

St George's C of E Primary School
Mathematical Dictionary
Year Four



**We would like you to help your
child understand the meaning of
each of the words included in our
Mathematical Dictionary for
Year Four.**

Thank you for your support.



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Mathematical Dictionary

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Vocabulary	Definition	Example
Area	The space a surface takes up inside its perimeter. Area is always measured in square units.	
Associative law	No matter how the parts in an addition or multiplication equation are grouped, the answer will be the same.	
Convert	To change from one unit of measurement to another.	<p>Converting LENGTH Units</p> <p>It is easiest to use a conversion look-up diagram like the one below.</p>
Coordinate	The position of a point, usually described using pairs of numbers.	
Decimal number	Any number made up of digits 0 to 9 using the base 10 number system.	
Distributive law	The process whereby adding some numbers and then multiplying the sum gives the same answer as multiplying the numbers separately and then adding the products.	
Dividend	When carrying out the operation of division, the dividend is the number that is being divided.	
Divisor	A number that another number is divided by.	
Equilateral	In an equilateral triangle, all of the interior angles are the same size.	


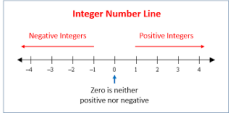
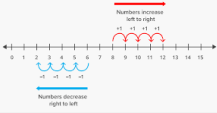

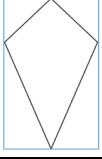






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Expression	One or a group of numbers, symbols or operators. An expression does not use equality or inequality signs. Using an equality or inequality sign will give an equation.	$4a + 7b$
Grid	A series of evenly divided and equally spaced shapes, usually squares.	
Improper fraction	A fraction where the numerator is bigger than the denominator. These fractions are therefore greater than one whole.	$\frac{9}{4} = 2\frac{1}{4}$
Integer	A whole number that can be positive or negative. Zero is neither.	
Interval	An interval on a graph's axis lies between two values.	
Isosceles triangle	A triangle with two equal sides with the opposite angles also equal.	
Kite	A 2-D shape with two pairs of equal length adjacent sides. The diagonals intersect at right angles.	
Line graph	A graph that uses lines to connect the points on a data chart. Used to present continuous data, such as change over time.	
Mixed number	A mixed number, or mixed fraction, is a whole number together with a proper fraction.	





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Negative number	A number that is less than zero. (It is helpful to refer to these numbers as 'negative numbers' rather than 'minus' to avoid confusion with the	<p>-4 -3 -2 -1 0</p>
Parallelogram	A 2-D shape that has two pairs of parallel sides and equal opposite angles.	
Plot	To mark out a point on a graph or grid.	
Point	The precise location of a position on a 2-D plane.	
Positive number	A number that is greater than zero. Zero is neither positive or negative.	<p>Positive Numbers</p> <p>0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p>
Proper fraction	A fraction with a value less than one.	$\frac{2}{6}$ <p>2 — Numerator 6 — Denominator</p>
Protractor	A measuring device for measuring the size of an angle. Angles are measured in degrees (°).	
Quotient	The result when the dividend is divided by the divisor.	<p>quotient → 6</p> <p>divisor → 4 $\overline{)24}$ ← dividend</p>
Rectilinear	A rectilinear shape has straight line edges which are perpendicular (all meet at right angles).	<p>Rectilinear Figures</p>

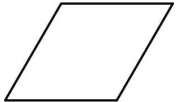
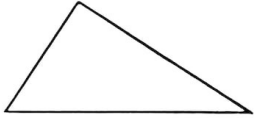
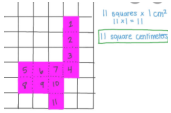




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Rhombus	An equilateral parallelogram with four equal length sides.	
Scalene	A scalene triangle has three unequal sides and three unequal angles.	
Short division	A formal written layout where the quotient is calculated showing only one written step.	$186 \div 6 =$ $\begin{array}{r} 031 \\ 6 \overline{) 186} \\ \underline{6} \\ 18 \\ \underline{18} \\ 0 \end{array}$ <p>no groups of 6 can be made 3 × 6 = 18 1 × 6 = 6</p>
Short multiplication	A formal written layout where the multiplier is usually 9 or less.	$\begin{array}{r} 237 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 948 \\ 12 \end{array}$
Simplify	To write a number or equation in its simplest form.	$\frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$
Square centimetre	A unit of measure for area equal to a square with the dimensions 1 cm by 1cm.	
Trapezium	A quadrilateral with exactly one pair of parallel sides.	