

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Your child has the opportunity to use Maths-Whizz this year to support their maths learning. Remember that this year this programme has been subsidised by the school. The full cost per student is \$33.50. We are asking that you contribute \$10 per child for the year. Please do this before the end of Term 1.

Please read the following information and encourage your child to use it at home regularly to support their in class learning. The children have now completed the initial assessment for Maths-Whizz. The assessment has identified their strengths and weaknesses and set a programme specifically for each child.

Please encourage your child to use Maths-Whizz at home but please DO NOT help them with tests or allow siblings to use the programme, as it will assume your child understands what they have been helped with and therefore take them to the next level and the programme will become too hard for them. This will mean they will have to repeat the assessment.

For optimum performance please ensure that you have the most updated FLASH player and are using an updated Internet Browser – Google Chrome is recommended. iPad – if you wish to use Maths-Whizz on the iPad then go to Puffin Academy and search for Maths-Whizz and login through PUFFIN ACADEMY.

Different Areas to work in Whizz

Tutor mode – 60 mins a week – a cap is usually set

New concepts and new material – earn up to 15 maths credits for every exercise and 30 maths credits for every test. If they pass an exercise they will be given a test and if they pass a test they will get new exercises. If they pass the exercise, then fail the test, they will have to repeat that exercise at a later date, even though they passed it, so it is important that they do their very best in their tests, even though they are not as engaging. Do not help children in their tests, as it will set their programme too hard.



Replay (in the Console) – click on trophy on the bookshelf - 30 mins plus a week

Consolidation and practice of what is learned in tutor mode - builds confidence. They can only work at their current level so great practice.



Topic Bank – click on the bookshelf in top right corner of study

Topic Bank consists of all previous exercises up to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a year below the child's current level in each topic. Here, children can practice.



When your child is using Maths-Whizz at home, be sure to click on their REPORT in their study and check they have been completing exercises and tests instead of just playing in their study. If your child uses Maths-Whizz for the recommended usage above, and has been passing their tests then they will be making progress and their levels will adjust automatically. Their teacher will be able to view their report and the blue shading indicates the progress since the initial assessment. In order for your child to achieve their green tick each week, they need to achieve 4 progressions. (A progression is when a child successfully passes the activity and follow up test for the activity.)



The clock in the study will only record time actively spent answering questions in Whizz and resets to 0:00 every Monday. However, teachers can still see a record of all activities in their teacher reports.

How can I ensure my child gets the best from Maths-Whizz?

- * Schedule regular Maths-Whizz time at home
- * Follow their progress without helping them
- * Look at their report card before they start
- * Look at their report card at the end of their session to see how well they have done
- * If they are struggling in an exercise, practice this with them in Topic Bank
- * DO NOT help them with their TESTS, as this will make their programme too hard for them.
- * Celebrate their success!

