

# ST MARK'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms Laura Kelsey BA (Hons), PGCE, CEPQH

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check June 2022

You may be aware that from June 2020 the Government announced a new compulsory times table test for Year 4 children called the "Multiplication Tables Check". Due to the pandemic, this test was postponed over the last two years. However, we have had it confirmed that the tests will be going ahead, as planned this year.



### Here's what you need to know:

Pupil's will be tested on their ability to answer 25 multiplication questions online. They will have six seconds to answer each question, and schools will be given a three-week window to 'check' all children in the year group.



Under the National Curriculum primary school children are expected to know their times tables by the end of Year 4, up to 12x12. 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 June once we return from half-term.
- is done online using a computer.
- 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 x 4 = ?" type questions
- during the test, there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables, which will form the majority of the questions.



### How will the Multiplication check be used?

The results are for the teachers. There is no pass or fail mark. The data from the multiplication check will be:

- used by schools to "provide additional support to pupils who require it."
- available to Ofsted via the Analyse School Performance (ASP) data system.
- reported on by the Department for Education (DfE) to track standards over time.
- used by the DfE to provide schools with the ability to benchmark the performance of their pupils.



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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.

## 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)

## How you can support you child:

- asking questions such as "what's 7 x 8?"
- reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc)
- using apps and games (see below a list of useful websites)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

For further information about these tests please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>

If you should have any queries or questions please do not hesitate us using the school office email address. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Martha Button  
Class Teacher and SENCO

