



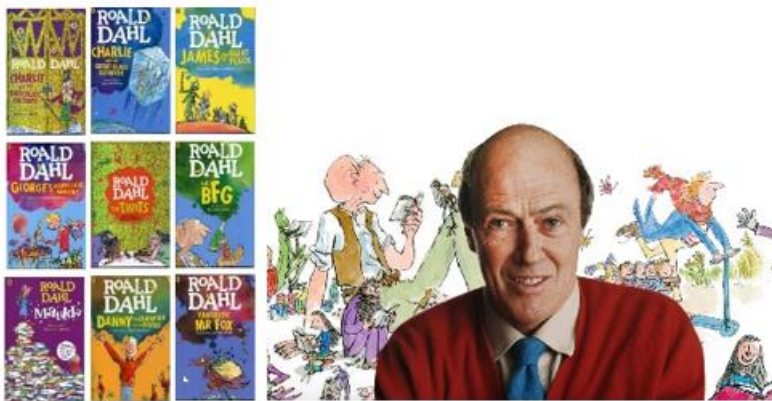
Friday 12th September 2025

ATTENDANCE

A fantastic start to the new academic year, with the following classes achieving 100% attendance.
1 Clever Comets, 1 Super Stars, 3K, 5R and 4L

ROALD DAHL DAY – Mrs McIntee

Today we celebrated Roald Dahl Day in school, as tomorrow would have been his 109th



birthday. During our English lessons, the children explored and enjoyed his wonderful books and poems, and we all took the opportunity to learn more about this much-loved author. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the imagination, humour, and creativity that Roald Dahl shared through his stories.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

All the clubs will start next week. On the school's website, you will find a section called 'Parents'; click on this, and a menu will drop down. 'What's on this Week' will show you if anything special is happening during the school day, and also the clubs on each evening.

JUDO CLUB

On Thursday morning, the juniors and Year 2 were given a judo demonstration during assembly. A judo club will commence on Friday, 18th September. This will be open to Years 5 & 6 initially; however, if places are still available, the club will be offered to Year 4, then Year 3 and finally Year 2. Years 5 & 6 have been given the details for booking and have until Monday to make a booking before the details will be given to Years 3 & 4.



NUMBOTS AND TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

The battles will begin again soon! Details have been sent via School Spider and are also at the bottom of the newsletter. The children's login details have been stuck in their reading record books.

LAMDA

Congratulations to all 33 children who took their LAMDA exams last June. Through their hard work and dedication, all the children passed with 'Distinction' or 'Merit'. Well done!

Certificates will be handed out in assembly next week.

HOCKEY – Mr Busby

The children in the juniors will play hockey as part of their PE lessons at Bowdon Sports Club this year, starting next half term, after the October break. The children will need shin pads as for football, but will also need a gum shield/ mouth guard. This can be sourced online from various sources if you use a search engine.

RUNNING/CROSS COUNTRY – Mr Busby

Last term, we had a fantastic talk in school by Mrs Hansen, who romped home in an excellent first place in the Altrincham 10K race last Sunday. We must also congratulate Mr Cunningham, who ran across Scotland on his holiday and managed a mere 300 miles in August. Check Mr Cunningham's impressive feat out here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTX04gLkv6Y>



Knowing how inspired the children were by Mrs Hansen's talk and Mr Cunningham's Goliath-like efforts, we now have the dates of the Altrincham Harriers' cross-country events at John Leigh Park this autumn. The dates are:



| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Race 1: Saturday 18 October | Race 2: Saturday 8 November | Race 3: Saturday 29 November |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Children in years 1 to 6 are very welcome to run. Races start at 10 am with the older children followed by the younger ones—more details to follow in due course.

If you want to get some training in with your child on a Saturday morning, have a look at the 'Park Run' website for those close to where you live <https://findarace.com/parkruns/near-manchester>

FOOTBALL – Mr Busby

This year, the staff are excited to have years 1-6 coming along to football at Timperley Sports Club.

To ensure an appropriate number of staff, we need to know the number of pupils for the club, which means all pupils must be booked on and paid for before arriving at Timperley. If your child wants to attend, but you have not booked them on yet, please make sure you do so

If you are bringing your child along, please make sure that:

1. Your child has visited the toilet before dropping them off, and they have shin pads.
2. You park first and walk your child to the astroturf, handing them over to a member of staff at the start of the session and collecting them promptly at 4:30 pm from a member of staff.

