

How can you help at home?

Big Maths is a very useful tool to help children become numerate... but we still need your support at home.

How can you help?

- Help your child practice their Learn Its at home – a few minutes a day is all you need.
- Insist that numbers are written the correct way round (it may be appropriate to concentrate on one number at a time).
- Congratulate your child if their Big Maths score goes up.
- Make maths a positive experience (don't tell your child you were rubbish at maths when you were at school – they will think they should be!)

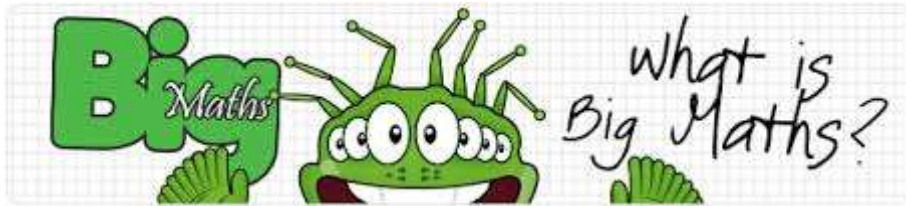
If you have any questions or concerns please ask us!



Marston Montgomery Primary School



Big Maths – Learn Its



Big Maths

Big Maths is a teaching programme we are introducing at Marston to help children to become more numerate. Problem solving and word problems cannot be solved until children can manipulate and understand how numbers work.

Big Maths lessons are fast, fun and furious. Children work on whiteboards and 'flash' answers to their teachers and the pace of the lesson is quite exhausting! We need to pass on the pressure to work at pace and have maths facts instantly available, rather than counting on fingers.

The children are introduced to child-friendly terms such as 'Switchers' and 'Learn Its', rather than 'commutative law' and 'number bonds' to help them manipulate numbers and make them more confident and more successful. These terms are used throughout the school so that there is continuity.

CLIC Sessions

This stands for '**C**ounting', '**L**earn Its', '**I**t's Nothing New' and '**C**alculation'. Maths lessons contain each of these elements.

As we are introducing Big Maths we are initially focussing on 'Learn Its', although the children will be experiencing other elements of CLIC. We will send out other information leaflets as the other elements become embedded in the lessons.

'Learn Its'

Learn Its are addition facts and times tables facts. There are 72 Learn Its in total. 36 addition Learn Its and 36 multiplication Learn Its. These are facts that children need to learn off by heart, so when they are asked 'What is $6+4$?' they are able to give the answer as quickly as they would be able to tell you their name. As soon as they know $6+7=13$ they also know $7+6=13$, this is known as a 'Switcher'. They also know $13-7=6$ and $13-6=7$, this is known as a 'Fact Family'.

Your child's teacher will select the Learn Its for your child to work on rather than race ahead. Please work at home to make sure they really **do** know their Learn Its and their Switchers with INSTANT RECALL (no fingers!)

Big Maths Beat That



Big Maths Beat That is a weekly timed test of your child's Learn Its. The aim is to improve their score by at least one each time or to improve their speed. Stickers are awarded to children who 'Beat That'. You can help your child to improve their scores, by asking them to give you instant responses to their Learn Its

while at home, the journey to school and throughout the day at weekend. Little and very often is the key to success, so the information enters the long term memory. It is important to recap on previously learnt Learn Its too!