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Headteacher: Miss B Nugent

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

In June 2020, the Government announced an assessment check for Year 4 children called the “Multiplication Tables Check” (MTC). The Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check is now a requirement in all schools. Your child will need to take a short online test to make sure their times tables knowledge is at the expected level. Due to the pandemic, this was postponed last summer, but we can confirm, this ‘check’ will take place this year. Under the National Curriculum, primary school children are expected to know their 12 times tables by the end of Year 4.

As a result, we have been preparing the children to know their times tables and the Multiplication Tables Check will be a useful checkpoint to see how confident they are with their times tables. The check itself will take place in the summer term over a one-week period from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022. This will be completed online using a computer and will take no longer than 5 minutes. It will feature 25 questions and children will have 6 seconds to answer each question with three seconds in between questions. There will be no problem solving or division, just simple  $3 \times 4 = ?$  type questions.

During the check, there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables, which will form the majority of the questions. The results are for the teachers. There is no pass or fail mark. The results of the check are not published publicly. They are for us to use so that we can provide the appropriate support where necessary. I am sure that along with you, we do not want our children worried or stressed about the check. For this reason, the Government is not calling this a test.

Please ensure lots of practice at home using a computer with a keyboard where possible as this will enable your child to develop their speed and accuracy. Your support to help practise the times tables with your children will be essential. Some easy ways to do this include asking questions such as what is  $7 \times 8$ ? Reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc) using apps and games, singing times tables songs.

### **Why do we learn the times tables?**

In primary school, times tables knowledge is vital for quick mental maths calculations and problem solving, as well as for many of the topics children learn in Years 5 and 6 (division, fractions, percentages). They are also an important factor for determining their future success in Maths. Rapid recall of these times tables really gives all children an excellent foundation on which they can build a wide variety of mathematical skills.

Please remember to make use of TT Rockstars and Mathletics for further support. Use the TTRockstars account as regularly as possible – it has an excellent track record for improving times table recall and is great fun! Children can earn coins and create an online Rockstar avatar by battling one another and taking part in arena tours!

On our class webpage, you will find a variety of games that you can download, print and play. Here are some further links.

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/at-school/primary-school-assessment-tests/year-4-multiplication-tables-check/#>

[https://assets.oxfordowl.co.uk/2014/05/13/10/30/08/349/PX\\_MathsContent\\_BK\\_TimesTablesInSchool\\_01\\_CH.pdf](https://assets.oxfordowl.co.uk/2014/05/13/10/30/08/349/PX_MathsContent_BK_TimesTablesInSchool_01_CH.pdf)

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Pannell (Year 4 Teacher)

Mrs Pasha (Maths Lead)