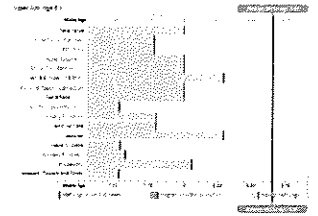


Dear Parents and Caregivers

This year children in Year 3-6 will be using our new Maths online programme – Maths Whizz. The school has funded this programme at a total cost of \$9,000 (\$35 per student per year) as we see it as being an effective programme to support our students learning both within the classroom and at home. At a later date, we will run parent sessions about this learning tool so you can support your child to get more out of their use of this programme.



Your child has now completed the initial assessment for Maths-Whizz. The assessment has identified their strengths and weaknesses and set a programme especially for your child.

Please encourage your child to use Math's-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 and take them to the next level and the programme will become too hard for them and they will have to repeat their 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 Puffin Academy and search for Maths-Whizz and login through Puffin Academy.

## Different Areas to work in Whizz

**Tutor mode – 60-90 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 student's current level in each topic. Here, students can practice. (Great for consolidation)

When your child is using Whizz at home, be sure to click on their REPORT in their study and check they have been completing exercises and tests and not just playing in their study. If your child uses Maths-Whizz for the recommended usage (set out above), and have 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 made since the initial assessment.

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

You can click on the iPod on the desk and sign up for free parent emails.

## How can you ensure your child gets the best from Maths-Whizz?

- \* Schedule 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 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!

