



Dear Parents/Carers

The children in school are using Numicon to support their learning in maths.

Numicon is a method of teaching maths that using concrete resources to give children a picture of number ideas.

As adults, it's easy to forget how long it took us when we were children to understand maths ideas, so we tend to think they are simple. However, to a child, they are not simple and it often takes time and lots of practice to understand them.

You are not expected to teach your child these ideas, but you can help by supporting any Numicon based homework sent home, making sure your child knows what to do and discussing ideas with them.

To help you understand homework linked with Numicon, the maths is explained on a sheet of paper for you. This sheet includes: information about how the activity will help your child; words and phrases that your child is learning in their maths lessons; what to look for as your child does the activity; what you will need and what to do in order to complete the activity. These are also some 'next step' suggestions if you want to extend the practice further.

Many of the homework activities involve children handling and moving Numicon Shapes, so we will send home a sheet, which you may cut and keep at home. Other activities may involve household items like buttons, a dice, 1p, 2p, 5p coins.

If you would like to find out more about helping your child as they learn maths, please visit [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) which has some help and advice for parents. The Numicon website may also provide some useful support [www.oxfordprimary.co.uk/numicon](http://www.oxfordprimary.co.uk/numicon). The website has short videos explaining the background to Numicon and how to use it.

Many thanks for your support

Miss Fielding