

# YEAR 2



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*Coming up next week...06/10/2025*

## Maths

### Learning in school:

In maths, children will continue their learning on Place Value and starting their learning on addition:

- Counting in 2s, 5s, 10s
- Counting in 3s
- Number bonds to 10
- Fact families with addition and number bonds to 20

## English, Reading & Fluency

### Learning in school:

In English, the children will be exploring the past tense verbs and using the senses to add detail to our descriptive writing. We will be writing the first part of our memoir, focusing on noun phrases, past tense verbs and conjunctions.

### Guided Reading:

Children will continue to look at the text 'Goldilock and just one bear'. Children will be looking at different VIPERs as we study the text.

*Your child will have brought home a yellow reading record book. This replaces boom reader as our reading record system. Please write in the book when you have read with your child and add a comment regarding your child's reading. Please ensure the reading record and their reading book is in your child's book bag each day.*

### Fluency:

This week, we will be looking at a poem called 'Splish, splash, splosh'.

## SPAG

### Learning in school:

Children will be reviewing Phase 5 graphemes and tricky words. They will practise reading, writing sentences and spelling using these graphemes.

## Topic

### Learning in school:

Our topic this half term is a Geography based topic called "Pole to Pole"

**Geography:** This week the children will consolidate their learning about the Arctic and Antarctic and compare the similarities and differences between them.

**Science:** In Science this half term we will be exploring habitats. This week we will be looking at rainforest and ocean habitats and identifying how a habitat provides animals and plants with what they need to survive.

**PSHE:** Children will learning about how to manage friendship issues and when to use the phrase 'Don't do that!'.

**RE:** Children will learn about 'What is God like for Christians?'

**Music:** *In music we will be exploring our "Call and response" unit focused around animals. The children will explore dynamics and understand "call and response" (one person sings or plays something, and others sing or play something back as a reply).*

**Computing:** *We will start our 'Online safety' module in Purple Mash.*

**Art:** *We will continue our art unit called "map it out" where children explore a range of different maps and use these as a stimulus for their art. They explore "zooming in" on a piece of their art work and explore abstract art.*

**PE:** *For this half term, our PE module is "team building"*

### Homework

The homework will consist of focus phonemes (the sound the letters make) and their spellings. If you say the sound for your child, can they list all the different graphemes (spelling of the sound). There is a grow the code chart attached to the coming up next week which lists the alternative spellings for each sound. There are also common exception words for your child to practise spelling. These are known as 'prickly spellings' because your child cannot use their sounds to spell the word, they have to learn it through sight recognition and exposure.

There is also a list of decodable spellings. Ask your child to read the words and add sound buttons underneath. Can your child practise spelling these words in their homework book?

Alongside spelling practise, there is also maths fluency practise.

Please write the spellings in the homework book if you are practising them with your child, but feel free to practise them in creative ways! Write them in chalk outside,

paint them, make them with magnetic letters. Can they write a sentence using some of the words?

There is no expectation to complete every spelling, please feel free to complete as much as your child is comfortable with.

If your child did not pass the Year 1 phonics test, you will have a separate sheet for homework which will be stuck into your child's homework book every week.

### ***Additional notes and reminders***

Please could children wear their PE kit to school on their class's PE days.

Please also ensure that no earrings are worn on their PE days, or that children can remove these themselves before the PE lesson.

Class PE days are:

Bears - Tuesday and Wednesday

Leopards - Wednesday and Thursday

Monkeys - Wednesday and Friday

Library days are:

Bears - Thursday

Leopards - Wednesday

Monkeys - Monday

### **Numbots**

Your child has brought home login details for Numbots. NumBots is an online maths learning platform that helps children learn how to add and subtract, improving their fluency and recall in basic mental maths, and equipping them with maths confidence. NumBots covers subitising, number bonds, and addition and subtraction of double-digit numbers; gradually helping children to build a solid conceptual understanding of number sense.

Numbots creates fun opportunities for children to develop and recognise their lifelong maths skills and grow their confidence with maths. It compliments their learning in school, focussing on securing any gaps in understanding before moving on to the next challenge. This is all done at your child's own pace.

Attached is a Parent Guide for your information.

It is recommend playing for at least 3 minutes a day, 4 or 5 days a week. Have fun!

# PARENT GUIDE

## ABOUT NUMBOTS

### What is NumBots?

NumBots is an online maths learning platform that helps children learn how to add and subtract, improving their fluency and recall in basic mental maths, and equipping them with maths confidence.

