

16 January 2025

Dear Year 4 Families

You may be aware that there is a test for all Year 4 children called the “Multiplication Tables Check” (MTC). This takes place in June each year and is completed individually on a computer. Schools use the results of this check to help plan further support and next steps.

Under the national curriculum, all primary school children are expected to know their times tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Teaching the times tables is part of our everyday provision in Maths from Year 2 onwards and we regularly check recall and understanding.

### The check itself:

- will take place in the summer term in June.
- is done online using a computer or tablet.
- 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

**Practise at Home:** We welcome your continued support to help practise the times tables with your children. Some easy ways to do this include:

- asking questions such as “What’s  $7 \times 8$ ?”
- 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 student 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).

As you will be aware we subscribe to Times Tables Rockstars and Doodle Maths for all Claygate pupils. Downloading the APP at home and supporting your child to make progress on this will significantly improve their times tables recall. Many of the activities on Times Tables Rockstars replicate the format of the Times Tables Check which provides useful practise.

I enclose a government leaflet giving further information, however, do please ask if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Hilary Ali