

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm delighted to inform you about a new service we're using to support your child's maths education. The creators of Times Tables Rock Stars have produced a platform for boosting addition and subtraction skills, called **NumBots**. Big Difference NumBots is an online game and playing little and often will significantly improve your child's recall and understanding of number bonds and addition and subtraction facts. These are critical foundations in maths so we are excited by the impact NumBots will have.

Logging In

- The children have been shown how to login and have brought home a username and password. They might need some help navigating to the website and entering the details but once they're in, they just need some quiet space to get on with the games for 5 minutes. Please ask your child's teacher if they are struggling to login.
- Then click on 'Story' and then you will get to a page that looks this:

The game mode button lets you choose whether to play the 'story' mode or when unlocked, the 'challenge' mode.

Click on 'Leaderboard' to see your class, year group or whole school leaderboard.

Collect 800 coins to enter the custom shack where you can spend your coins to buy special items for your robot.

Click on your 'bot' picture to see the badges you have collected and to view other resources to print such as posters.

This box shows you how many coins you have collected.

Click on the first stage to start playing the levels.



Little and often

- In order to get the best out of NumBots children should regularly play for short bursts rather than one long period of time, so we would ask you to give them 5 minutes on Saturdays and 5 minutes on Sundays (or more!)

Game Types

- Game Type 1 - Story Mode: The emphasis is on learning the ideas and concepts behind addition and subtraction so it features more diagrams, shapes and question styles all in a very carefully sequenced order. Unlocking Levels Story Mode is set out as a series of Stages (Rust, Tin, Iron, etc.) containing levels, a bit like Angry Birds. Rust is the first Stage and level 1 is unlocked, so this is the place for everyone to start. To unlock the next level, players need to earn two stars by showing sufficient proficiency. The levels in Story Mode follow a natural mathematical progression and move the pupil through the game automatically
- Game Type 2 - Challenge Mode: The emphasis is more on speed of recall of key facts, like number bonds to 10, doubling small numbers or adding and taking away in your head. To access Challenge Mode, children need to have completed Level 36 in the 'Tin stage.' There are 20 challenge levels and only the first is unlocked to begin with. To unlock the next Challenge, players must correctly answer 12 questions in a minute.

You can also download the Numbots 'App' on a mobile device or tablet.



Please let your child's teacher know if you have any questions or if you need any support with using the online game.

