

St Mary's C.E. (A) School
Manchester Road
Greenfield
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Headteacher: Mrs S M Hall BA (Hons), QTS, NPQH;
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Friday 10th January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: National Multiplication Test

We are writing to inform you about the National Multiplication Test which will take place in Year 4 during a 3 week period from 8th June. This letter aims to explain this process, in addition to providing you with ideas to help your child with their multiplication tables at home.

Who takes the test?

From June 2020, all year 4 children will be required to take a times table check as part of the statutory form of assessment from the government. If for any reason, we feel that there is a valid reason why your child should not take the test, the class teacher will discuss this with you. Please note, this is only done in exceptional circumstances as all children are eligible to take the test.

What is the National Multiplication Test?

It is an online assessment, designed to determine whether pupils are able to fluently recall their multiplication tables up to 12, through a set of 25 times questions. It will identify pupils who have not yet mastered this mathematical skill so school are able to identify appropriate additional support.

The test period opens on Monday 8th June for a 3 week period and we will inform you nearer the time when your child will be timetabled to take the online test.

What happens during the test?

During the test, each pupil has to answer 25 questions and is taken on-screen. They have 6 seconds to answer each question and an on-screen timer will count down the time available for each question. There will be multiple versions of the test and the version each pupil gets is selected at random.

After the check

Result of the multiplication tables test will be communicated in the annual report to parents at the end of the Summer Term. All children are individuals and develop at different rates. The multiplication test ensures that teachers understand which children need extra help with their times tables.

Helping your child with their times tables

The children will practise and be well-prepared by school in their mathematics lessons. However, regular fun practise at home will obviously help with their recollection and confidence. This can be completing tasks sent home from school, simply saying/chanting them, asking random questions on a journey in the car, singing them or playing games... however you like. It is important that children

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do not feel worried about this, so the more fun it can be made, the more confident they will become!

There are many websites out there with fun multiplication games to play. One such website is <https://www.timestables.co.uk/> which not only features a range of games, but also has an example of what the multiplication check may be like, so the children can use this to get to grips with how to answer the questions online. The questions can be answered either by pressing the number keys on the screen, or by typing them on the keyboard and pressing return to enter the answer.

If you seek any further information regarding the multiplication check at this stage, please do contact school via the office as you normally would.

With very best wishes,

Mrs S M Hall

Head Teacher