

TIMES TABLE CHALLENGE!

Dear Parents/Carers

We are introducing a new Mathematics challenge aimed at developing quicker recall of the multiplication facts (times tables). The new National Curriculum states that: 'By the end of year 4, pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication table.'

From May 2014 there has not been a separate calculator paper in Key Stage 2 SATs so mental calculations are gaining even greater prominence in primary schools. Therefore to do even better in their SATs tests in Year 6, learning tables' facts plus recalling quickly and accurately will give these children a distinct advantage.

The Times Table Challenge is going to be trialled in Atlantis and Enterprise Class in Term 3, with the rest of the school starting during Term 3. The children will be told by their class teachers which day of the week they will have a go at the challenge. The idea is that the children will work their way through the x tables sets (see below). When they have met the criteria (also see below) children will be awarded with a certificate.

In the past different years within our school have had different ways of learning times tables facts, however to have a whole school challenge we hope to see our children at St Peter's recalling their times tables a lot quicker and particularly earlier on in Key Stage 2.

To help with the children's learning of their multiplication facts there will be practise sheets sent home as part of the weekly mental maths skills homework and these will be available from the school website. There are other ways in which children can become quicker at recalling their times tables too: listening to CDs, playing games, quick fire questions from adults at home, website games etc...

We would like all children to succeed at their Times Table Challenge and we will continue to work on learning their times tables within school but we would also like children to be encouraged to practise them at home (particularly the times tables of which they are completing the challenge at school.)

The Order of Times Table Challenge Sheets:

Set 1

2x 5x Multiplication = 20 questions

10x Multiplication = 20 questions

2x 5x Division = 20 questions

10x Division = 20 questions

2x 5x 10x Multiplication = 20 questions

2 x 5x 10x Division = 20 questions

Mixed 2 x 5x 10x Division & Multiplication = 20 questions

Set 2

3x 4x Multiplication = 40 questions

3x 4x Division = 40 questions

6x Multiplication = 40 questions

6x Division = 40 questions

3x 4x 6x Multiplication = 40 questions

3x 4x 6x Division = 40 questions

Mixed 3x 4 x 6 x Division & Multiplication = 40 questions

Set 3

7x 8x Multiplication = 50 questions

7x 8x Division = 50 questions 9x Multiplication = 50 questions

9 x Division = 50 questions

7x 8x 9x Multiplication = 50 questions

7x 8x 9x Division = 50 questions

Mixed 7x 8x 9x Division & Multiplication = 50 questions

Set 4

11x 12x Multiplication = 70 questions

11x 12x Division = 70 questions

Mixed 11x 12x Division & Multiplication = 70 questions

Set 5

Mixed Times Tables Multiplication = 80 questions

Mixed Times Tables Division = 80 questions

Mixed Times Tables Division & Multiplication = 80 questions

Set 6

2x 5x 10x Multiplication of TU = 50 questions

3x 4x 6x Multiplication of TU = 50 questions

7x 8x 9x Multiplication of TU = 50 questions

11x 12x Multiplication of TU = 50 questions

Mixed Times Tables Multiplication & Division of TU = 100 questions

Set 7

2x 5x 10x Multiplication of HTU = 50 questions

3x 4x 6x Multiplication of HTU = 50 questions

7x 8x 9x of HTU = 50 questions

11x 12x Multiplication of HTU = 50 questions

Mixed Times Tables Multiplication & Division of HTU = 100 questions

Set 8

2x 5x 10x Multiplication of decimals = 50 questions

3x 4x 6x Multiplication of decimals = 50 questions

7x 8x 9x Multiplication of decimals = 50 questions

11x 12x Multiplication of decimals = 50 questions

Mixed Times Tables Multiplication & Division of decimals = 100 questions

To move onto the next set of x tables, children must achieve the following:

1) Correctly answer all questions or up to 2 wrong, e.g. If answering 2x 5x 10x, they must get 18, 19 or 20 correct.

2) Answer the questions correctly within 3 minutes.

To gain a certificate, children must work through each set & answer the mixed questions at the end of the set successfully.

Please note:

- The time of 3 minutes stays the same even though the number of questions increases, therefore creating a challenge.
- Children will be given their own record sheet to complete so they can see either their score & try to improve week on week.
- This is a challenge and therefore may take children a couple of years to achieve all 8 certificates. Please do not be concerned that your child has been on the same sheet for a while, we are looking at this as a challenge for children, not something that is easy.

We look forward to seeing lots of children achieve their certificates over the coming year.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Mrs Merriman & Mrs I 'Anson