

BOURNE ABBEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore

Head of School: Mrs S L Buttress

Abbey Road
Bourne

Tel: 422163

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Dear Parent/Carer



You may have heard announcements about the Multiplication Tables Check coming in for Year 4 children. Here's what you need to know:

- We love maths. It's an awesome subject to learn and to teach
- Maths is a big subject and we appreciate there's more to it than times tables and there's more to times tables than learning them off by heart. However, a lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about the multiplication relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of the tables. For that reason, learning the tables is fundamental - we've always believed that
- We're not worried about the checks and this wasn't a surprise. We're already in a good place with learning the tables and the expectations are in line with the National Curriculum so it's business as usual for us
- The checks become compulsory in 2020. They will be done within a three-week-long window starting 8th June
- There's no pass or fail, there's just a score out of 25 marks. They are not to be used to compare children. They are for *us* to reflect on so that we make the most of our provision
- The checks consist of 25 questions. The questions will only be multiplication and they will go up to 12×12. The assessment will focus on 6,7,8,9 and 12 times tables as they are classed as the most difficult
- You may notice us taking even more initiative when it comes to learning the tables with more options for home learning. If you are practising with your child, remember you're practising for the benefit of their wider maths education, not for them to get a high score on the tests. So please enjoy the opportunity to work with your child and remember to hold back on comments about the checks

We are continuing to learn times tables within school, but support at home is vital. Attached to this letter, there are a number of helpful hints, tips and games children can do at home alongside Timestable Rockstars.

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to speak your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

G Huggins

Miss G Huggins
Year 4 Leader