

There are three good ways to use the website at home bearing in mind your credits are valid for up to 2 years.

It's also important to realise that not all of the resources need to be used or accessed - there's a huge amount!

• **by being supportively re-active as the need arises** – eg say the bairn comes home one day and lets slip that they couldn't do their 8 times table (or their fractions, or their percentages or any other topic) and you want to help;

- if in primary, navigate to level 1 or 2 (P2-P4 and P5-P7 respectively) or if secondary probably level 3 would be best in the first instance (though it could be levels 2 or 4)

- choose 'practice sheets', 'videos' or '**Wee Red Box**'

- choose 'starting the level', 'towards the level' or 'at the level' and locate a resource on the topic they've expressed having a difficulty on

- download the required practice sheet (and answer sheet if necessary) or video or, access a set of **Wee Red Box** flash cards

• **by being supportively pro-active** -

- if in primary, navigate to level 1 or 2 (P2-P4 and P5-P7 respectively) or if secondary probably level 3 would be best in the first instance (though it could be levels 2 or 4)

- choose 'practice sheets'

- if P2 choose 'starting the level', if P3 choose 'towards the level', if P4 choose 'at the level', and similarly for level 2 if P5/P6/P7

- choose to download '**assessment**' and have the bairn try it on their own

- for any topic they're unable to do then these would be the ones to usefully focus support on and there will be practice sheets, videos and **Wee Red Boxes** available which will complement any help you wish to give as a parent

- if the initial assessment proved to be too hard, then track back and download an earlier assessment which will be easier, and if the

assessment was too easy, then track forward to download another assessment, which will be harder. The assessments will help to identify what the bairn can and cannot do, and, where they are within the levels.

- once the bairns weaker skills are identified there will be practice sheets, videos and **Wee Red Box** flash cards available on them for downloading or accessing, in order to help your child get better at the skills you've diagnostically identified – that's great!

• **by using Wee Red Box flash cards** – over time these give a very clear indication of what the bairn actually can and can't do, since they'll need to get 20/20 before a gold 'well done' award is presented on that box (they either know it or they don't).

The website remembers their performance so every time they login the 'well done' awards are clearly evident.

Flash cards are an old fashioned but effective technique which helps to promote good working memory and processing speed which are essential ingredients for effective learning.

I recommend that your child gathers as many gold 'well done' awards as possible and then try to get 20/20 faster than before, thereby becoming more fluent at any particular skill, especially say for tables (x and ÷) and key + and -

The on-line versions of the Wee Red Boxes offer great potential benefit for your child to get more fluent at numeracy.

Coupled with the videos, especially those that use the 100+ board, it's a pretty powerful combination that suits most visual / concrete learners.

If you have any questions about using the website, or even wish to give me a feedback, please do e-mail tom@mathsontrack.com

Let's get excellent!

Tom Renwick
www.mathsontrack.com