Puzzle: December 2025

I used to play a game with my eleven year old class. I said some numbers to them and they said them back to me in reverse. For example, if I said 279 they had to say 972. As the year went by they got better but one pupil found it hard. Then one day all 25 of them did 3 numbers, then 4 numbers and 5 numbers!! I was shocked but very pleased for them. I said how did you do it? We just worked on one of us. I was blown away!!

I played this game at Birmingham University during a Summer School organised by Dr Tony Gardiner. A girl won with a score of 10 numbers. Wow!! Can you beat that?

How good are you at prime numbers?

$a = b + c + d = e + f + g + h + i = j + k + l + m + n + p + q$

$= r + s + t + u + v + w + x + y + z$

where $a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y$ and z are different prime numbers.

What is the smallest value of a?

The names of those sending answers to volunteering@ukmy.org.uk by 15st January will appear in the next UKMT News.

Puzzle: September 2025

	Answers:				Answers from:
(a)	1	8	64	205379	Alexis C
	9261	804357			Evan D
(b)	125	438976			Alexis C