St Peter's School

Supporting your child with addition

3rd June

2026

Plan

1. Maths at St Peter's
2. Models and diagrams
3. Foundations
4. Mental strategies for addition
5. Formal written method
6. Questions and Feedback

Maths at St Peter's

Spiral Curriculum

Concepts are taught in a 'spiral', allowing children to revisit each year and develop their understanding further.

A concept first taught in Year 1 is revisited in Year 2, 3, 4 etc.

Manipulatives

Children are encouraged to use physical manipulatives to support their understanding. These are accessible in all lessons and include hundred squares, Base-10, beadstring, counters, multilink cubes etc.

Concrete - Pictorial - Abstract

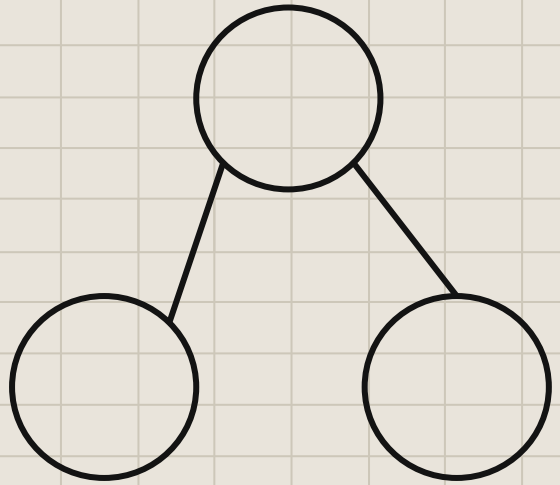
When concepts are introduced, they are first taught using concrete resources. Children are then encouraged to use pictorial representations before being able to use a strategy independent of these.

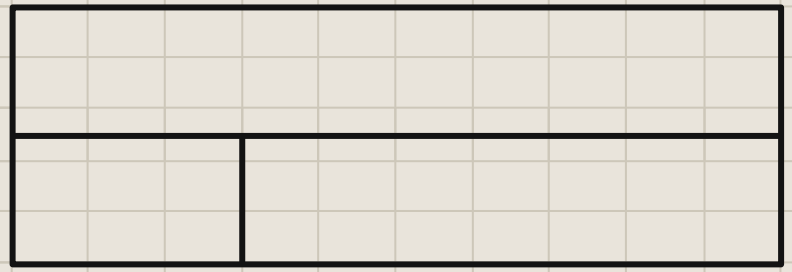
I do - We do - You do

1. Teacher modelling
2. Guided practise
3. Independent practise

Not always linear. Teachers may jump between these stages in lessons.

Models and diagrams for addition





Part-whole understanding is key for addition (and subtraction)

Foundations for addition

Accurate counting of objects (with 1:1 correspondence)

Finding the total of two sets of objects (without recounting set 1)

Subitising

Flexible regrouping and number bonds

Strategies for addition

Rebalancing (equal sum)

Regrouping using 'think 10'

Place Value

Compensation

Finding complements

Formal written method

Rebalancing (equal sum)

19 + 8

Use your beadstring to show me 19 beads.
We will then add 8 more.

Speaking Frame

19 + 8 can be rebalanced and renamed ____ + _____.

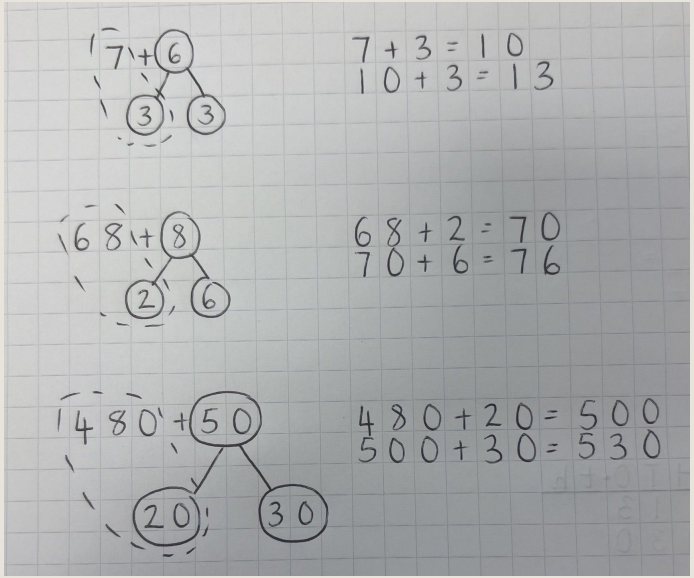
Which one is easier?

What other calculations would this strategy be good for?

