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# Maths & English Newsletter

Welcome to our first Maths and English Newsletter. There is a lot going on in school at the moment as we continually aim to raise standards in both Maths and English, so we thought it would be good to share some of it with you. We would like to make this Newsletter a regular event, so look out for the next edition next month for an update on all things Maths and English.

## English

Firstly, thank you to all of those children and families who took part in the Summer writing challenge. Both schools have fantastic displays containing the postcards which make for very interesting reading!

### Early Readers

Here are some useful websites to help support phonics at home:

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

[www.letters-and-sounds.com](http://www.letters-and-sounds.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play)

### Reading

There is a real buzz for reading around school at the moment. All classes have begun their topic-based books to develop their reading and writing skills. As always we are encouraging a love of reading.

Discussion of the books they are reading is hugely beneficial for children of all ages. So ask your child about their class text...!

**Make sure you have signed up at your local library**

Tips for reluctant readers – try encouraging them to read through a recipe when you cook or read through instructions for making something. Let them choose the text. Enjoy reading for pleasure!

### Remember ABC:

**A**sk your child questions about the story you're reading to ensure comprehension.

**B**ook family time to read with your children every day.

**C**reate a special reading place in your home, with your child's favourite books within reach.

### POPULAR APP TO SUPPORT READING

**Dr. Seuss's ABC –**

**Amy Clarke**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions:

[aclarke@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:aclarke@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk)



## Maths

Welcome back to a fresh year at school, with lots of exciting new opportunities for children to experience in Maths!

### KIRF

Children will be bringing home something called a Key Instant Recall Fact sheet. This is a sheet containing advice on how to practice a key maths skill for a particular year group at home. Once a term, these will be handed out to children. There is no expectation that lots of work should be done and handed in to the teacher – they are simply for children to do a bit of practice on these key skills outside of school.

### Mathletics

Before the start of term, all children were moved onto their new year groups on Mathletics, with new accounts set up for our new reception children. Username and password sheets should have gone home with the children so they can begin to use Mathletics at home. If you have not received your child's sheet, please get in contact with your class teacher. Mathletics is an excellent program which gives children the chance to practice their maths skills in a fun and challenging way, where they can earn rewards for their efforts. As a Federation, we do recommend that children do try to use it at home at least once a week.

### Maths Workshops

With the ever changing face of the maths curriculum, it is important that everyone is aware of what is expected of children in maths. Look out for upcoming dates of workshops to help parents/carers understand how maths is taught at school and what they can do to help at home.

**Russell Boorman**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions:

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