



King's Norton School for Boys - Mathematics Department

Numeracy Newsletter – Year 9 Spring Term 2024

Welcome to the second Year 9 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.

The purpose of this newsletter is to help improve your knowledge of what your son is studying in maths and give some insight to how he can be further supported in his maths progress beyond his classwork and homework. Students in classes following the Core tier scheme of work follow the below order of topics.

Year 9 Core Topics to be covered in Spring term	Sparx Maths Lesson numbers
Probability	M655, M941, M938, M755, M206, M332, M718, M299, M572
Venn Diagrams	M829, M419, M834
Averages	M841, M940, M934, M328, M440, M127, M287, M440
Interpret and Representing Data	M899, M460, M738, M644, M574, M165, M648, M210, M769, M596
Area and Perimeter	M920, M635, M690, M900, M390, M635, M269, M291, M610, M996, M169, M231
Volume and Surface Area	M765, M722, M534, M661, M697
Inequalities	M384, M118, M732
Sequences	M618, M932, M544, M888

Those students in classes following the Core+ tier scheme of work follow the following order:

Year 9 Core+ Topics to be covered in Spring term	Sparx Maths Lesson numbers
Averages and Range	M127, M287, M328, M934, M841, M940, M440
Representing and Interpreting Data	M574, M165, M769, M596, M648, M210, U840
Probability	M299, M572, M206, M718, M755, M332
Rearranging Formulae	M184, U556
Linear Graphs	M618, M622, M544, M797, M932, M544, U898
Quadratic expressions & equations	U768, U228, U960, U665
Surds	U633, U338, U872, U499, U707
Pythagoras' Theorem	U385, U541

It may be useful to use the relevant 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 host a weekly after school club in room A2.6 where our maths teachers 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. A guide on how to log into their Sparx Maths account can be found below:

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."

Numeracy skills

The curriculum we follow revises many of the numeracy skills covered in Key Stage 2, year 7 and year 8. Knowledge of these skills over time becomes assumed or is covered more quickly. The below 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. 'Grand Masters' are also selected each term who receive a certificate for best in form or most improved. It has been wonderful to see the steady improvement of numeracy skills through these activities in Years 7, 8 and 9 and the boys seem to enjoy it too!

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