

ALDER COPPICE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Achievement through Commitment

Headteacher: Mr P Mandelstam

22 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 3 Maths Information Session (addition and subtraction)

At Alder Coppice, we strive to deliver a sequenced, well-planned and delivered curriculum that is engaging to all. Our aim is to help children become mathematicians rather than human calculators. Instead of relying on a single method, we want them to develop a deep understanding of number allowing them to choose the most efficient strategy for each calculation. This approach builds confidence, flexibility, and strong mathematical reasoning. To support this, we teach a carefully planned progression of mental strategies, helping children to understand not only how to solve calculations but also why different strategies are appropriate in different situations.

When learning addition, the children will first learn how to add numbers using the partitioning strategy before moving onto the adjusting and redistribution strategy.

When learning subtraction, the children will also learn how to subtract numbers using the partitioning strategy before learning how to find the difference. After learning the mental strategies, we will then teach the column algorithms.

To help parents and carers understand the different strategies we use in school, we are inviting you to join us at **2pm on Wednesday 7 October**. The children will be present for the first part of the session, from approximately 2pm to 2:30pm, where they will share and be able to practise with you the addition and subtraction strategies taught so far as part of the place value unit of work. Once the children have gone back to class, the remainder of the session will then explain the progression of addition and subtraction strategies taught and provide examples of how you can best support your child at home.

If you can attend, please complete the Form via the link sent with this letter by **10am Tuesday 29 September**.

We do kindly ask that this session is attended by adults only.

Thank you for your support as usual.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Lawrence

Maths Co-Subject Leader

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