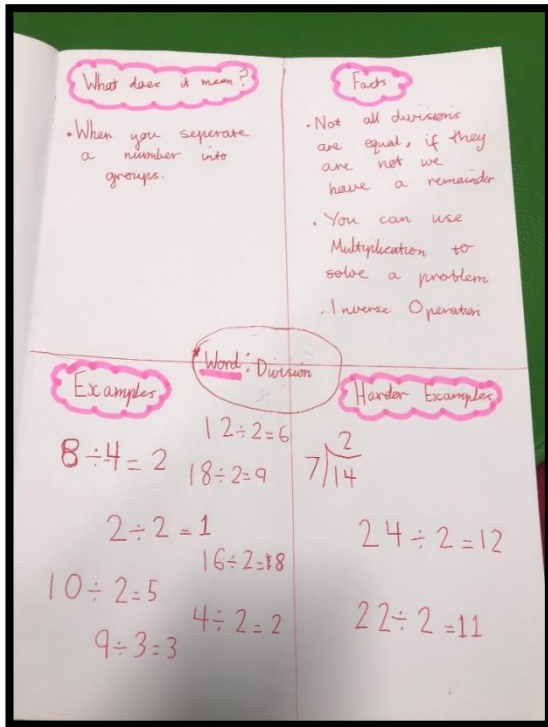


Key Factor 1: Teach Maths as a language

At the beginning of a new mathematical unit at MEPS, we explicitly teach the language involved with that particular unit. Maths has a language of its own, and a lot of the mathematical terms are not used in everyday conversations. If the vocabulary is not taught, students may get a question wrong, not because they didn't know how to solve it but because they weren't sure what the question was asking them to do, for example when asked for the **product** of two numbers. Product meaning the answer when multiplying the two numbers together.



At MEPS we are aiming to establish a common mathematical language so as the students' progress from one year level to the next they will use a consistent language, which will improve their understanding of worded questions, which are the foundation of 'real life maths'.

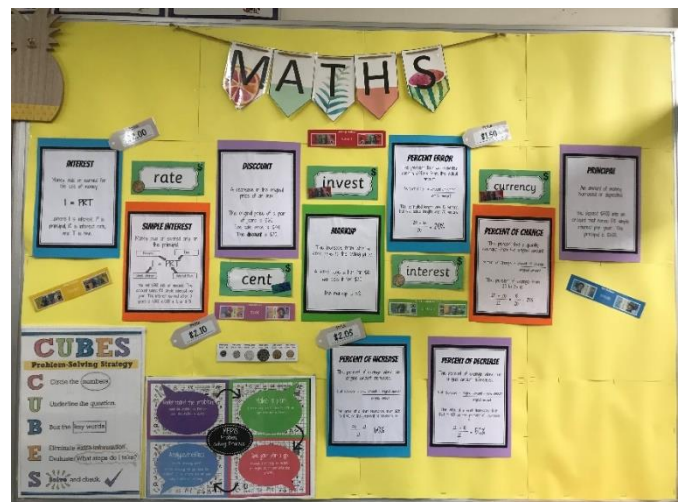
Word walls

Across our classrooms at MEPS you will find bright and engaging word walls. These word walls are not only for literacy vocabulary but we also have specific maths word walls. Any mathematical terms that are prominent in the unit of study at the time will remain on the wall. This allows the students to refer to the wall at any time and keeps the vocabulary visible for constant reminders.

This is an example of a Grade 5 students work unpacking the term 'division'. Students were asked to define the term, include facts regarding division, and then provide examples of division facts.

ADDITION	SUBTRACTION
add plus and total	take away minus less reduce remain
increase more sum together	take from fewer take difference how many more
MULTIPLICATION	DIVISION
multiply times product multiplied by	divided by share divide divide into
groups of lots of doubled times tables	divisible by group each share equally

An amazing Maths word wall found in 6F - in preparation for their unit on Financial Mathematics



Here is an example of some of the vocabulary used in relation to the four main processes. As these processes underpin all areas of mathematics, these could be great to discuss with your child.