

March 20th 2024

Dear Parents/Carer,

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check – 2024

You may be aware that from June 2020 the Government announced a new test for Year 4 children called the 'Multiplication Tables Check' (MTC).

The tests will be statutory for all Year 4 pupils who are confident with the Year 2 multiplication tables (2, 5, 10x tables). Pupils who are not secure in these times tables will not be able to take part in the check. Parents of pupils not taking the test will be informed by their class teacher.

The National Curriculum states that primary school children are expected to know all their times tables by the end of Year 4, up to 12 x 12. 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.

Teachers have focused specifically on teaching times tables and children are able to move up the times table ladder that is on display in the unit when they are confident with times tables. This has been a huge success and children have enjoyed the challenge.

We also use TT Rockstars to support rapid recall of the facts and encourage pupils to access this at home as well as in school.

The check itself:

- will take place in the Summer Term over a two-week period from Monday 5th June to Friday 16 June.
- is completed online using a computer or tablet.
- can be administered 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 are no problem solving or division questions just multiplication facts for example:
 $3 \times 4 =$ $7 \times 8 =$
- during the test, there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables, which will form the majority of the questions..

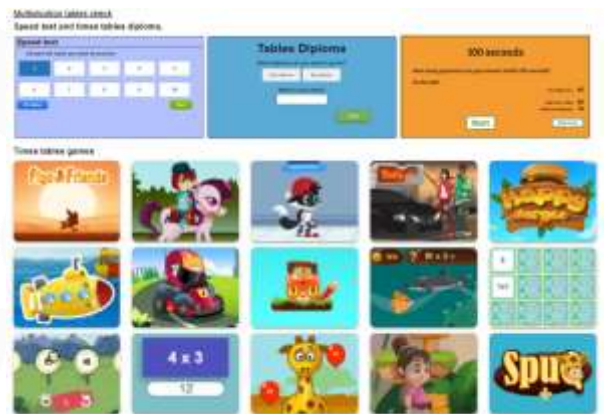
The results are for teachers and there is no pass or fail mark. The results of the test are not published publicly although will be collected to gain a picture of pupil attainment in Year 4 across the country. Your child's score will be given to you in a letter.

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. However, it is important that children try to learn their times tables to support future learning.

How you can support your child:

- asking questions such as 'what is 7×8 ?'
- reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc)
- using apps and games
- singing times tables songs
- having a family times tables challenge

We have introduced Year 4 to a website full of times tables <https://www.timestables.co.uk/> that has examples of similar speed tests, games and activities and the opportunity to earn virtual certificates.



We will also be accessing the Government website prior to the test for a 'try it out check'

For further information about these tests please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>

Please try to support your child to learn their times tables. We are planning on entering all pupils who have achieved all times tables up to 12×12 in a prize draw to be drawn after the check.

If you should have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 4 Team: Mrs Rawsthorn, Ms Teladia, Mr Maniar and Ms Siddiq

Bywell Junior School.