

What is Big Maths?

Big Maths is an approach to teaching number that aims to ensure that children are confidently numerate as they progress through school. It provides a rigorous and progressive structure and enables children to fully embed key skills and numeracy facts through fun and engaging lessons. It is based on 4 key elements which make up each maths lesson: CLIC.

Counting – Counting is done in many ways including counting forwards and backwards in various increments; work on place value and reading and ordering numbers.

Learn Its – Learn Its are 72 number facts which are learnt throughout the years from Reception to Year 4. They are split across the different terms so that each class works on a few Learn Its at a time to ensure they are fully embedded. 36 are addition facts and 36 are multiplication facts; these are learnt in class and practised at home and are tested once a week.

It's Nothing New – Children use a bank of facts and methods that they already have to solve problems and that each step of progress is very small; children will use and apply their skills and methods to a range of different situations and problems.

Calculation – This is often the main part of the maths lesson which focuses on teaching solid written and mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children move through progress drives which introduce small, focused steps of progress throughout the year.

How does Big Maths work?

During each lesson on number, the children will experience CLIC taught in various ways, often using colourful characters. Each class works on a set list of Learn Its each term and these are tested each week in a timed test made up of several Learn Its from the appropriate maths level.

In addition to this, each class will complete a CLIC test once a week which is an untimed test made up of questions on several areas of maths. Each week the children enjoy trying to beat their own score from the previous week.

What should children be doing at home to support Big Maths?

Children should be practising the appropriate Learn Its for their class at home to support what is happening in lessons. Teachers communicate the Learn Its being taught to parents termly.

The written methods used in Big Maths throughout the school have been written into a calculation policy for parents to download and use at home when supporting children with homework.

The Big Math's Characters:

Multiple Mully: Where's Mully' is a Big Maths game where the objective is to find where Mully is hiding on the number square. It is about extending children's knowledge of multiples. Children are asked to find Mully by identifying the largest multiple of a given number yet staying in the parameters of a limited maximum number.



Count Fourways: Count Fourways teaches the children that if they can count in four different ways, then they can apply this knowledge to counting in many ways.



Pim: This character teaches us that 3 things add four things always equals seven things. These 'things' could be anything, including objects, amounts and measures. Therefore, if one knows that 6 add 2 equals 8, then one also knows that £6 add £2 must equal £8.



Pom: Pom is an alien. Pom has several features that help children learn 4 key mathematical words: multiple, factor, square and prime.



Squiggleworth: This character helps us to learn about partitioning numbers (he shows us what each 'squiggle' in a number is worth). The children begin by placing the number into the spots on his tummy and then continue by writing what the number is worth in his feet underneath. So if the children wanted to partition 643, they would place 6, 4 and 3 into the three spots on his tummy and write 600, 40 and 3 on his feet underneath.