PE REMINDERS – Mr Busby

PE reminders

1. Names in kit- Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who have put names in their child's kit-it really does make it easier for staff to return items that children have mislaid. If you have purchased any second-hand uniform, please ensure that you have replaced any name previously on the item of kit with your own child's name.
2. Earrings- any child wearing earrings for school should only have a small stud- in PE, this needs to be removed, or tape needs to be put over the top of the earring. It is parents' responsibility to apply the tape.
3. All children in Years 2-6 should wear long black and green socks for their double lesson. That is Tuesday for Y2, 3, and 4, and Friday for 5 and 6. For single lessons, white socks should be worn.
4. Children in Y2-6 will go to Bowdon for their double PE lessons unless the weather is particularly bad. Please ensure that your child has their school waterproof/ coat on their PE days instead of their blazer.
5. School PE uniform is black trainers and tracksuit bottoms, which should only be the school-branded ones available at Monkhouse.

<https://www.monkhouse.com/school/hale-preparatory-school-urn-106383>

Thank you in anticipation. Please contact Mr Busby through the school office if you have any queries regarding PE, or catch me in person.

Times Table Rockstars at Hale Prep

Times Table Rockstars is back this year for children to play and develop their knowledge of the times tables. Below are some examples of why knowing the times tables is very useful.

WHY ARE TIMES TABLES USEFUL?

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|--|---|---|---|
| NUMBER AND CALCULATION WRITTEN MULTIPLICATION $\begin{array}{r} 758 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline 6064 \\ 46 \end{array}$ WRITTEN DIVISION $\begin{array}{r} 109 \\ 6 \overline{)654} \\ \underline{6} \\ 5 \end{array}$ MENTAL MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION Using the facts you know to quickly work out answers in your head. USING KNOWN FACTS TO FIND OTHERS WITH PLACE VALUE $4 \times 6 = 24$ $40 \times 6 = 240$ $40 \times 60 = 2400$ $0.4 \times 6 = 2.4$ $0.4 \times 0.6 = 0.24$ WORD PROBLEMS Sam can fit 12 tins of soup in each box, he has 11 boxes. How many tins of soup will he need to fill the boxes? $12 \times 11 = 132$ ALGEBRA $4x = 24 \quad x = 6$ $7x = 42 \quad x = 6$ $9x = 81 \quad x = 9$ RATIO In a school playground, the ratio of boys to girls is 2:3. If there are 18 girls, how many boys are there? | PROPERTIES OF NUMBER FINDING FACTORS Factors of 12 $1 \times 12, 2 \times 6, 3 \times 4$ <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>FACTORS</p> </div> FINDING MULTIPLES Multiples of 12 $12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72 \dots$ FINDING COMMON FACTORS Factors of 12: $1 \times 12, 2 \times 6, 3 \times 4$ Factors of 18: $1 \times 18, 2 \times 9, 3 \times 6$ FINDING COMMON MULTIPLES Multiples of 3 $3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, \dots$ Multiples of 4 $4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, \dots$ FINDING PRIME AND COMPOSITE NUMBERS Prime numbers have only 2 factors $1 \times 7, 1 \times 3, 1 \times 5$ Composite numbers have more than 2 factors $1 \times 6, 2 \times 3, 1 \times 8, 2 \times 4$ SQUARE AND CUBE NUMBERS $2 \times 2 = 4$ ← Square $3 \times 3 \times 3 = 27$ ← Cube | SHAPE CALCULATING AREA: $6\text{cm} \times 3\text{cm} = 18\text{cm}^2$ <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> FINDING THE PERIMETER OF REGULAR POLYGONS <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> $6 \times 5\text{cm} = 30\text{cm}$ CALCULATING VOLUME <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> $6\text{cm} \times 2\text{cm} \times 3\text{cm} = 36\text{cm}^3$ SCALING SHAPES <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> | FRACTIONS SIMPLIFYING FRACTIONS $\frac{2}{6} \longrightarrow \frac{1}{3}$ ADDING/SUBTRACTING FRACTIONS $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{3}{6} = \frac{2}{6} + \frac{3}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$ MULTIPLYING/DIVIDING FRACTIONS $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1 \times 2}{2 \times 4} = \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4}$ FINDING FRACTIONS OF WHOLE NUMBERS $\frac{1}{6} \text{ of } 24 = 4$ ORDERING FRACTIONS Put these fractions in order, largest first $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{6}{8}, \frac{2}{5} \longrightarrow \frac{6}{8}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{5}$ CONVERTING BETWEEN MIXED NUMBERS AND IMPROPER FRACTIONS $2 \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$ |
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AND MANY MORE!

This year, the school will continue to reward a child from each class who earns the most coins in a week, with a certificate in assembly.

Also, 'The Battle of the Classes' will return, and each class will compete in a tournament to see who will be the school champion. Children and parents will be notified when this will begin.

This friendly competition is designed to encourage children to practise their times tables and develop their mathematical knowledge.

The children will have been given their login details which will be stuck in their Reading Records.

Understanding the different Game Modes

What are the different Game Modes?

