

## ***Key Messages for Parents in Home–School Partnership: Numeracy***

### **Helping Your Child to Learn**

You, your culture, and your language are a very important part of your child's learning.

Children learn by listening, watching, talking, and playing.

You can help your child learn by listening, watching, talking, and playing.

By keeping in touch with the school, a partnership between you and the school can develop that will enhance your child's learning.

### **Understanding Numeracy: Starting to Learn**

You are your child's first and most important teacher. By showing a positive attitude towards mathematics, you will help to foster your child's interest in mathematics.

Counting is the beginning of numeracy learning. Numbers are all around us. Show your child how you use them, everywhere, any time.

Your child's teacher will want to know about the things you do at home to support your child's numeracy learning. This will help the teacher to better understand your child's numeracy ideas.

### **Understanding Numeracy: Understanding the Learning**

Children learn by using equipment, drawing pictures and diagrams, and talking about what they are doing.

Encouraging children to use their memory and to work things out in their heads helps their development.

Children go through broad, overlapping stages in their numeracy learning. Ask your child's teacher to talk with you about those stages.

Children will be exploring many ways to work out problems. Talking about how they work out their own problems and listening to others' strategies helps their understandings.

### **Understanding Numeracy: Maintaining the Learning**

As children reach senior primary school, their ideas in numeracy become more complex, so it is still very important that they continue to use equipment, draw pictures and diagrams, and talk about what they are doing.

Children need to be looking for patterns and relationships between numbers and to be generalising their ideas.

Showing an interest, encouraging, and having high expectations that children will succeed in mathematics are powerful motivators for children's achievements in mathematics.