

Northway, Woosehill Wokingham, Berkshire RG41 3PQ Tel. 0118 979 1676

> Headteacher Ms Raha Razeghi

11th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)

To develop your child's fluency and mathematical recall, we are introducing KIRFS (Key Instant Recall Facts) throughout the school. KIRFS are a way of helping your child to learn key facts and information which, if they have instant recall of, will greatly benefit them in our maths lessons in school. A copy of your child's year group KIRFS will be sent home for you to practise at home. Please refer to the topic web, which will inform you of the areas of maths being taught in each term.

KIRFS are designed to support the development of mental maths skills which underpin much of the maths work we do in class. They are particularly useful when solving calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They contain number facts, such as number bonds, and times tables, which need constant practise and rehearsal in order for the children to recall them quickly and accurately. Please also make use of our school subscriptions for Times Table Rock Stars, Purple Mash and Education City to support your child at home.

Instant recall facts help enormously with mental agility in maths lessons. They are not designed to be a time-consuming task and can be practised anywhere – in the car, walking to school etc. Regular practise (little and often) helps the children to retain these facts and keep their skills sharp. When you practise these at home, please try to keep it fun by using practical resources when possible. Playing board games or card games are an excellent opportunity to reinforce many of the facts, e.g. Monopoly, Dominoes, Snakes and Ladders.

Over their time at The Hawthorns, we believe that if the KIRFS are developed fully, our children will be more confident with number work, understand its relevance, and be able to access the curriculum much more easily.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Lucy Hall Maths Subject Leader