Single Player

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| Jamming 4 or 8 coins/correct answer | The only game mode without a timer, players chose the table and operation (\times or \div or both) they want to practise. Answer 10, 20 or 30 questions. |
| Gig 10 coins per correct answer | Gig games last 5 minutes and contain up to 100 questions, which come in 'waves', starting with the 10s, then the 2s, 5s, 3s, 4s, 8s, 6s, 7s, 9s, 11s and 12s. Novices are not expected to get past the 5s. Gigs provide the child (and their teacher) with a simple measure of their current skills, which is why learners should concentrate fully for the whole Gig as they won't get another try until next month. |
| Garage 10 coins per correct answer | Players are given a personalised set of 6 multiplication questions (and their matching division questions) in each round. The questions they get keep adjusting to provide the best fit for every learner's needs. This is probably the best game made for improving their recall while they're still learning. |
| Studio 1 coin per correct answer | Here your child earns their Rock Status, which is based on their Studio Speed. The faster they are the better their status. Studio Speed is the average of their most recent 10 Studio games. Suitable for confident players. |
| Soundcheck 5 coins per correct answer | Soundcheck games ask 25 multiplication questions (up to 12×12), allowing 6 seconds for each question. Suitable for confident players. |

Multi Player

| | |
|---|---|
| Festival 1 coin per correct answer | Children compete against others from around the world, with their identities protected behind their rock names. Suitable for confident players. |
| Arena 1 coin per correct answer | Children race against other members of their class who are logged in and choose the same arena name at the same time. Arena games use the same smart question algorithm as Garage games. |
| Rock Slam 1 coin per correct answer | Players challenge their classmates or teachers to answer as many questions as they can in 60 seconds, setting a score for the challenge to beat. Pupils don't need to be online at the same time. |
| Tournaments | <p>Battle of the Bands – groups of children within the same school (usually classes, year groups or teams) compete to have the highest <i>average</i> score per player.</p> <p>Top of the Rocks – like a Battle of the Bands <i>between</i> schools. The winning class or school is the one with the most correct answers per person.</p> <p>Important: Each correct answer (in any game mode) earns 1 point towards the team's total in addition to the coins earned. For example, in Garage games each correct answer is worth 1 point for the team and 10 coins for the player.</p> |

Numbots at Hale Prep

What is Numbots?

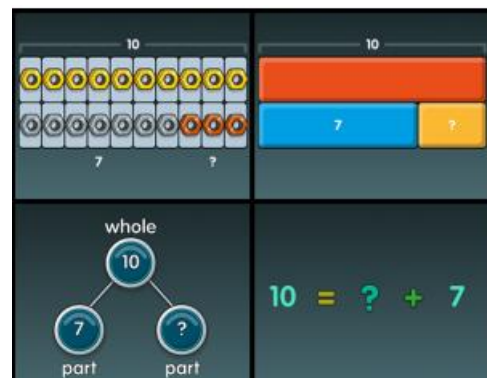
NumBots is an online maths learning platform that helps children learn how to add and subtract, improving their fluency and recall in basic mental maths, and equipping them with maths confidence. NumBots covers subitising, number bonds, and addition and subtraction of double-digit numbers; gradually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

Logging in

Logging in NumBots is accessible via browser (play.numbots.com) or via the app, which is free to download on Amazon, Android and Apple devices. Children have been give their login details which have been stuck into their reading record book.

How The Game Works

There are two game modes in NumBots which serve different purposes: 1. Story Mode (for Understanding) In Story Mode, the emphasis is on mathematical concepts and is underpinned by a mastery approach to teaching. Story Mode features visual representations, procedural variation, exposure to different calculation strategies and interleaved material - all in very carefully sequenced order.



Unlocking Levels

Story Mode is set out as a series of Stages (Rust, Tin, Iron, etc) each containing numerous levels. Rust is the first Stage and level 1 is unlocked initially, so this is the place to start. To unlock the next level, players need to earn two or three stars by showing sufficient proficiency. The levels in Story Mode follow a natural mathematical progression and move the pupil through the game automatically.



2. Challenge Mode (for Recall)

In Challenge Mode, the emphasis is on improving response time and accuracy when recalling number facts and answering basic calculations. Children try to answer as many questions correctly as they can in 1 minute, aiming to beat their own high score.

Key Skills

There are 30 Challenges for children to play. Each focuses on a key skill, covering Subitising, Number Bonds, Addition, and Subtraction. A full list of these can be found on the teachers' Downloads page (Story vs Challenge Levels).

Unlocking Challenge Mode

When children start NumBots, Challenge Mode is locked. Challenge Mode unlocks when players pass Stage 2 (Iron): Level 26 in Story Mode

Rewards

This year, the school will continue to reward a child from each class who earns the most coins in a week with a certificate in assembly.

Also, 'The Battle of the Classes' will return, and each class will compete in a tournament to see who will be the school champion. Children and parents will be notified when this will begin.

This friendly competition is designed to encourage children to practise and develop their mathematical skills and fluency.