupils, in addition to the whole-school equipment requirements, are expected to have for every Maths lesson:

- ♦ Ruler with legible metric measures, at least 15cm or ideally 30cm (set squares are not acceptable)
- ♦ Compass
- ♦ Protractor, 180° or 360°
- ♦ Scientific Calculator (We recommend the Casio fx-85GTX or fx-83GTX)
- ♦ Whiteboard pen (a small cloth is also useful)

Pupils are responsible for keeping all equipment in a useable state and ensuring they have spares for when items run out. Pupils are also expected to replace broken or damaged items promptly so they are available for use in their next lesson.

School ordering available

Many of the items listed above and other items such as Study Guides and Workbooks are available to order via the school at a discounted rate. The Casio fx-85GTX calculator can be purchased for £10 and for an additional £2 you can order the exam pack which also includes a pencil case and geometry set.

Order forms can be requested via the school's office. Deadline is **Friday 6th September**.

Please note: We are unlikely to reorder the calculators again due to minimum order requirements and we only keep a very limited amount of these in stock during the year.

Summer Holiday Revision

A polite reminder to ensure your child brings any Maths work they completed over the holidays to their first Maths lesson in September. Their teacher will be able to use the information to direct them on their next steps (and they will be awarded house points for their efforts.)

Homework

Year 8 pupils can expect a **minimum** of 45 minutes of Maths homework each week.

My child is finding the homework difficult? Pupils must speak to their Maths teacher as soon as possible - do not leave it until it is meant to be handed in.

My child has completed all the homework with time to spare? Encourage them to use the remaining time to practise their skills focussing on weaker areas - refer to the list of websites in this booklet that they will have access to find resources.

Intervention

The Maths department may provide Intervention work for a pupil who requires additional support. We have a variety of intervention strategies including work to be done outside of lessons in addition to their homework and after-school sessions. We would appreciate your support in ensuring these intervention tasks are completed.

Websites

Pupils will be provided with logins to the following websites. Pupils are expected to keep their logins safe - we recommend recording their logins in both their Maths exercise books and their planners as lost logins will result in a standards card tick.

- ◆ **Times Tables Rockstars**

www.ttrockstars.com

Times tables practice either online or printed.



- ◆ **Mathswatch**

<https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/>

Provides videos, worksheets and interactive questions for pupils to use to aid their progress at both KS3 and GCSE. When students receive their Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs), they will show the Mathswatch clip numbers relevant to the skills listed.



- ◆ **EEDI**

<https://www.eedi.co.uk/>

Diagnostic quizzing which provides immediate feedback so pupils can then target areas of challenge.



Additional Websites / Apps

If pupils require additional support they can use these websites / apps free of charge.

- ◆ **Corbett Maths**

www.corbettmaths.com



The secondary version of Corbett Maths Primary.

The 5-a-day worksheets are excellent - go to "5-a-day GCSE 9-1" and focus on Numeracy and/or Foundation - answers are also available online. The videos are also really good at explaining methods and there are worksheets and answers available for extra practise. Be aware as this targeted at GCSE there will be topics / questions your child will have not yet been taught so ensure they are studying topics already covered by the curriculum - if you're unsure please liaise with your child's Maths teacher for further information.

- ◆ **Number Training**

www.numbertraining.com

Free website providing practise on a variety of numeracy and Maths skills – answers appear with a click of a button so users get instant feedback. No login is required.

- ◆ **Puzzle of the Week**

<http://www.puzzleoftheweek.com/>

The school has registered for this weekly challenge and it's a great way to achieve additional reward points. Pupils will receive more details during the new term but there are lots of puzzles you can access in addition to the challenge.

- ◆ **Parallel**

<https://parallel.org.uk/>

A challenging Maths website that sends puzzles and problems weekly. Students should liaise with their Maths teacher before signing up to this site.

Apps for the phone or tablet

- ◆ **Star Dash Studios** (National Numeracy)

www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/star-dash-studios

A runner game that helps improve your maths while exploring the world of film!



- ◆ **Sumaze!** (MEI)

www.mei.org.uk/sumaze1

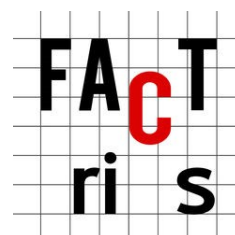
Educational Puzzle games - check out Sumaze!, Sumaze! 2 and Sumaze! Primary



- ◆ **Factris** (MEI)

www.mei.org.uk/factris

A tetris-style game involving factors



We often hear parents concerned that their own Maths skills are not as good as they would like and they feel they cannot support their children. Numeracy is the everyday Maths that children and adults alike should be comfortable with – National Numeracy is a charity to help raise levels of numeracy and to promote its importance. They have lots of resources to help adults to improve their own numeracy and support their children's understanding too.

So how do I improve my own Numeracy skills

www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/improve-your-maths

Attempt the National Numeracy Challenge by clicking on the above link. It will review your current skills and then provide you with the necessary support to improve your overall numeracy.



How do I help my child with their Maths

1. Be positive about maths. Try not to say things like "I can't do maths" or "I hated maths at school" - your child may start to think like that themselves.
2. Point out the maths in everyday life. Include your child in activities involving numbers and measuring, such as shopping, cooking and travelling.
3. Praise your child for effort rather than for being "clever". This shows them that by working hard they can always improve.

National Numeracy have a Family Maths Toolkit which provides lots of ideas and resources that you can use with the whole family www.familymathstoolkit.org.uk

Any other questions / comments?

If you have any other queries or perhaps know of other sites/apps that you recommend then please contact the school via our website, stating it's for the attention of the Maths department.

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