



Dear Parents and Carers,

Years 1 – 6 – Times Tables Rock Stars

I am writing to tell you about something very exciting going on in our school at the moment. We all know how important times tables are to Maths learning – a day doesn't go by without the need to rely on our tables for something – maybe while shopping or unfortunately, paying bills. If you know your tables off-by-heart, Maths can seem easy! When learning seems easy, we do better at it and we try harder because we like learning things that we are doing well at.

Anyway, we have bought into an online tool to support children's learning of times tables – and believe me, it is so exciting! Times Tables Rock Stars is essentially a game that can be played at school and home and supports our children's learning of this fundamental mathematical skill. Here's how the creators describe it:

'Times Tables Rock Stars is a maths programme that takes all the worry out of learning times tables and has a proven track record of boosting children's fluency and recall in multiplication and division.'

It's colourful, exciting and encourages children to want to get better at their tables so within the game, they receive rewards to build up their character and 'buy' accessories for them (no money involved!), and even have fun competing with each other. In short, children love to play it.

We will be giving a short presentation about Times Tables Rock Stars at 3.00-3.10pm on the afternoons detailed below. Please try your best to attend one of the short sessions to find out how the website works and how you can help encourage your child to enjoy the fun! Just come to reception and they will direct you from there. We will finish the sessions at 3.10pm promptly so you can be on the Courtyard in time to collect your children as normal.

All children in Years 1 to 6 will be shown how the website works in school. Don't worry – it's not that tricky! The presentations will take place on the following days.

Monday 8th January 3.00-3.10pm

Tuesday 9th January 3.00-3.10pm

Wednesday 10th January 3.00-3.10pm

That's next week! You only need to attend one of the three sessions to get the full picture... See you there!

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Hankin

Maths Subject Leader