



King's Norton School for Boys - Mathematics Department

Numeracy Newsletter

Year 7 Spring Term 2024

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform of what your son is studying in maths this term. It will also give some insight into how he can be further supported in his maths progress beyond his classwork and homework.

Below is a table showing the overall topic titles being studied this term alongside some video clip numbers for a website we use called Sparx Maths. This website has videos of every topic on the Secondary Maths Curriculum (and more). Your son can work through any tasks on Sparx Maths, as is not restricted to the tasks set for homework by his teacher. Here is how to log in:

Logging on to Sparx Maths

Go to the website: www.sparxmaths.uk

Select 'Student'

For school name type: B30 1DY or King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys (including the apostrophes). Select our school from the list.

Your son's username will be **firstnamelastname** (all lower case, no spaces). Your son will then use his own password. If he forgets his password, he can select 'forgotten password? Click here to request your teacher to reset it.'

Year 7 Topics to be covered in Spring term	Sparx Maths KS3 Lesson numbers
Linear Equations	M707, M509
Angles	M818, M351, M679
Ratio and Proportion	M885, M525, M801
Probability	M941, M755, M655
Sequences	M381, M991
Graphs	M618, M932, M544, M888
Transformations	M139, M290, M178
Approximation and Estimation	M111, M431, M994, M131, M878, M911

Your son will be set a selection of these Sparx Maths tasks for his homework each week. It may be useful to use this list as a tick list for revision purposes for the Within and End of Module Milestone Assessments or to allow for some pre-learning before it is covered in class.

The maths department hosts a weekly Sparx Maths club where the maths teachers will be present in a computer room after school until 4pm. This club is a great space for students to do their maths

homework together and to get more help or guidance from a teacher. Sparx Maths club runs every Thursday from 3.05pm-4pm in A2.6.

Numeracy skills

The curriculum we follow revises many of the numeracy skills covered in Key Stage 2 and continues to build on these. Knowledge of these skills over time becomes assumed or is covered more quickly. The following table shows a list of skills that would be useful for students to practise regularly to maintain these skills:

Area of numeracy	Sparx Maths KS3 lesson numbers
Place value	M522, M704, M763
Operations with positive integers	M187, M347, M354, M928
Properties of positive integers	M108, M135, M222, M698
Negative numbers	M106, M288, M527
Decimals	M522
Fractions	M410, M671
Percentages	M437, M905, M476, M533

Numeracy Ninjas



Numeracy Ninjas is a task run regularly with all Key Stage 3 form groups. Students complete a set of 30 questions on numeracy skills and then self or peer mark. Their results are recorded, and students attain a 'belt' for their score. The belt structure is shown in the image opposite. 'Grand Masters' are also selected each term who receive a certificate for best in form or most improved. The names of these will be published in The Eagle, the school's termly newsletter. Our previous year groups have shown a steady improvement of numeracy skills through these activities, and the students seem to enjoy it too!

We look forward to seeing your son enjoy using this activity too and rising through the belts over time!

Mathematically yours,

Mr Butler and the Maths Department