

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LANGFORD VILLAGE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL Peregrine Way Bicester Oxon OX26 6SX 01869 369021 Tuesday 24th May 2022

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check 2022

Safe, Happy and Successful.

Dear Parent,

You may have heard announcements about the Multiplication Tables Check coming in for year 4 children. Here is what you need to know:

We love maths! It is an awesome subject to learn and to teach. Maths is a big subject, and we appreciate there is more to it than times tables and there is more to times tables than learning them off by heart. However, a lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about the multiplicative relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of the tables. For that reason, learning the tables is fundamental – they are a key facilitator to the maths that sits on top. We have always believed that.

We are not worried about the checks, and this was not a surprise. We are already in a good place with learning the tables and the expectations are in line with the National Curriculum, so it is business as usual for us. The checks became compulsory in 2020. They will be done within a three-week-long window in June 2022.

The results of the test are not published publicly, they are not going to end up on a league table and they are not to worry about. There is no pass or fail, there's just a score out of 25 marks. They are not to be used to compare children; they are for us to reflect on so that we make the most of our provision. We are looking forward to seeing how well we do.

The checks consist of 25 questions. The questions will only be multiplication and they will go up to 12×12 . This is like the 'Sound Check' game on TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars), where the children have 6 seconds to answer each question. It would be helpful if we can get more children practising at home – in addition to what we are already doing in school. Each week, Year 4 will need to complete two sound checks for us to get a better idea of where the gaps are to then fill them in class.

Another great game the children can access on TTRS is 'Jamming' – This is a non-timed game, where the children can choose the times table they have been looking at in class to give them some extra practise to familiarise themselves with those times table. This earns them coins to spend on making sure their avatar is rocking!

If you have a question or want to offer your thoughts on any of the above, please bring them to your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Stephens and Mr Holt

Year 4 teachers