Newsletter

Wednesday 22nd October (No. 8)

A message from Mr Marshall

I expect many of you will remember learning your times table facts when you were at school. A strong knowledge of times table facts is still one of the most valuable skills a child can have, as it supports them being successful in many other areas of maths. We have recently invested in a programme called Times Table Rock Stars designed to be used at home and at school to help children improve their times table knowledge. Miss James, who leads our approach to learning times table facts has written below more about times table importance and ways you can support your child at home.

A Message from Miss James

As you may be aware, we have started using Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) in and outside of school to support your child with learning their times tables.

A secure and fluent knowledge of multiplication tables is an essential foundation for success in mathematics. It underpins many other areas of learning such as division, fractions and problem solving. When pupils can recall their times table facts quickly and accurately, they are better equipped to tackle more complex mathematical concepts with confidence.

Times Table Rockstars makes learning both fun and effective and it is designed to promote fluency through short, engaging games. Pupils can work at their own pace, track their progress and experience a real sense of achievement as they improve. Pupils are also able to do this while enjoying friendly competition with classmates and schools around the country.

Regular use of Times Table Rockstars- even for just a few minutes a day – can significantly improve speed, accuracy and mathematical confidence.

Thank you so much for all of your support so far with Times Table Rockstars and thank you for continuing to encourage your child to have a go.

How can you help them improve their recall times?

There are lots of ways to learn times tables, but here are a few suggestions to get you started:

- Make sure they play daily in **Garage mode** on Times Tables Rocks Stars - The Garage game mode is very clever and will adjust the questions your child is asked, ensuring they are always working on the facts they need to improve. Also, give them a times tables square to use whilst they play. This way they can double-check facts they are not sure about
- Sing times tables songs. There are hundreds available! Put them on in the car, bathtime or any 'free' time where you have a few spare minutes.
- Chanting the old-fashioned way- rehearse the tables forwards and backwards, gradually increasing in speed.
- Write out the tables – This can be in the form of a simple list or you could also be a bit more fun. Being creative will make writing and learning the tables more enjoyable.
- Write the facts as the petals of a flower;
- Get them to test you on the facts and get them wrong on purpose and see if they correct you!
- Treasure Hunt: Hide the facts around the house and give them the answers. Can they find them in record time?
- Take a pot of water and a paintbrush outside to 'paint' the facts on a wall.
- Use chalks to write the facts outside in giant numbers.

Safeguarding

Keeping safe when out and about

Being safe on the roads is so important and is a skill that can easily be forgotten as children begin to be more independent and walk to school by themselves and are out spending time with their friends at the weekend or during school holidays.

In school, we regularly have discussions around how children can keep themselves safe.

Key things they know they need to remember are:

- Always use the safest route to walk to school avoiding isolated places and dangerous roads to cross
- Make sure your parents know where you are going, who you are going with and when you will be back. If your plans change be sure to tell your parents.

Please spend five minutes talking through these key points and road safety rules at home, including talking about using crossings where you can, not stepping out from between parked cars, being focused (not on phones/ listening to music) whilst crossing roads and of course always dismounting your bike or scooter.



Attendance

137 children had 100% attendance in the last week, you are awesome!

Maple were the best at being in & on time every day last week.

Well done Maple class!

2 Penalty Notice Applications have been made so far this academic year.

Absence line 01225 752678 option 1



Congratulations to Beech class who are top of the leader board this week!

Please encourage your child to log on and play.

Home - Times Tables Rock Stars





Dates for Diary

31/10/2025	Year 6 Secondary School Application deadline day
03/11/2025	First day of term 2
06/11/2025	Class Showcase (3.15pm to 3.45pm)
18/11/2025	Maple Class - Space Day (children can wear their own clothes linked to space)
20/11/2025	Ash Class visiting Stonehenge