



# MEADGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Headteacher: Mr. J. J. Figg

26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may be aware that in 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 until now and will be administered in schools for the first time this June.

Under the National Curriculum, primary school children are expected to know their times tables (up to x12) by the end of Year 4. As a result we have, in maths lessons and our maths curriculum throughout the school, been preparing the children to know their times tables by the end of year 4 so this will be a useful checkpoint. The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables. Having a secure recall of these facts will help with the check and, more importantly, ensure your children are well prepared as for the Year 5 maths curriculum.

## The check itself:

- takes place in the summer term in June (this year between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>)
- is done online using a computer or tablet
- can be done one pupil at a time, in groups or as a whole class
- takes no longer than 5 minutes
- will feature 25 questions and the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question
- there is no problem solving, or division, just simple "3X4=?" type questions

There is no pass or fail mark but the results will help us in school to identify if your child may need additional support. Your child's score will be shared with you as part of their end of year report. As I'm sure you'll agree, we do not want the children worried or stressed about this check; the government call it a check, rather than a test or exam for this reason.

## Practise at home:

In class, we will continue to teach all aspects of the maths curriculum. Your children will have times tables to practise as part of their homework and we ask that you continue to support and help your child with them at home. Little and often practise is a good way of securing those key facts.

## How can you help?

- Ask questions such as "what's 7X8?"
- Recite tables by rote (1 times 4 is 4, 2 times 4 is 8 etc.)
- Use apps and games – TTRockstars is very familiar to the children and personalised to introduce new tables when they are confident with the ones they have already included in their practise. Purple Mash also have a times tables check practice tool in their maths area, which is very useful and behaves very like the check, i.e. offering 6 seconds to answer questions etc.

For further information about the check please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents-text-version--2>

If you have any questions about the check please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Thank you for your continued support,



Miss M Laurence

Maths Subject Lead