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17th November 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope that you are well. We are delighted with the way that the children have come back into Term 2 with a desire and excitement to learn. This is, of course, an especially exciting term for many children, with it culminating in our Christmas festivities in December (more information to follow).

Maths websites - homework

The purpose of our maths homework this year is to help the children learn, recall and have fluency in the key number facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

This term, we are recommending <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> . This is a really useful site for practising all number facts, including the crucially important addition and subtraction facts within and of 10; within and of 20; within and of 100.

Last term, we encouraged the use of www.timestables.co.uk . This is a fabulous site to help with the learning of the multiplication facts. By the end of Year 3, the aim is for children to know the facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables taught in Year 2, and also the 3, 4 and 8 times tables that we are learning in Year 3.

Yesterday, we introduced Times Tables Rockstars <https://trockstars.com/> to the children. The children have all been given an individual logon to the site. The logon information has been stuck into your child's reading journal. TTRockstars is brilliant for developing a fluent recall of the multiplication and division facts but it doesn't actually teach the tables.

Your child has been allocated particular tables to practise in TTRockstars. They will find these in the Garage and Arena sections. The other games practise all the facts to 12 x 12, which for most children at the moment, is not the priority.



Recall of all of these facts can, of course, be practised offline. Chanting the multiplication tables, e.g. $1 \times 3 = 3$, $2 \times 3 = 6$, $3 \times 3 = 9$, etc is really important. YouTube is awash with multiplication songs which can help the memorisation of facts.

The aim of frequent practise is to have fluency, with the facts stored in your child's long-term memory. This takes time, effort and hard work. Towards the end of Year 4, your child will take the national Multiplication Tables Check, where all the facts to 12×12 are tested. The more confident we can help your child to be with the Year 3 tables, the easier they will find the Year 4 learning. And indeed, knowledge of these key facts just makes all work in mathematics easier, throughout your child's school journey.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Wright Rachael Taylor Nina Bjergfelt



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