

15th November 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

From the 2019/20 academic year onwards, **year 4 pupils** will be required to complete an online multiplication tables check (MTC). The national curriculum specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12×12 by the end of year 4.

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

Schools have a three-week window in the **month of June** to have their Year 4 children sit the test. We will inform you nearer to the time when a day within that three-week period has been confirmed.

What can you do to help your child in practising their times tables?

We would recommend a number of strategies to support your child in the run-up to and aftermath of the times tables test including:

- Times tables chanting: "6, 12, 18, 24...";
- Times tables chanting in reverse order: "108, 99, 90, 81...";
- Using times tables songs, like Schoolhouse Rock's '[3 is A Magic Number](#)';
- Using apps, like the one by ks2timestables.co.uk, [Times Tables Rock Stars](#) or [Hit the Button](#)
- Using free online games, like those on [Maths Frame](#);
- Asking your child multiplication calculations out of order, like: "What is 4 x 7? What is 9 x 5? What is 6 x 11?"

All pupils have been provided with a **Times Tables Rock Stars log in** so that they're able to access the app at home.

If you have any questions regarding the multiplication tables check, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's class teacher.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs M Cockayne
Head of Upper School