



Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware that from June 2020 the Government announced a new test for Year 4 children called the “Multiplication Tables Check”. Due to the pandemic, this test was postponed. However, this year the check now forms part of the statutory assessment for Y4 children and as such, the check will go ahead. Here’s what you need to know:

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’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:

- will take place in the summer term in June sometime over a one week period from Monday 6th June 2022 to Friday 24th June 2022
- is done online using a computer or tablet
- 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 “ $3 \times 4 = ?$ ” type questions
- During the test there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7's, 8's, 9's 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 tests are not published publicly. They are for teachers to use so the appropriate support can be provided 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.

For further information, please follow this link to the DfE website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

Practice at Home:

Because 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 7×8 ?”
- 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). Please also remember to make use of TT Rockstars and My Maths to further support your child.

If you require any support with practicing these calculations at home, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C J Hampton (Mathematics Subject Leader)