



# Birches First School

## Believe, Grow, Succeed

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Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you about an online resource we subscribe to in order to support children's mathematical learning across the school (Reception – Year 4). Whilst the resource is predominantly for children in Early Years and Key Stage 1, children in Year 3 and 4 may benefit from the chance to practise and consolidate key skills.

<https://play.numbots.com/>



The **Numbots App** is also available at the **Apple Store** and on the **Google Play Store**. This allows children to use Numbots on mobile devices and tablets. The app is free to download but your child will need to enter their log in details to play which can be found in your child's reading diary,

Numbots is a carefully selected programme of daily arithmetic practice with an emphasis on mathematical concepts. It is a fun way to significantly improve your child's recall and understanding of number bonds and addition and subtraction facts. With regular practise (little and often), children are more likely to get used to tackling these type of questions with ease whilst developing strong critical foundations in Maths.

In order to get the best out of NumBots, it should be incorporated into children's daily routine, playing regularly for short bursts (5-10 minutes per day). **NumBots is monitored by teachers for regular engagement.**

There are two game types:

**Story Mode** – the emphasis is on learning the ideas and concepts behind the addition and subtraction so it features more diagrams, shapes and question styles. Story Mode is set out as a series of stages (Rust, Tin, Iron etc.) containing levels which concentrate on a different key skill. This allows children to progress through levels once they have answered questions correctly at an appropriate speed with sufficient fluency and proficiency.

**Challenge mode** – the emphasis is more on speed of recall of key facts, like number bonds to 10, doubling small numbers of adding and taking away in your head.

*Remember to click 'enter' after you type your answer.*

In every stage, children can also earn parts of the body for their 'bot'. They earn coins when they answer questions correctly, which can be used in the virtual shop.

**Important: Please don't allow siblings, friends of family to answer the questions for them but do support your child if they're stuck.**

I hope your child enjoys using this learning platform. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or myself.

Yours sincerely,

**Miss S. Hulme  
Maths Lead**