St Edmund's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools

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Dear Parents,

Following the recent communication to inform you of our decision not to renew our Mathletics subscription, we are writing to give you more information to explain our reasoning for this decision.

We have subscribed to Mathletics for the last 11 years and we have always monitored how much the children have accessed this, alongside the impact on the children's progress. Over the last few years we have seen a marked decline in how many children in the school have been accessing this platform regularly for at least ten minutes a week, with less than half of the children in the school doing so last academic year.

We have also considered recent Government guidance about screen use and have listened to parents who have voiced their concern about maths homework tasks being online.

We constantly review what is having the most impact on pupil outcomes. As a result, we are now subscribing to a new programme that we will be using in school which children in Years 1-4 will access through whole class teaching. This additional resource, which has just been released, focuses on developing mathematical fluency. Knowing and being able to recall number facts quickly and automatically enables the children to calculate more efficiently. Staff have been trialing this recently with positive feedback. Children in EYs and Years 5-6 will also be having additional fluency focuses in their classrooms, using similar resources.

Please look at your year groups weekly learning from next week for ideas of how you can help support your child at home.

Kind regards,
Mrs Mulligan and Mr Payne