

## Mathematics in Partnership

### How can parents help?

The more meaningful opportunities that children have to practice maths, the easier it becomes. Not all parents have time to create learning activities at home, but there are things which we can suggest which fit into everyday life – for example, talking about how to work things out while shopping or planning a bus journey into town. These simple activities reinforce a number of valuable mathematical concepts as well as developing verbal reasoning.

For families that have more time, we suggest the following:

- Cooking is good for measuring. Children can adjust recipes to cater for different numbers of people
- Working out how much time is spent watching different programmes, using a TV guide, if you were limited to one hour a day, how would you spend it?
- Shopping. Ask children to check that the till was working properly and recalculate the bill, find out how much was spent on various food groups; suggest where savings could be made.
- Creating artwork. Great for exploring shape, symmetry and movement.
- Planning a day trip, working out travel times and budget
- Using bus, train and flight timetables to organize trips
- Planning a party on a budget

Working together we are more likely to be able to help our pupils overcome any mathematical vulnerability.

Jane Ashfold, Head of Mathematics