24th January 2020

Dear Parents,

**Year 4 Times Tables**

You may be aware that from June 2020 there is a new statutory assessment for year 4 children called the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The National Curriculum states that by the end of year 4, *pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including 12 x 12 and show precision and fluency in their work*. Whilst the children have many opportunities in school to practise and apply these facts, we rely on your continued support at home. Being secure in recalling multiplication facts is important for children to develop their mathematical fluency skills. It frees up their working memory and helps them to grasp more readily other concepts. Our aim is to make this fun and stress-free. Little and often is definitely the best way.

For your information, the Multiplication Tables Check will:

* take place in the Summer Term, in June.
* be completed online using a computer or tablet.
* take no longer than 5 minutes.
* feature 25 questions and the children will have up to 6 seconds to answer each question.
* include only multiplication facts (e.g. 5 x 6). Division facts will NOT be tested.

An information session will be held in school on **Thursday 30th January at 3.20pm** for Year 4 parents. If you are not able to make the session and would like further information – please feel free to contact me.

In the meantime, please find below a list of the tables that have been set for homework for the rest of this term. The dates written in bold are when the children will have their quiz. They can be practised in many different ways including: online games/apps (eg Times Tables Rockstars), chanting/singing, paper and pencil, grouping objects, applying them to practical everyday situations etc.

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| YEAR 4 TIMES TABLES | | | | | | | | | |
| **Friday**  **31 Jan** | **Friday**  **7 Feb** | ***Thurs***  **13 Feb** | **Friday**  **21 Feb – half term** | **Friday**  **28 Feb** | **Friday**  **6 Mar** | **Friday**  **13 Mar** | **Friday**  **20 Mar** | **Friday**  **27 Mar** | **Friday**  **4 April** |
| 9x | 7x | 7x 9x | 6x | 3x 6x | 8x | 4x 8x | 11x | 12x | 11x 12x |

As you already know, your child has access to Times Table Rock Stars <https://ttrockstars.com/> in school and we encourage children to practise using this at home also. Once logged in, the following areas are the most useful.

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| **Garage** | * 3 minute games set up weekly to practise the tables from the above homework list. * Both multiplication and division facts tested |
| **Studio** | * 1 minute games covering tables up to 12 x 12 (both multiplication and division) * Children try to get at least one right answer in every Studio game. * They will be given their **first status** when they have scored in 10 Studio games |
| **Sound Check** | * 25 questions up to 12 x 12 (both multiplication and division) * 6 seconds per question |

The programme can be accessed on a PC and you can also use the Times Table Rock Stars app on your mobile or tablet. It’s a free download and available from the Amazon, Android and Apple apps stores by searching for “Times Tables Rock Stars”. You just need to login with your child’s username and password.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me.

Thank you for all your help and support.

Janine Gray