Shawhead Primary School

PARENT PROMPT
DIVISION GUIDE 1

Children are introduced to division in the First Level. Initially they will practise grouping objects as well as sharing objects equally through practical activities in class. The children develop the vocabulary use
in division, for example, grouped in 2's, 3's etc, shared equally, divide, share the tens, share the units, remainders. A good knowledge of table facts will help them to divide mentally. Once children are familiar with the idea of division they are introduced to a written form and learn to apply division to solve word problems.

Examples of written calculations involving grouping:

EXAMPLE 1 WITHOUT REMAINDERS
12 children are to be placed in groups of 4, to play badminton. How many groups can be made?
Group the 12 children in 4's
12 children grouped in 4's gives 3 groups
Divide can be used to mean 'grouped in'
We can say – 12 divided by 4 equals 3 and we can write 12 ÷ 4 = 3

EXAMPLE 2 WITH REMAINDERS
16 children are to be place in groups of 5 to play football.
Group the 16 children in 5's
Divide can be used to mean 'grouped in'
We can say – 16 divided by 5 equals 3
with 1 left over and we can write
16 ÷ 5 = 3 r1 (3 remainder 1)

Examples of written calculations involving sharing equally

EXAMPLE 1 WITHOUT REMAINDERS
If 20 cakes are shared equally among 4 plates, how many would be on each tray?
Write – 20 ÷ 4 = ?
Ask – 4 times what makes 20? 4 × 5 = 20 so 20 ÷ 4 = 5
Your child should start to link division to table facts.

EXAMPLE 2 WITH REMAINDERS
If 35 pencils are shared equally among 6 tubs, how many would be in each tub?
Write – 35 ÷ 6 = ?
Ask – Is 35 a fact in the 6 times table? No, 6 times what is just less than 35?

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6 × 5 = 30
So 35 ÷ 6 = 5 remainder 5
Write – 35 ÷ 6 = 5 r5

EXAMPLE 3 WITH REMAINDERS
Children will later be introduce to division in the following format:

4	3 1

Read this as 31 divided by 4
Ask 4 times what is 31?
Is 31 a fact in the 4 times table? No
4 times what is just less than 31?
4 × 7 = 28

	7 r 3
4	3 1

Write 7 directly above the 1 in the units column. Now say 4 × 7 = 28 so 28 and how many more make 31 = 3. There are 3 left over (remainder 3)
Write this as r (remainder) 3