



Brookland Junior School

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'Kind, Respectful, Best'

Headteacher – Mrs M. Barton

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

As you are aware, from June 2020 a national statutory test for Year 4 children called the 'Multiplication Tables Check' (MTC) was introduced. The test will judge how well each child knows their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12, which is the expected standard by the end of Year 4.

What is the purpose behind the check?

The MTC is focused on the fluent recall of multiplication facts. The national curriculum states, 'By the end of year 4, pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication tables and show precision and fluency in their work'.

When is the check?

The test will be administered in the summer term and will involve an online test of 25 multiplication questions. There are no division questions in the check. It will be taking place in the first two weeks of June 2024 at school.

Can my child practise the test?

We will have unlimited access to a try it out area from April this year. Therefore, we can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support required to access the check at school. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required. I will be able to provide your child with a login so they can practise this each day at school.

What does the 'check day' look like.

- The check is done online using a computer or tablet at school.
- They will be provided with a login.
- It will take no longer than 5 minutes.
- The check will feature 25 questions and the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question. In addition, there is short break between each question.
- There is no problem solving or division questions.
- The questions will be in the format of "3 x 4 = ?"
- The children type in their answer. They are not required to press enter. Their answer will automatically save.
- There will be an adult available throughout the check to support them.

How can I support my child at home?

- Asking questions such as “What’s 7 x 8?”
- Reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc).
- Singing times tables songs. There are many different songs online, especially on Youtube.
- Using apps and games:

Times Tables:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

Times Tables Rock Stars:

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>

Urbrainy:

<https://urbrainy.com/mtc>

Talking times tables:

https://talkingtimestables.uk/y4_ks2_mtc_practice_tests_multiplication_tables_check.php

Why do we learn times tables?

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 all years (division, fractions and percentages). Recalling times tables improves memory skills, which is a transferrable skill that will help children throughout school and into adult life. Children will find it easier to solve maths problems and to do mental arithmetic if they have already memorised their times tables. Children, who are fluent in their times tables, score better on their Year 6 maths SATs.

If you do have any further questions or queries, please contact your class teacher via your class email account.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Year 4

