November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

By the end of Year 1, children are expected to know key addition and subtraction facts by heart. Being able to recall these quickly helps them tackle more complex maths and problem-solving as they progress with their maths learning.

This Autumn term, we are focusing on **number bonds to 10**.

To help your child build confidence and quick recall, we ask that you practice these type of addition facts regularly at home:

- 1 + 3 =
- 4 + 5 =
- 4 + 6 =
- 2 + 5 =
- 2 + 8 =
- 1 + 4 =
- 3 + 7 =

Short, regular practice helps lock these facts into your child's long-term memory. Please find some suggested strategies overleaf.

Each week, the children will complete a short, timed activity in class to see how quickly they can answer a selection of these facts. We will send their scores home so you can track their progress and see how their recall is improving.

Here is an example of the weekly activity:

6 + 1 =
7 + 2 =
2 + 5 =
1 + 3 =
1 + 4 =

Thank you for your support.

Rachel Ridley
Maths Coordinator, Burlington Infant & Nursery School

Here are fun, practical ways to help your child practise these number facts at home without it feeling like extra schoolwork:

1. Hands-On Games

- **Dice Rolls:** Roll two dice and ask your child to quickly add them together.
- **Dominos:** Lay dominos face down. Have your child draw one, quickly add the dots on both sides, and call out the total.

2. Quick Everyday Practice (On the Go)

- **Car & Walking Quiz:** Ask 3 to 5 quick-fire questions while walking to school, riding in the car, or waiting in line (e.g., *"Quick! What's 4 + 4?"*).
- **Snack Time Maths:** Use small items like raisins, grapes, or crackers. *"You have 4 raisins and I give you 3 more—how many do you have now?"*

3. Visual & Creative

- **Flashcards (Beat the Clock):** Create simple flashcards with the sum on the front and the answer on the back. Time your child for 30 seconds to see how many they can answer correctly, then try to beat their high score next time.
- **Post-it Note Hop:** Write numbers (answers) on Post-it notes and stick them on the floor around the living room. Call out an addition sum (e.g., *"3 + 4"*) and have your child jump or step onto the correct answer note.
- **Masking Tape Grid:** Use low-tack tape to make a mini hopscotch or number grid on a rug or carpet. Write numbers on pieces of paper inside each square. Call out a sum and have them hop to the answer!

Top Tips for Parents

- **Keep sessions short:** 3 to 5 minutes once or twice a day is far more effective than one long study session.
- **Praise quick thinking:** Celebrate speed and effort rather than just getting the right answer!