### Why is NumBots important?

Basic number skills are the essential building blocks for higher-level maths concepts. NumBots covers number recognition, number bonds, and addition and subtraction of double digit numbers; gradually helping your child to build a solid conceptual understanding of number sense.

### How often should my child play?

We recommend a little and often approach; 3 minutes practice a day, 4 times a week is a good target.

## LOGGING IN

### What is my child's username and password?

Your child's teacher will provide a unique username and password (or picture pin). Please encourage your child not to share their password with others.

### How does my child log in?

Log in to NumBots on a browser at [play.numbots.com](https://play.numbots.com) and select Schools > Pupils > enter the school name or postcode. Select the correct school and then enter their username and password/pin details.

### Is there an App?

Yes, there is an app for Amazon, Android and Apple devices. Please go to the relevant app store to download the app for free.

## HOW THE GAME WORKS

### Who is Rusty?

Rusty is the central character of NumBots who needs help in his quest to find new parts to upgrade himself to a shiny diamond bot. Children progress through the game, unlocking levels and upgrading Rusty as they go.

### How does my child accessorise their Bot Avatar?

When your child first logs in they will be able to choose a Bot Name and Bot Avatar. Coins earned by answering maths questions correctly can be spent in the Custom Shack on new parts to personalise their own robot.

### What is Story Mode?

Story Mode consists of 18 stages, each containing numerous levels which players must pass to unlock the next, focusing on conceptual understanding of core maths. Using a variety of visual representations, Story Mode introduces different calculation strategies in a carefully sequenced order.

### What is Challenge Mode?

Challenge Mode consists of rapid responses to essential maths facts against the clock. Each of the 30 challenges focuses on a key skill or objective, and each game lasts 1 minute. Unlike Story Mode, all of the challenges are available to play as soon as Challenge Mode is unlocked.



NUMBOTS



## LEARNERS WITH DIFFERENT NEEDS

### The questions are too hard

Encourage your child to be resilient and try each question a number of times. They are not expected to pass the level first time! They can also press the "i" icon for further instructions if they are stuck. If they are still struggling, please speak to your child's teacher.

### My child is unable to pass a level

To earn the 2 or 3 stars required to pass a level, children must be both accurate and timely with their answers. If your child is getting 0 or 1 stars, they need to answer more quickly. This is deliberate, as it ensures that they have the number fluency required to move on to the next level. If your child cannot progress any further, we suggest going back to previous levels where they scored 2 stars and trying to score 3 stars on them all. Once completed with 3 stars, they should be fluent enough to pass the current level they're stuck on. If your child still needs more time to answer the questions, speak to their teacher about relaxing the time constraints in the accessibility settings.

### My child gets anxious playing in Challenge Mode

The timer can be hidden in Challenge Mode via the settings. Press ⚙️ and ensure the "Show Timer" toggle is switched off.

### My child has visual impairments; what settings are available?

Head to settings (press ⚙️) where the colour scheme can be changed to high contrast colour settings, which also helps to reduce the visual stimuli and declutter the screen. Children can also press the speaker icon next to each question for it to be read out loud.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

### My child's coins have suddenly dropped

Another child may have logged in as your child. Please reassure your child that this can be rectified. Contact their teacher who can set a new password, refund any coins and talk to the class about online safety.

### My child has forgotten their login details

Please contact your child's teacher for a reminder, as the NumBots team are unable to provide login details to parents for data protection reasons.

### My child finds it too easy

We encourage all pupils to start at the very beginning of Story Mode, even those with strong maths skills, as they can progress through the early levels quickly which will help reaffirm the basics and make connections with the more difficult questions. You can speak to their teacher who can skip the first topics if needed.

### How can I tell if my child has completed their Activity Goal set by the teacher?

When logged in, your child will be able to see how many minutes they have left remaining to reach their weekly goal in Game Data on the Game Modes screen. Once they have achieved their weekly Activity Goal, an animation of an arrow hitting a target will appear on their screen.

### Is NumBots safe?

Yes. There are no adverts, no in-app purchases nor any chat functions. See more in our Privacy Notice (<https://numbots.com/privacy-notice/>).



### Class email addresses:

Please do not use these email addresses to tell us about changes to pick up, as we do not always have the opportunity to check the class email addresses during the school day.

Leopards: [leopards@mead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:leopards@mead.surrey.sch.uk)

Bears: [bears@mead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:bears@mead.surrey.sch.uk)

Monkeys: [monkeys@mead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:monkeys@mead.surrey.sch.uk)

*Please note that as the week progresses it is sometimes necessary to change what is planned to meet the learning needs of the children and therefore changes to the above may occur.*