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Dear Parents and Carers.

At the end of the year in June, all children in Year 4 will be taking part in the government Multiplication Tables Check. We start practicing times tables in Year 2, with greater focus in Year 3 and Year 4 in preparation for this assessment.

The Multiplication Tables Check has been designed to help ensure that children in primary school know their times tables up to 12 off by heart. As well as being critical for everyday life, knowledge of multiplication tables helps children to solve problems quickly and flexibly, and allows them to tackle more complex mathematics later on in school.

The Multiplication Tables Check, will be administered as an online, on-screen assessment. Each assessment will consist of 25 questions worth one mark each. The questions will only be multiplication and they will go up to 12×12 . This means that related division facts, whilst a key part of children's mathematical learning, will not be tested as part of the check. Pupils will have 6 seconds to enter a response to the question. The 6 seconds will start as soon as the question appears on screen. Pupils will then input their response on screen, then press enter to proceed, or wait until the time has expired. Once the question is answered, there will be a 3 second pause before the next question appears.

In school, children are tested on their Times tables weekly. Once they have been tested on their set table in order and passed, they will then be tested on the same times tables in a mixed order. When both these have been passed, children will move onto the next set of times tables. It is important that the children know their times tables out of order as they are presented with a mix of questions in the Multiplication Tables Check.

When children are tested on their times tables in class, they will be given 6 seconds to respond to the questions, in order to prepare them for their assessment. The requirement to answer at speed is key to assessing fluent recall of multiplication tables, whilst limiting pupils' ability to work out answers to the questions. Children will be rewarded for learning their times tables and they will receive a certificate upon completion.

What you can do to help support your child with their Times tables:

- Asking questions such as "What's 7×8 ?"
- Using apps and games.
- Singing times tables songs
- Each child has a login for Times Tables Rockstars. Please encourage your child to use this site as it will allow them to practice answering their times tables on screen.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher who will pass these on.

Yours faithfully

MRS V STINSON
HEADTEACHER