



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents/carers

Mathematics Curriculum - Multiplication Tables - new statutory test for pupils

From 2020, all Year 4 pupils across the country will be tested on their knowledge of the multiplication facts. This is a statutory test which will take place in June. The government advises that this test is 'to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently which is essential for future success in mathematics'. 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.

The multiplication facts are currently taught in school to pupils and they are tested each week. Pupils in **Years 2 to 6** are provided with log-in details so they can access the PiXL Times Tables app at home to allow them to practise independently and to build up their knowledge and speed.

To help pupils develop fluency across these year groups, we are introducing some small changes to the weekly tests and wish to make you aware so you can continue to support your children in the best way possible. Children will need to demonstrate that they can **recall the facts quickly, without needing to work them out, and then in a 'mixed up' order**. When a new set of multiplication facts are introduced, the previous facts will also be checked to ensure children can retain them. We always strive to prepare our pupils as best we can and appreciate your support in helping them succeed in a supportive environment. Short, regular (daily, if possible), bursts of practice, at home and at school, are far more beneficial than one weekly practice session.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. To provide further details and give an opportunity to ask questions, we are holding a short meeting on **Thursday 17th October at 9.50am** (immediately after our Autumn Festival) for parents of pupils in Years 3 and 4, although any parent is welcome to attend. Please do not hesitate to come in beforehand, if you require further information.

Yours sincerely

S A Barnard-Taylor

Mrs S A Barnard-Taylor
Headteacher

