

Oaklands Junior School

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Dear Year 3 Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware, from next year onwards, schools will be administering an online multiplication tables check to Year 4 pupils. The purpose of the multiplication tables check is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables accurately and quickly (we are led to believe they will have six seconds to type in their answer for each calculation before the next online question will appear).

The National Curriculum specifies pupils should be taught specific times tables in order to meet end of year expectations:

Year 2 – Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables

Year 3 – Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables

Year 4 – Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the all times tables up to 12 x 12

As well as daily Mathematics lessons, at Oaklands we run a structured times tables testing programme while providing each child with access to Mathletics, which includes Multiverse, ‘an immersive game designed to increase multiplication fact fluency and recall’. However, for most pupils it is extremely beneficial to have this supplemented through practise at home. Therefore, over the summer break, and during the school year, we would highly recommend practising addition and subtraction facts to 20, times tables (up to 12 x 12) and related division facts with your child in order to give them the best possible start in September.

Families of Facts are an excellent way to show the relationship between number and functions e.g.

$$3 \times 4 = 12; 4 \times 3 = 12; 12 \div 4 = 3; 12 \div 3 = 4$$
$$12 + 5 = 17; 5 + 12 = 17; 17 - 12 = 5; 17 - 5 = 12$$

As ever, we want to support parents in relation to this and as such, below are some useful (and free!) websites you may wish to use with your child in order to help them develop their speed and accuracy of recalling their multiplication and division facts:

- www.timestables.co.uk/
- www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables

Of course there is always just recall and practise or sing-a-long versions available – what better way to spend a long car journey this summer?! As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher or myself by arranging an appointment through the school office.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. D. Holland
Mathematics Coordinator