



# King's Norton School for Boys - Mathematics Department

## Numeracy Newsletter – Year 8 Spring Term 2024

Welcome to the second Year 8 newsletter of the 2023/24 academic year from the Maths department! We hope your son had a restful break and is eager to learn again now the term has started.

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](http://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.'

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 after school club in room A2.6 where at our maths teachers

<b>Year 8 Topics to be covered in Spring term</b>	<b>Sparx Maths KS3 Lesson numbers</b>
<b>Averages and Range</b>	<b>M127, M287, M328, M934, M841, M940</b>
<b>Representing and Interpreting Data</b>	<b>M574, M165, M769, M596, M648, M210, M899</b>
<b>Angles</b>	<b>M319, M606, M163, M818, M351, M679</b>
<b>Inequalities</b>	<b>M118, M384, M732</b>
<b>Indices</b>	<b>M608</b>
<b>Standard Form</b>	<b>M678, M719</b>
<b>Sequences</b>	<b>M618, M932, M544, M888</b>
<b>Graphs</b>	<b>M618, M622, M544, M797, M932, M544</b>

will be present in the computer room after school until 4pm. This is a great space for students to do their maths homework together and to get more help or guidance from a teacher.

Numeracy skills

The curriculum we follow revises many of the numeracy skills covered in Key Stage 2 and year 7 and continues to build on these. Knowledge of these skills over time becomes assumed or is covered more quickly. The following list of skills 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 fortnightly (or more 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.

Not only will selected 'Grand Masters' receive a certificate for best in form or most improved, they will also be receiving a grand master badge at the end of the next 9-week cycle when certificates will be issued too.

It has been wonderful to see the steady improvement of numeracy skills through these activities in the autumn term and the boys seem to continue to enjoy it, and we look forward to seeing your son's scores strengthen and potentially gain some higher belts this academic year!



Mathematically yours,

Mr Butler and The Maths Department