

Maths Subject Leader Report – 2017-18

The school year 2017-18 was another successful one for maths at St John the Baptist School. This was evident with our results at the end of KS2 where we achieved 79% of pupils meeting the expected standard.

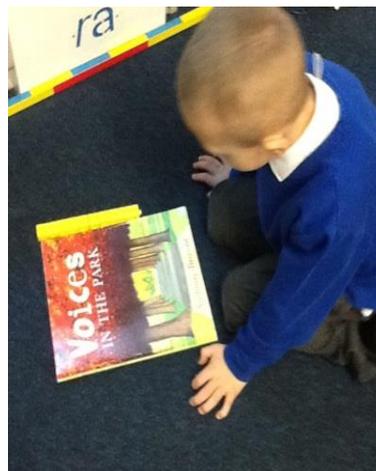
We have continued to teach units using the White Rose Maths Hub resources which ensure all children understand concepts fully before moving on, including using time for problem solving and reasoning.

Partner and group work are an important part of maths lessons as they enable pupils to share their ideas and explain their thinking. This speaking and listening element is an area we will continue to focus on in school as it will help to further improve our pupil's reasoning skills.



Maths journals in KS2, where children can record their ideas and any prompts that will help them understand their learning, assisted in pupils improving their subject knowledge and were vital in Y6 revision sessions for SATs.

This year we have had an increased focus on the CPA approach (Concrete, Pictorial and Abstract) whereby practical resources are available for all pupils to use to help teach mathematical concepts, before moving on to drawing representations of the concept and finally the 'abstract' where the work is recorded formally in books.



We have continued to use Maths of the Day (PE based maths sessions) across the school which pupils enjoy as they are practical sessions.



Mathletics has continued to be used to support pupil learning, both in school and at home, with children playing interactive games or following tasks set by their teacher.

Various groups of KS2 pupils have attended Gifted and Talented mornings at local schools where they have taken part in challenges with children from other schools, to apply their reasoning and problem solving skills in creative ways.



FKS children enjoy many maths activities both inside and outside the classroom, working collaboratively with each other.



To support staff, there have been many opportunities during the year for continuing professional development. These have included training for bar modelling, success at arithmetic, engaging parents, and effective support for disadvantaged learners. Following the arithmetic training, interventions are using the suggestions made to support children in small groups.

We are also part of a Solihull project, in partnership with other primary and secondary schools, to improve maths. This has enabled the school to receive training on supporting children with using concrete resources and coaching for KS2 staff with regards to different ways of teaching mental maths skills. We have also trialled using lesson study as a way of improving outcomes for our children and have found this so beneficial we will continue with it next year.

As a subject leader, I carried out pupil interviews which were very positive. Children say that they enjoy maths 'a lot' and like a challenge. They find some concepts difficult but have strategies to help them and can also use the resources. They said that teachers 'encourage us to believe in ourselves' and if the work is difficult 'it encourages us to try hard'.

We really believe all of our children can achieve in maths and make good progress and we look forward to another successful year with everyone enjoying maths.

Helen Dixon
Maths Co-ordinator