Mastering Number

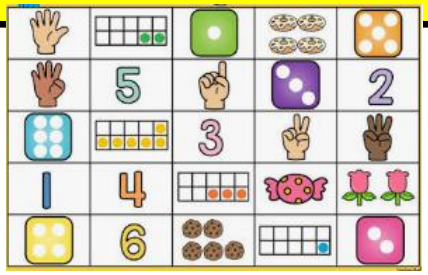
We are actively participating in the NCETM Mastering Number Programme.

What is Mastering Number?

Mastering Number is an educational maths programmed designed by the NCETM. Its purpose is to give children a deep understanding of numbers, strong number sense and fluency.

In Reception and Key Stage 1 it focuses on subitising (recognising quantities without counting), number composition (how numbers are made of parts and recalling basic number facts.

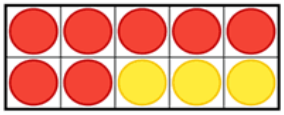
Don't count, say the amount



Mastering Number in action

Mastering Number is inclusive with all children securing the same learning point in an interactive and engaging manner.

Daily Sessions: 10 to 15 minutes 4 times a week to children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 in addition to regular maths lessons.
Using Manipulatives (physical objects): Children use counters, blocks, **rekenreks** and other tactile objects. This enables children to develop a more secure understanding of core mathematical structures.
Stem Sentences: We develop oracy using specific repeated phrases (e.g. 5 is made of 3 and 2).
Moving Beyond Counting: Instead of relying on slow finger or tick counting, children learn to group and calculate flexibly.
Conceptual variation: transfer the same mathematics. When our children transfer their learning in a well thought out, different context, they become confident and make connections in learning.



Principles underpinning Mastering Number at our school:

- **By developing fluency, children are better able to access the maths in the lesson -** We do this by making connections between Mastering Number sessions and main lessons.
- **Developing our children's mindset to look for mathematical relationships will aid development and support connections -** We do this by drawing the children's attention to the relationships so that they can connect with and make links to prior learning.
- **Building confidence will enable more children to make even better progress -** We do this by focusing on enabling children to really understand a small step in learning.

How to use a rekenrek

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtb7X2UJNWw