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RE: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

Dear Parents and Carers in Years 3 and 4,

From the 2019/20 academic year onwards (children currently in Year 3), schools in England will be required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to year 4 pupils.

When?

A national voluntary pilot will take place between 10th June and 28th June 2019. South Borough Primary School will use this to familiarise ourselves with the check before it becomes statutory in June 2020. The [national curriculum](#) specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12×12 by the end of year 4.

Why?

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help South Borough to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

How?

We will have the flexibility to administer the check to individual pupils, in small groups or a whole class at the same time. We will cater to the needs of the children in each class as we already do as part of normal classroom practice.

Children will have a chance to practice before the live test takes place so that they are familiar with the format.

How will the test be presented to the children?

The MTC will be delivered as an online, on-screen digital assessment. Under administration (by the class teacher), the check will take each pupil less than 5 minutes to complete. Each test consists of 25 questions- each worth one mark each. Questions are not ordered according to difficulty and all questions will follow the same format e.g. $6 \times 7 =$, $12 \times 4 =$, $9 \times 8 =$. Pupils will have 6 seconds to enter a response to the question. The 6 seconds starts as soon as the question appears.

How can I help my child at home?

At school we follow the national curriculum and therefore teach the skills and help the children learn their tables.

Resources:

- Mathematics is a great way of helping your child improve their fluency, especially when playing 'Live'.

A Learning Ladder for Life



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Director of Primary: Mr M Wilson
Swale Academies Trust Registered Office: Ashdown House Johnson Road Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1JS
Registered in England No: 7344732



- Children can also access a free resource which we think will be similar to the live test in June. This can be found by clicking on the link [Test Simulator](#) or by searching ‘Collins times table test simulator’. When on the page you can click on settings and adjust the tables to be tested. The Department for Education has stated that there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8 and 9 times tables. The children will not be tested on their 1 times table.
- Attached to this email is a booklet with a range of games and suggestions to also help your child learn their tables.
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A meeting for parents in Year 3 and Year 4 will be held on 5th March 2019 at 5pm to discuss the new multiplication tables check.

In the meantime I hope you and your child find the resources useful.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Clarke
Deputy Headteacher