

Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday 19th April 2024

## Year 4 Multiplication Check June 2024

You may be aware that from June 2020 the Government announced a new test for Year 4 children called the "Multiplication Tables Check". This will take place in school during the Summer Term.

## Here's what you need to know:

Under the National Curriculum, primary school children are expected to know all of their times tables by the end of Year 4, up to 12x12. As a result, we've been preparing the children to know their times tables by the end of Year 4 for quite some time now and this will be a useful checkpoint.

## The check itself:

- The checks will take place in the Summer Term, in June.
- In 2024, schools must administer the MTC to all year 4 pupils between Monday 3 June and Friday 14 June.
- The checks are completed online using a computer or tablet.
- These can be done one pupil at a time, in groups or as a class.
- Will take no longer than 5 minutes.
- Will feature 25 questions and children will have 6 seconds to answer each question.
- There's no problem solving or division, just simple "3 x 4 =?" type questions.
- During the checks, 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. Last year, there was no pass or fail mark. However, the national average mean average score was 20.2 last year with 29% of a school's year 4 cohort receiving full marks. The results of the checks are not published publicly. They are for us to use so that we can provide the appropriate support where necessary. Your child's score will be given to you in a letter.

I am sure that along with you, we do not want our children worried or stressed about the check. The Government has called it a "check" rather than a "test" or "exam" for a reason.

## How you can support you child:

As maths is such a big subject, and we will of course continue to teach the full curriculum, we will need your continued support to help practice the times tables with your children. Some easy ways to do this include:

- asking questions such as "what's 7 x 8?".
- reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc).
- using apps and games (see below about a resource your pupil has access to).
- singing times tables songs (there are loads online).

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).

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The website which best replicates that of the Multiplication Check is <u>Pinpoint Times tables Check - Menu</u> (<u>themathsfactor.com</u>) and so it is recommended that this is the one which they use to practise.

Please also remember to make use of **TT Rockstars** to further support your child. On the times tables homework, set on alternate weeks, you will find a variety of games and website that you can download and play.

Useful Multiplication Games https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

https://ttrockstars.com/

Pinpoint Times tables Check - Menu (themathsfactor.com)

We have also enclosed with this letter a parents/carer leaflet with some further information about the check.

For further information about these tests please visit: Multiplication tables check: information for parents - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

If you should have any queries or questions please do not hesitate us using the school office email address.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Fear, Miss Parsons and Mr Dearing

The Year 4 Team

