Thursday 30th April

Parents: Children in year 2 are developing their understanding of the relationship between addition and subtraction, and the fact that subtraction can be used to check addition and vice versa. Often, schools use the 'part-part-whole' model to help children understand this – in an addition, the two 'parts' are the numbers that are added to make the 'whole', so in a subtraction the 'whole' is the first number, with one 'part' taken away to leave the other 'part' as the answer. To show full mastery, children need to be able to reason about what is happening in problems they are solving. Encourage your child to talk about their thinking, when considering each of these problems, and to make informal notes to help them think through different options.

1. Mo baked 32 cakes for the school fair. He has sold 15 cakes so far. Mo says, 'I have 16 more cakes to sell.' Is he right? Explain your answer.

2. Dan is doing some maths work. He has written the following number sentence: 67 + 8 = 75

   Use a subtraction sentence to check whether his answer is correct.

3. Hamid is doing a 'missing number' problem: 18 + ___ = 27
   Show how he can work this out by using a subtraction. Explain how you know.

4. Libby says to her friend, 'I'm thinking of a number. I take away 6 and add 3. Now my number is 18.' What was the number Libby was first thinking of?

Challenge: Can you make up a 'thinking of a number' problem for your helper to solve?