

How the funding from Jo Walters Trust has helped St Agatha's

The grant was used to develop individual learning packs for key children in each class and for the whole p4/5 class as a pilot intervention on the use of the Concrete Pictorial Abstract approach. We were aware that our practice and resourcing did not yet fully embrace the CPA approach (with children having little access to resources and the mindset to use them was missing after Early Years). We wanted to change this and one of the hurdles at this time was the need for pupils to have individual resources that were not shared due to Covid rules.

We were able to resource every class with at least 10 kits made up of dice, digit cards, counting strings, number lines, hundred squares (or a Numeracy helper sheet. Each kit also included money with values of 20p to £5 and notes have been sourced to allow KS2 to pupils to meet their learning targets. We have centralised and reissued numicon and packs were made up for classes who did not have this. Classes were provided with dice and spinners to make games and explore probability as these cannot currently be shared in game play. Each child was provided with counters appropriate to their stage- some had place value counters, some 2 sided and some had plain counters.

In p4/5 these kits were put into maths bags which were labelled and the children all have constant access to them. We are talking about what else was needed and making these as we go – so think boards etc will be added and timers will be sourced using other funds. The children love their maths kits and are using them every day. They are needing to be taught how to use some of the equipment and that itself will be a focus for staff development and training.

In the future we want to take the idea of personal kits further with each child having a basic kit and area kits being developed for shape, measure etc as children don't need or use these resources as routinely. After Covid class kits of shapes, scales, various think boards, mirrors, protractors etc would be very accessible and we would hope that a sense of ownership would mean resources were well looked after and more frequently used. CPA is not just about number!

We have completed resource audits as part of receiving the Jo Walters Trust funding and I really believe it has helped us to focus on what we need and how we can get the best from what we already have. We plan to make additional items where we can and source found materials for counting and sorting. This funding has given us a superb starting point, a way to kickstart an entire revamp of our teaching and learning and we are incredibly grateful.

While the drive for this project was CPA having to rethink our processes and resourcing was a positive outcome of the Covid situation and we could not have made this step without your support. Thank you.



Oliver has never used a number string before. Each class now has a class set at their level.



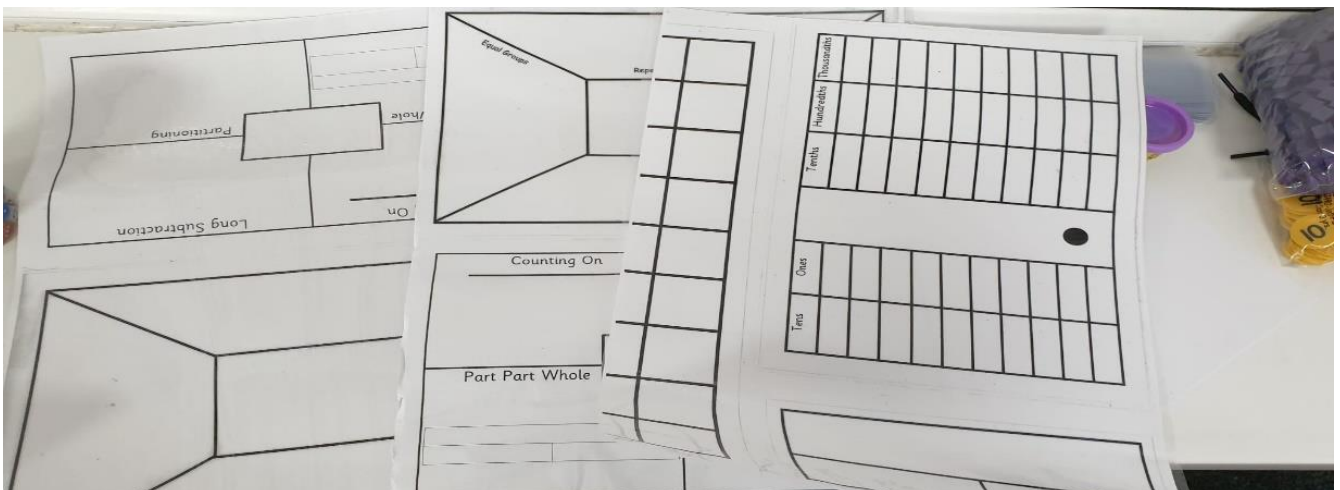
In the same lesson some went for counters from the kit. The dual sided counters are very helpful in all sorts of bar model type work.



And some used money and counters. In fact he had everything out!



Here is the basic kit. Since this photo was taken ten rods have arrived and we have added number mats, money in the form of notes, hundred squares, blank numberlines etc.



We will continue to add to each class kit.