



MANOR COURT Community Primary School

incorporating Manor Court Early Years Centre

A Member of Preston Primary Academy Trust

Head Teacher Mr L Talmage Deputy Head Teacher Mr A Clode

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6th February 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

Yr 4 Multiplication Check

You may be aware that from June 2020 there is a new test for year 4 children called the 'Multiplication Tables Check'. Here is what you need to know:

Why do we learn the times tables? In primary school, times tables knowledge is vital for quick mental maths calculations and problem solving, as well as for many of the topics children learn in years 5 and 6 (division, fractions, percentages).

The check itself:

- Will take place in the summer term in June.
- Is completed online using a computer or tablet.
- Can be completed one student at a time, in groups or as a class.
- Will take no longer than 5 minutes.
- Will feature 25 questions and children will have 6 seconds to answer each question.
- There's no problem solving or division just simple '3 x 4 = ?' type questions.

We are not worried. Under the national curriculum primary school children are expected to know their 12 times tables by the end of year 4. So we've been preparing students to know their times tables by then end of year 4 for quite some time now.

The results are for the teachers. There is no pass or fail mark. The results of the test are not published publicly.

No stress! We are sure that along with you, we do not want our students worried or stressed about the check. The Government has called it a 'check' rather than a 'test' or 'exam' for a reason. We will endeavor not to draw students' attention to the check so will not be referencing in class unduly.

Practice at home. Because maths is such a big subject, and we will of course continue to teach the full curriculum, we will need your continued support to help practice the times tables with your children. Some way ways to do this include:

- Asking questions such as 'What's 7 x 8?'
- Reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc).
- Using apps and games (the children have logins for TT Rockstars).
- Singing times tables songs (many can be found online).

If you have any questions about any of the information above, please feel free to discuss this with your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Thompson
Y4 Class teacher

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