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**A Learning Ladder for Life**

18th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)**

### **Background**

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) was due to be a statutory requirement for all state schools last academic year (2019/20). School closures due to COVID-19 and the Department for Education's cancellation of all national curriculum assessments due to be held in summer 2021, including tests, teacher assessments and checks have been cancelled for the same reason.

In 2021, schools can choose to administer the MTC to year 4 pupils. This is an opportunity for South Borough to familiarise ourselves with the nature of the check before its planned introduction as a statutory assessment in the 2021/22 academic year.

### **What is the MTC?**

The MTC is an on-screen assessment designed to determine whether pupils are able to fluently recall their multiplication tables up to 12, through a set of timed questions.

### **When will the check take place?**

The MTC will take place in school between Monday 7th June and Friday 25th June 2021.

### **How will the check be administered?**

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 practise 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.

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Director of Primary : Mr M Wilson

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Registered in England No: 07344732



## Is there a pass mark?

The guidance is clear that there is no expected pass rate or threshold. This means that, unlike the KS1 Phonics Screening check, children will not be expected to re-sit the check if they do not meet a set threshold in the MTC.

## 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:

- Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)
- Mathletics is a great way of helping your child improve their fluency, especially when playing 'Live'.
- 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.

## Need more information?

There will be two remote meetings, led by Mr L Clarke for parents in Year 4. Both will be held on Thursday 20th May at 11am and 5pm to discuss the MTC.

[Please click here to complete a Google Form indicating you will attend.](#)

After you have completed the Google Form, parents will later receive an invitation via email and text message. The platform for this meeting will be Google Meet. Please use the code or link to join and wait for the host to admit you to the meeting. Please note, you do not need to attend both meetings as they will feature the same content.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Clarke

Deputy Headteacher