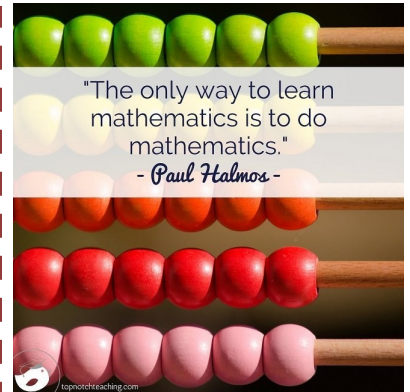




Hillcross Primary School Maths Newsletter, Spring 2

Here is our latest edition of the newsletter. Please read on to find out what your child has been up to in their maths lessons this half term.

We encourage all families to revisit our Maths—Teaching for Mastery website page vis this link: <https://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk/our-learning/curriculum/maths>. There is a wealth of information that can be accessed here to help parents familiarise themselves with the Maths Curriculum and the teaching approach the children are familiar with.



Times Table Rockstars

In line with our Times Table Pledge, children in Years 3-6 should complete 10 minutes of times tables practice each day. Times Table Rockstars is an invaluable resource that children can access on any device which supports the rapid recall of fact fluency. After Easter, we will be re-launching weekly tournaments across Key Stage 2 in order to encourage children to participate more frequently in order to improve their knowledge and understanding of multiplication facts.

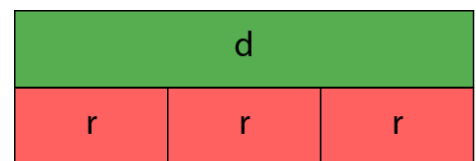
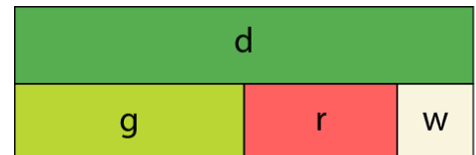
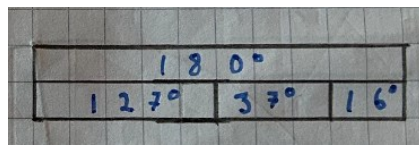
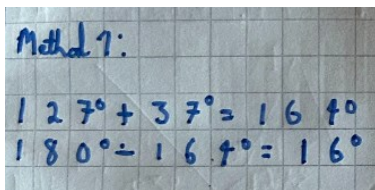
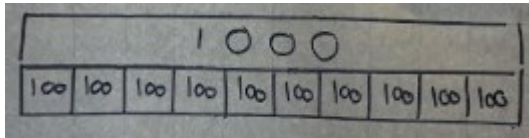
Please encourage your child to make use of this resource every day to improve their fluency with multiplication and division facts.



Representations: Bar Models

Representations are crucial in a maths lesson to expose the mathematical structure and to support the context of the learning. Over time, children should progress to using the abstract without the representation. This is when the maths seems easy!

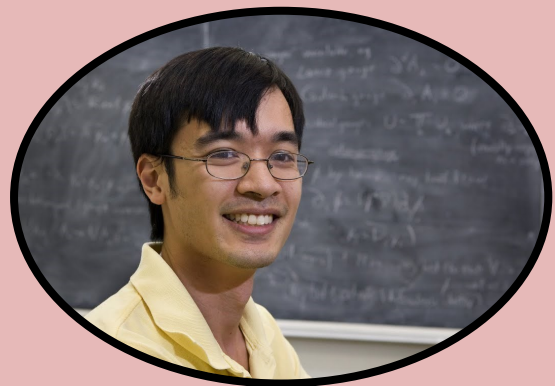
The **Bar Model** is a representation used to show how parts are combined to make the whole. Look at examples of how these may be used in the classroom to support the mathematical structures.



Famous Mathematicians: Terence Tao

“When I was growing up, I knew I wanted to be a mathematician, but I had no idea of what that entailed.”

Terence Tao is an Australian-American mathematician who won a Fields Medal in 2006 for his contributions to partial differential equations, combinatorics, harmonic analysis and additive number theory.



He has continued to prove remarkable results on an exceptionally wide range of topics.

Helping Your Child At Home:

A fantastic way for children to practise their fact fluency is through games! At Hillcross, we have adapted traditional games, such as *Snakes and Ladders*, *Connect 4* and *Jenga* and incorporated maths questions. For example, in order for children to move up the ladder in *Snakes and Ladders*, they must solve a times table question.

