



# Stafford Leys Primary maths Newsletter

INSPIRING CONFIDENCE, COMPASSION, CHARACTER AND FUN.

Dec 2018

## Welcome to the very first maths newsletter!

Seasons greetings from Mr Doxey. As some of you may already know, I became the new maths leader starting this September. We have had an amazing Autumn term so far at Stafford Leys with lots of changes throughout the school and some brilliant opportunities for the children.

### Going DEEPER

This year we have launched a whole-school theme of 'Going DEEPER in maths'. The children have taken to the idea brilliantly and have demonstrated this in their books. Our reason for promoting this is to encourage children to explore their maths further and to develop their understanding through a variety of different approaches. Teachers are encouraging this in lessons by choosing one or two of the keywords and asking the children to use them in their learning. These will always be appropriate to what the objective is for the lesson.

I have been very impressed with the work children have brought to me and I love the fact that they want to show it off.

### EYFS

Mrs Allison is currently part of a teaching research group this academic year looking at developing early number sense in EYFS. As part of this the number teaching is being broken down into smaller steps in order to develop this deeper number sense. The children are expected to be able to explain their thinking and how they arrived at an answer, as well as explaining what they know and understand. As part of our teaching the children are watching the CBeebies number programme Numberblocks.

### Cornerstones assessment

Stafford Leys has now changed the way we assess our children termly for both maths and English. Along with teacher-led formative assessments, we have now changed from using NFER to Cornerstones papers. This change will allow teachers to identify areas of strength and weakness within their year groups much more easily and be able to respond much more accurately to help all of our children's progress improve. Years 2-5 completed their first set of assessments at the end of November and have approached them in their usual calm and positive manner. Teachers will be sending papers home in the New Year after we have gone through them.

### Year 1 and 2

Year 1 and 2 have been trialling a new set of text and workbooks created by 'Power Maths'. The teachers and children have loved their new style of books and feel they have really been able to progress in their learning. This has shown in the children's work as they are able to show a greater understanding and have loved using them. Keep up the hard work KS1!



Going DEEPER  
in maths



**Draw** - Show it by drawing an example or a diagram.

**Explain** - Explain how or why it works. How does the method work?

**Evaluate** - Evaluate how well the method works. Could you solve it another way?

**Prove** - Prove that it works. Try the inverse. I know that this works because....

**Extend** - Use it on other questions. Bigger or smaller numbers. Integers or decimals.

**Refine** - Improve the technique used. Is this the best method to use? Can you improve how you have displayed your work?

### Maths targets

Moving forward from the New Year onwards, children will continue to be given maths targets, however once they complete their target they will then be given a challenge target to complete - which will further their understanding. For example, the target might be, 'I can do my 7 times tables'. The challenge target might then be, 'I can multiply 7 by multiples of 10 e.g.  $7 \times 80$ '. This should allow our children to then further their understanding and number sense. It will also mean that children, who have completed their target, have something for them to focus on.

### Working walls

We have had a real focus on challenge at all times in our maths lessons. Teachers have been creating some wonderful working walls to inspire the children in their maths vocabulary choices, showing off their marvellous maths work and to provide techniques and methods to help them solve their problems. On the rear of this letter you will be able to see some of these. These have really inspired the children and I think this is showing in their maths books.





# Going DEEPER in maths

