

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are working hard to improve the children's knowledge of times tables throughout the school. Times tables are a fundamental mathematical tool and children need to learn and apply them to mathematical questions. The new National Curriculum states that: 'By the end of Year 4, pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication table.'

There is no longer a separate calculator paper in the Key Stage 2 SATs so mental calculations are gaining even greater prominence in primary schools. The new Key Stage 2 tests that come into place in May this year have a test specifically on calculation. Therefore, to ensure children are ready to move on to Key Stage 3 at secondary school, learning table's facts plus recalling these quickly and accurately will give children a distinct advantage.

The curriculum covers different times table objectives for each year group. By the end of Year 2, children should know the multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables. When they move into Year 3, they should know the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. Finally, the children should be fluent in the rest of them by the end of Year 4, including the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables.

Learning multiplication facts does not have to be boring and repetitive; we encourage the children to recall facts in different ways through games, challenges and investigations as well as speed tests. They must spend time trying to learn the facts to make it easier in the classroom. We have provided each pupil from Y1- Y6 with a times tables booklet. Please encourage your child to use this regularly to help them learn their tables at home as well as at school. Any help you can provide for your child will be greatly appreciated. Here are some websites that offer games, challenges and interactive tests:

- <http://www.maths-games.org/times-tables-games.html>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/ma13tabl-game-tables-grid-find>
- <http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/>
- [http://www.arcademicskillbuilders.com/games/grand\\_prix/grand\\_prix.html](http://www.arcademicskillbuilders.com/games/grand_prix/grand_prix.html)
- [http://www.mathplayground.com/balloon\\_invaders.html](http://www.mathplayground.com/balloon_invaders.html)
- <http://www.amblesideprimary.com/ambleweb/mentalmaths/tabletrees.html>

Watch this space for more support and challenges on times tables at Fairfield!

Mrs Hodgson  
Maths subject Leader



*Our school aims to provide a safe, happy and vibrant learning environment for all children, meeting their individual needs and ensuring that their full potential is realised.*



NPQH Leadership Development School  
National College



Fairfield Primary School is committed to safeguarding all children in our care & it is paramount in all that we do.