Regrouping ‘Think 10’

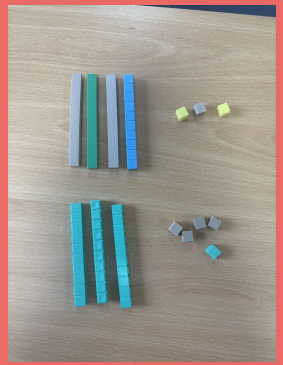
7 + 6
27 + 6
270 + 60

On your first tens frame, show me 7.
On the second tens frame, show me 6.



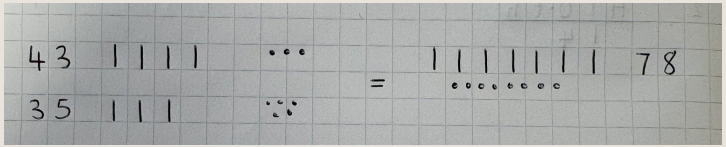
Place Value

43 + 35



1. Build it
2. Draw it
3. Write it

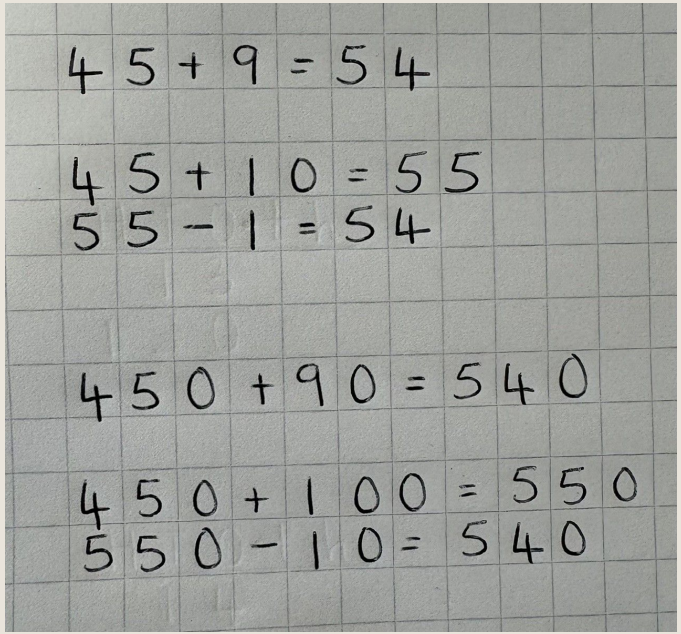
Use your base-10 to build 43 and 35.



Compensation

45 + 9

450 + 90

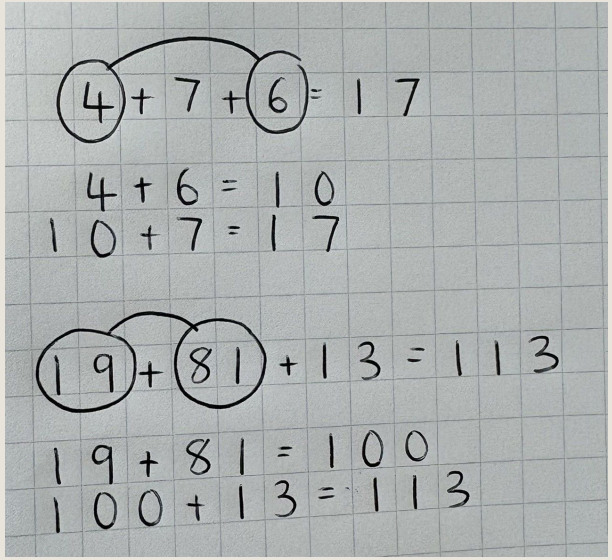


Complements

4 + 7 + 6

19 + 81 + 13

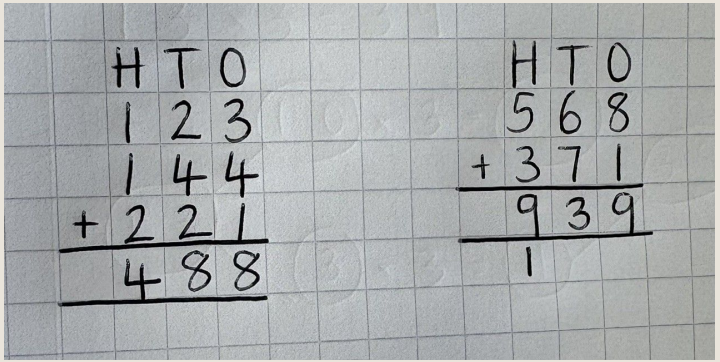
16 + 37 + 13



Formal written addition

123 + 144 + 221

568 + 371



Confidence is everything

Mistakes are vital and should be celebrated.

The power of ‘yet’.

“I’m not very good at Maths.”

Questions and Feedback

Please put any feedback on a post it note and leave it on your table.

Is there anything else that would be useful for me to cover?