In Nursery, children begin to develop their mathematical understanding through play, exploration and everyday experiences. We encourage children to notice numbers, patterns, shapes and quantities in the world around them, helping them build strong foundations for future learning.

There are lots of simple and enjoyable ways you can support your child's mathematical development at home:

Count Together

- Count toys as you tidy them away.
- Count steps as you walk up and down stairs.
- Count pieces of fruit, snacks or items in the shopping trolley.
- Sing counting songs and nursery rhymes such as *Five Little Ducks*, *Five Currant Buns* and *1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive*.

Learn Through Play

- Play simple board games that involve counting.
- Build towers with blocks and talk about which is taller or shorter.
- Complete puzzles together and explore patterns.

Explore Shapes

- Look for shapes around your home and outdoors.
- Talk about circles, squares, triangles and rectangles you can see.

Compare and Talk About Quantities

- Use mathematical language such as *more*, *less*, *lots*, *empty*, *full*, *big* and *small*.
- Compare groups of objects and ask questions such as, "Which has more?" or "Which is bigger?"

Explore Maths Outdoors

- Collect leaves, sticks or stones and count them.
- Create simple patterns using natural objects.
- Talk about size, length and weight while exploring.

Use Maths in Everyday Routines

- Ask your child to help set the table by counting plates, cups and spoons.

- Talk about routines and sequences, such as what happens first, next and last during the day.

Stories

Using stories is a great way to support children with many different aspects of maths.

The Hungry Caterpillar includes counting, number ordering and days of the week. We're Going on a Bear Hunt includes positional language and sequencing. The Gruffalo involves comparing sizes and positional language.

Keep maths fun! Children learn best when they are playing, exploring and talking with the adults around them. Celebrating their efforts and encouraging them to have a go will help them develop confidence and a positive attitude towards Maths.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Wood

Maths Lead