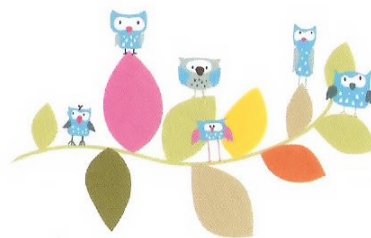


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As a Year 4 pupil, your child will complete the MTC (Multiplication Table Check) in June. This leaflet is to give you information about the check and explain how you can help your child to do well in this check. If you have any further questions after reading it, please contact any of the Year 4 team at school.

WHY A NEW TEST?

The DfE says that the check is part of a new focus on mastering numeracy, giving children the skills and knowledge they need for secondary school and beyond. **The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether Y4 pupils can recall their multiplication tables fluently** (being able to answer times tables questions accurately and quickly, without having to work out the answers).

WHY ARE TIMES TABLES SO IMPORTANT?

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 KS2 (division, fractions, percentages). In secondary school, good multiplication skills are a great help when starting to learn algebra, as well as chemistry, physics, biology and ICT, all of which depend heavily on maths knowledge.

HOW ARE THE RESULTS REPORTED?

There will be no pass or fail mark in the test. Your child's score will be reported to you but not reported nationally or used in any league tables.

As a school, we will use the results to identify which pupils need more help to learn their tables.

WHEN IS THE TEST?

The MTC will be administered in the three-week period **starting on Monday 6 June 2022.**

WHO WILL TAKE THE TEST?

All Year 4 pupils will take the test.

Children with special educational needs will be provided for when taking the MTC.

HOW WILL THE TEST BE TAKEN?

Children will be tested using an on-screen check (on a computer or a tablet), where they will have to answer multiplication questions against the clock.

This will be the first time that the DfE has used computerised tests in primary schools. Calculators and wall displays that could provide children with answers will be removed from the room the MTC is taking place in.

The test will last no longer than 5 minutes and is similar to other tests already used by primary schools. Their answers will be marked instantly.

Children will have 6 seconds to answer each question in a series of 25. Each question will be worth one mark and be presented to the child in this format:

$$1 \times 2 = \underline{\quad}$$

Questions will be selected from the 121 number facts that make up the multiplication tables from 2 to 12, with a particular focus on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables as they are considered to be the most challenging. Each question will only appear once in any 25-question series, and children won't be asked to answer reversals of a question as part of the check (so if they've already answered 3×4 they won't be asked about 4×3).

Once the child has inputted their answer on the computer / device they are using, there will be a three-second pause before the next question appears. Children will be given the opportunity to practise answering questions in this format before the official check begins.

The six-second time limit per question has been decided on by the DfE because it should allow children enough time to demonstrate their recall of times tables without giving them the time to work out the answers to each question.

For more information, check this link

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/year-4-multiplication-tables-check-mtc-explained>

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD?

We know that you will want to help your child do as well as they can in the MTC. We will be working on them in school but any additional help you can give will help your child a lot. On the back of this leaflet are some ideas for games you can play. Below are some of the easy ways that you can help.

Some of the techniques you can use include:

- Practising times tables by rote.
- Asking your child multiplication questions out of order – such as ‘What’s 11x12? What’s 5x6?’
- Using arrays to help your child memorise times tables – you can use fun objects like Smarties or Lego bricks to make it more entertaining.



$$6 \times 3 = 18$$

- Giving your child word problems to test their skills, like ‘If Peter has 800ml of orange juice and needs to share it between four friends, how much can they each have?’
- Using times tables apps and games like Times Tables Rockstars and Hit the Button.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com>

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

- Singing times tables using Supermovers.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers/times-table-collection/z4vv6v4>

FOUR IN A ROW

What you will need to play:

- 2 or more players
- Blank multiplication grid
- Pens

https://youtu.be/xbsU8H2X5_o

How to play:

- The first player multiplies 2 numbers on the multiplication grid together and writes their answer in the blank square.
- The next player does the same, writing their answer in a different colour.
- Keep taking it in turns to multiply 2 numbers and write the answers in the grid.
- If you make a vertical, horizontal or diagonal line of 4 answers in a row, draw a line through it.
- The winner is the player is the first to make 5 lines, or the one with the most lines drawn on the grid, when the grid is completed.

MULTIPLICATION BINGO

What you need to play:

- 3 or more players (can be played as a whole class)
- A piece of paper and pen for each player.

How to play:

- Choose one person to be the leader of the game. In a whole class situation, this would be the teacher.
- Select a times table to focus on and each player writes down five numbers from that times table (e.g. if the focus is the 4 x table, they may write 8, 20, 28, 36 and 44).
- The leader of the game then calls out various questions from the selected times table. (e.g. 6 x 4, 2 x 4, 11 x 4 etc....)
- If a question is called and a player has the answer to it on their paper, they cross out that number.
- The winner is the first person to cross out all their numbers and shout 'bingo'

BITE OFF SMALL CHUNKS!

Pupils sometimes get overfaced thinking there is so much to learn.

Look at the grid and colour in what they already know.

Focus on the facts they don't know. Learn one new fact a day while checking on the ones they already know.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

