

Greetings from RPS!

Welcome to the May edition of our Prep/Foundation newsletter. It was great to see all of our foundation students returning from their holiday break with lots of enthusiasm - ready to learn! This newsletter we will explore some of the concepts we are covering in Mathematics, including patterns, 2D shapes, addition and subtraction.

When introducing concepts in Mathematics we strive to cater to a range of learning styles and to present real world problems/scenarios for students to understand the purpose of each mathematical concept.



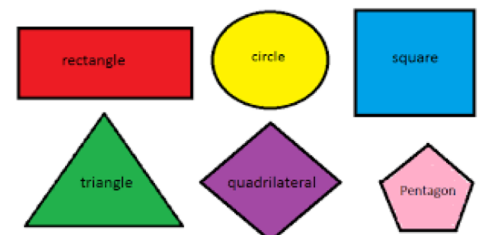
Patterns

Patterns are an important mathematical concept as they help children to recognise repetition when working with numbers, such as skip counting. Students also explore patterns using shape and colours. This skill helps students to identify and predict patterns when solving complicated number problems later.

2D Shapes

To help us learn about 2-dimensional shapes, we explored the shapes we can see in the environment. Students explored to top level of the school, looking down to see the different shapes of buildings from above. We then celebrated our learning with a special 'Silly Shapes' morning tea, where students brought different shapes snacks and ate with their peers.

We explored colour patterns using our teddy bear counters. We then stuck our pattern creations into our maths book.



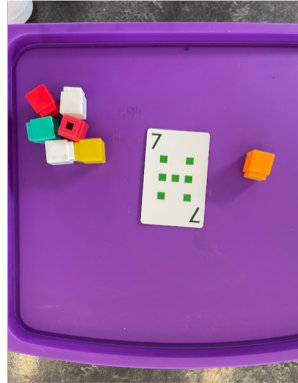
Delicious and creative!

Addition

Addition is a fun concept to teach as students often have a lot of prior knowledge. We introduce the concept using lots of concrete materials such as toys, counters and blocks. Students are also exposed to the idea of addition 'action stories' where they are challenged to think of real life situations where you might need to add numbers/objects together. Students are also able to use drawings to help show their thinking when solving addition problems.



Having so much fun with our bowling competition!



Subtraction

Subtraction is another concept that students are often familiar with, and again it is a concept where real world situations help them to further develop their understanding. In a way to cater to lots of different learning styles, we had fun exploring subtraction when playing bowling. Each game started with 10 pins, and students took turns bowling. We then counted how many pins we had knocked over and how many were left standing. As a class, we were able to verbalise this as a subtraction statement: "I had 10 pins. I knocked down 3 and I had 7 left. 10 takeaway 3 is 7."

Q&A

What do you like about Maths?

Harlow: "I like learning about sums!"

Declan: "I like adding because every day we learn how to do more ways."

Owen: "I like adding with blocks and counters and building towers."

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<https://reservoirps.vic.edu.au/>



Exploring the different ways we can make numbers when adding. For this task students had to flip a card and then work with a partner to find all the different ways we could make this number.



We use a range of maths equipment to support students when exploring different concepts.