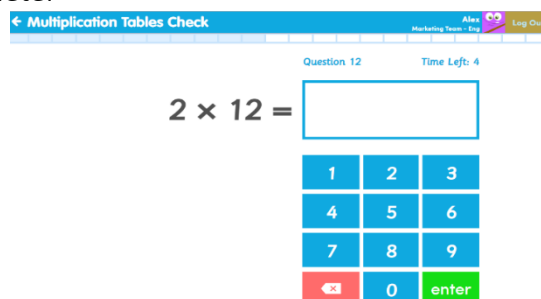


Year 4 Multiplication Times-tables Check (MTC)

Key Information for parents / carers:

The National Multiplication Times-tables Check (or MTC for short) is a short online assessment for all year four pupils across the country, that takes place in the three week period between the 5th and 23rd of June 2023.

- The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics.
- It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.



- When we receive the results, we will share them with both you and the children. There is no pass or fail mark and results are not published publicly or end up on a league table. The results are for teachers to use to inform their teaching and help provide support for pupils.

Why are Times tables important?

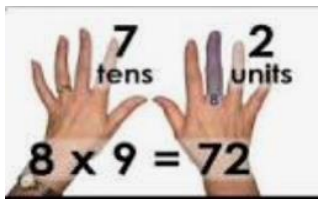
Times tables are fundamental to support children and underpin everything within Maths. It is vital that all children know their multiplication facts up to 12×12 . Knowing these facts, will give them the essential knowledge needed to be proficient with the Years 5 and 6 Curriculum.

Will my child know it is an official check?

Your child has been working on the MTC in class since September, so is familiar with the style and layout of the MTC. We try to keep it fun and practise it on laptops every other day during registration time, so it just becomes something that we regularly do, rather than an official check. Your child has a card which is kept in school, on which they record their score (out of 25) each time, so they can see the small steps of progress that they are making through the week and over the course of each half term. We also focus in (during our daily Maths lesson and weekly SMIRFs work) on the times tables that are trickier to remember, adding top-tips, finger prompts, songs or rhymes to help remember them.

How can you support your child at home?

- Encourage children to practise the MTC on www.timestables.co.uk as often as possible. As well as learning their times tables, it will enable them to become more familiar with both the keyboard and the format of the MTC, which in turn helps to increase the speed of their answers. There is space for your child to record their score on the back of their times-tables card so they can see that they are making small steps of progress each week. Your support in ensuring this is done weekly, would be much appreciated.
- Playing Times-table Rockstars as often as possible also helps. Small 5 minute daily sessions will help children to learn times tables more than one long session a week. The Soundcheck session is very similar to the multiplication check.
- Quiz your child at home regularly. This could be when making dinner, whilst walking the dog or on the journey to school – any times that you are together and relaxed.
- Display a poster with all of the times tables facts on at home.
- We teach the children fun tricks at school such as the 9 times table finger trick. If you know this, you can practise it with them at home.



Eg in 8×9 , bend the 8th finger down and the answer is shown in the number of fingers that come before and after that 8th finger which are 7 fingers and 2 fingers so the answer is 72.

- Create flash cards with your children and let them play with friends, siblings or grandparents. They could even write the answer on the back and test themselves.
- We use lots of songs to teach our times tables in school. Children can recognise these from You Tube by typing in x8 times table song. Let them sing along with those at home. Children could also make their own times tables songs or dances up.
- Chanting their times table is an excellent way to learn them. They could do this each time they walk up the stairs or when throwing and catching a ball.

These are just some suggestions. Any times tables practise that the children can do at home will really support them to become more proficient in their times tables and help them with their everyday maths learning. The most important thing is to make the learning of times-tables FUN and to match their individual learning style, be this through sport, games or singing.

Further information can be found on the Government website:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1116420/2023_Information_for_parents_Multiplication_tables_check_Nov_22_PDF.pdf and also at <https://www.theschoolrun.com/year-4-multiplication-tables-check-mtc-explained>

If you require any more information about the MTC, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,
Mrs Speak