

## Helping your child learn their tables ready for the MTC in June.

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is a key stage 2 assessment to be taken by pupils at the end of year 4 (in June). The MTC's purpose is to ensure the times tables knowledge is at the expected level. In the 2024/2025 academic year, the multiplication tables check (MTC) is statutory for primary schools.

The Multiplication Times Tables Check is an online test where the pupils are asked 25 questions on times tables 2 to 12. For every question, you have 6 seconds to answer, and in between the questions, there is a 3-second rest. Questions about the 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12 times table come up more often. The questions are generated randomly based on the rules of the MTC.

Learning tables is therefore a key area in which you can support your child at home this year. We complete checkpoints each week so your child knows which facts they need to be focusing on learning at home and they record these in their reading record to remind them.

To help ensure that there is consistency and to avoid the children becoming confused we thought it would be helpful to explain how the children are taught to chant and memorise table facts. The way in which the times tables are taught follows very specific chanting using a counting stick. We have included a copy of each counting stick to support learning at home.

### **Multiplication**

The full times table fact is read out. We always say the largest factor first so that they are learning the fact one way around only. For example:

$6 \times 5 = \underline{\quad}$  We say: six fives are thirty

$6 \times 8 = \underline{\quad}$  We say: eight sixes are forty-eight

$4 \times 6 = \underline{\quad}$  We say: six fours are twenty-four

### **Division**

We are looking to develop automaticity of division facts as well, and this is achieved seeing the division fact as a multiplication fact. In the examples below, mmmmm represents the missing answer

$18 \div 3 = \underline{\quad}$  We say: 'mmmmm' threes are eighteen, six threes are eighteen

$15 \div 5 = \underline{\quad}$  We say: 'mmmmm' fives are fifteen, three fives are fifteen.

The school pays for Times Tables Rock Stars for the children to help them practise, and the login details are in the children's reading records, but regular chanting at home, in the car or on a walk and quick fire questions on particular facts they are struggling to recall makes a huge amount of difference. Other free sites such as [timestables.co.uk](http://timestables.co.uk) can offer variety.

P.T.O

Here is an example of how we would chant the 6 times table.

*six ones are six*  
*six twos are twelve*  
*six threes are eighteen*  
*six fours are twenty-four*  
*six fives are thirty*  
*six sixes are thirty-six*  
*seven sixes are forty-two*  
*eight sixes are forty-eight*  
*nine sixes are fifty-four*  
*ten sixes are sixty*  
*eleven sixes are sixty-six*  
*twelve sixes are seventy-two*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are seventy-two, twelve sixes are seventy-two*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are sixty-six, eleven sixes are sixty-six*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are sixty, ten sixes are sixty*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are fifty-four, nine sixes are fifty-four*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are forty-eight, eight sixes are forty-eight*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are forty-two, seven sixes are forty-two*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are thirty-six, sixes are thirty-six*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are thirty, five sixes are thirty*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are twenty-four, four sixes are twenty-four*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are eighteen, three sixes are eighteen*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are twelve, two sixes are twelve*  
*'mmmmm' sixes are six, one six is six*

### Tips.

When learning tables the children are taught to turn any question found to have the biggest factor first. So if they are struggling to recall  $3 \times 8$  we would remind them to change it to  $8 \times 3$ .

The key is they need instant recall, rather than the ability to count up and find the answer, because 6 seconds goes very quickly.

Mastering their tables makes such a difference to their confidence in Maths moving into Year 5 and 6, so the time spent now has huge benefits moving forwards.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144