

# Maths at Bedwell

Reception  
January 2017

Each half-term, every class in the school focuses on **one key area of maths**, based on strengths and weaknesses identified by all of our teachers at the start of the year. Your child's targets are explained over the page, along with some **ideas for how you can support your child with them at home**. The targets are split into 3 sections - the 'Should' target is age-related, based on national standards for maths, and is the point most children should reach. For some children maths can be difficult and therefore they are targeted to get the 'Must'. For others who really excel at maths there is the 'Could' target, which challenges them to work at a higher level.

Each class also selects a key set of number facts - their '**Learn-Its**' - which they practice every day. These are explained below, and again it would be a **huge help** if you could spend a few minutes every day helping your child to learn these.

## Top number songs this term:

Number songs are a great way to improve counting skills. This term we'll be singing these songs regularly, and it will really help your child to learn if they practice them at home, too. There are loads of sing-along videos available on the BBC website or YouTube as well - just Google the song titles.

### 1,2,3,4,5

*One, two, three, four, five,  
Once I caught a fish alive.  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,  
Then I let it go again.  
Why did you let it go?  
Because it bit my finger so.  
Which finger did it bite?  
This little finger on the right.*

### Five little ducks

*FIVE little ducks went swimming one day,  
Over the hill and far away.*

*Mamma duck said: 'Quack, quack, quack,  
quack!'*

*And only FOUR little ducks came back.*

Repeat with FOUR, THREE, TWO and ONE little duck. On the last verse (fortunately), end with *All her five little ducks came back*

Must	Should	Could
I can count all objects in a group using one-to-one correspondence	I can count one group of objects and find another one with the same amount	I can count two groups of objects to find the total

How you can help:

- This target is all about counting and the use of one-to-one correspondence (counting one number for each 'thing'), so the most useful thing you can do is count together as much as you possibly can: in the supermarket, while cooking, tidying away toys, counting clothes onto the line... Can you count all the way to 10? Can you make it beyond and head towards 15 or even 20 'things'?



- Look for opportunities to add groups of objects together, and practice using the language of addition - how many knives and forks altogether? How many socks in total? What happens if we add 3 more to the pile?

- Estimate how many of a particular thing you'll see today, and find out if there are more or less by counting - eg. I think we'll see 12 red cars on the way to the shops, do you think there will be more or less? Can we keep count to find out?

- Play games involving two dice together, and practice counting up the total (using the spots on both dice). What's the highest and lowest number we can get? This is a great way to start learning common addition facts too - can you remember what 2 and 2 made the last time we added them up?

- Count items into the shopping trolley, and check-off items on the shopping list - we wrote '5 tins of cat food' on our list - have we picked-up that number? How many more do we need?

- Sing counting songs together. There are loads of great examples on the BBC website - search for 'bbc number songs'.

