

Rudgwick Primary School - Maths Vocabulary Glossary



Year 3	
Number – number and place value	
place holder	In decimal notation, the zero numeral is used as a place holder to denote the absence of a
	particular power of 10. Example: 1045 has no hundreds.
Roman numerals	The Romans used the following capital letters to denote cardinal numbers: I for 1; V for 5;
	X for 10; L for 50; C for 100; D for 500; M for 1000. Other numbers are constructed by
	forming the shortest sequence with this total, with the proviso that when a higher
	denomination follows a lower denomination the latter is subtracted from the former.
Number – addition and subtraction	
formal written	Setting out working in columnar form. In multiplication, the formal methods are called
methods	short or long multiplication depending on the size of the numbers involved. Similarly, in
	division the formal processes are called short or long division.
columnar addition or	A formal method of setting out an addition or a subtraction in ordered columns with each
subtraction	column representing a place value and ordered from right to left in increasing powers of 10.
estimate	1. Verb: To arrive at a rough or approximate answer by calculating with suitable
	approximations for terms or, in measurement, by using previous experience.
	2. Noun: A rough or approximate answer.
exchange	Change a number or expression for another of equal value. The process of exchange is
	used in some standard compact methods of calculation.
regroup	Rearranging numbers into groups by place value to make it easier to carry out operations.
Number – multiplication and division	
multiple	A number within a times table. Example: 14, 49 and 70 are all multiples of 7 because 14 = 7
	x 2, 49 = 7 x 7 and $70 = 7 x 10$.
scale (verb)	To enlarge or reduce a number, quantity or measurement by a given amount.
Number – fractions	
unit fraction	A fraction that has 1 as the numerator. Example: ½, ⅓.
non-unit fraction	A fraction that has anything but 1 as the numerator. Example: ¾.
Geometry	
horizontal	Parallel to the horizon.
vertical	At right angles to the horizontal plane. The up-down direction on a graph or map.
perpendicular	A line or plane that is at right angles to another line or plane.
parallel	In Euclidean geometry, always equidistant. Parallel lines, curves and planes never meet
	however far they are produced or extended.
orientation	How a line or other geometric shape is positioned with respect to a coordinate system.
polygon	A closed plane figure bounded by straight lines.
degree	The most common unit of measurement for angle.
perimeter	The length of the boundary of a closed figure.
Statistics	
axis	A fixed, reference line along which or from which distances are taken.
Carroll diagram	A sorting diagram named after Lewis Carroll, author and mathematician, in which numbers
	(or objects) are classified as having a certain property or not having that property.
	Even Not even Multiple of three 6, 12, 18, 24, 30 3, 9, 15, 21, 27, 33
	of three 6, 12, 18, 24, 30 3, 9, 15, 21, 27, 33 Not 2, 4, 8, 10, 14, 16, 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17,
	multiple 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 19, 23, 25, 29, 31 of three 32
frequency table	A table for displaying a set of observations showing how frequently each event or quantity
	occurs in a statistical trial.
venn diagram	A simple visual diagram to describe used to describe the relationships
Term diagram	between two sets. With two or three sets each set is often represented
	by a circular region. The intersection of two sets is represented by the
	overlap region between the two sets.
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