

## Maths - Top Tips

Remember to start the session by having a quick 2 minute catch up with your buddy.

You could say:

- "How has your week been?"
- "What have you enjoyed learning about this week?"
- "What have you been learning about in maths?"
- "Have you got any merits for your maths this week?"
- "Did you find anything tricky?"

### Helping your buddy

- Explain how they think they do it. "Tell me/show me how you think you work it out." If they are unsure, you can correct them, or teach them a good strategy.
- The teacher might give you a sheet to work through with your buddy. Talk this through with them. Break it up into chunks. Model how to use particular strategies e.g. number lines, formal addition. Remember don't do it for them, support them.
- Check presentation is neat. Show your buddy how to set out their maths neatly. Use 1 square for each number and always use a ruler to underline and draw lines.
- Respond to marking- sometimes, your buddy might have to respond to their pink and green marking from their teacher. You could help them to do this. Read the marking together and get them to think about how to respond.
- Do you know good ways to remember key mathematical facts or methods? Share these with your buddy if appropriate.

### At the end of the session you could say:

- Tell me something you have improved/learned about today.
- Is there anything important you need to remember for next time?

If your buddy has worked hard and been sensible, you can award them a merit or two!

### Remember:

You are not doing the work *for* your buddy- you are giving them some guidance and advice and teaching them new things. You are getting them to think hard and learn new things!

Along the way, remember to be friendly and kind. Remember to talk about why you like maths and why it is important. Show an interest- they will look up to you and want to work hard for you!

### Finally:

- Remember to give your buddy lots of praise!
- Remember, if your buddy is not being sensible or not trying hard, let the teacher know so they can sort out any problems.