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Dear Parents / Carers of Year 4

You may be aware that from Summer 2020, the Government are bringing in a compulsory multiplication times table test for all pupils in year 4 which we are piloting this year. The Maths curriculum expects that by the end of year 4, children should know their times tables for instant recall up to 12 x 12 and the children will take a computerised test to check this.

The children have been practicing similar tests in school already, which they enjoy, and are aware of the speed of which they are expected to be able to answer the questions.

The test is made up of 3 practice questions and then 25 mixed times table questions that the children get 6 seconds to answer before it moves on to the next question. Children can speed it up if they answer a question quicker, however they can't stop it or slow it down once it has started. The speed of the questions is perhaps the part that some children struggle with which is why we have been practicing.

We will be completing these tests in school in the week beginning 17th June from the Tuesday onwards and children will work independently in small groups to complete the test. There is no pressure at all about what score is expected and the children know they only need to do their best.

There are a number of ways you could help your child further prepare for these tests but please note these are all purely optional:

- You could play a game by asking your child some quick fire times-table questions to help speed them up.
- They can complete the test that is on the Maths part of Spelling Shed.
- There is a website called MathsFrame which has a test called Multiplication Tables Test (type this in the search bar on the home page). This test is a replica of the test on the National Standards Testing site.

We will let the children know what they are doing, however we intend to avoid any pressure or stress related to 'testing'. Results are simply to inform the school: For many pupils it is a chance to show how good they are with tables recall.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely
Year 4 staff