



13th January 2020

## **Rockstar Day (re-launching Times Table Rockstars)- 22nd January 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Perry Hall, we want all of our pupils to have great recall of the **times tables**- the bedrock of mathematics. As you know, to support your child with this, children in Y3-6 have access to **Times Table Rockstars**. This programme works on the premise that World Famous Rock musicians are the best at what they do because they have spent hours practising guitar chords, writing music or playing on the drums. It is just the same with times tables- all Times Tables Rock Stars need to do is **practise and practise and practise**.



**Times Table Rockstars** is an online programme for times table practice that is both effective and motivational. Coming home with your child today will also be a copy of your child's login and password (this is also stuck inside their homework book) that will allow them to access games to improve their speed of recall. It can be easily accessed with internet browsers or alternatively with phones and tablets using the Times Table Rockstar app. For internet browsers, visit <https://trockstars.com/> for apps, visit the App/Play Store.

For all children, when it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important– bursts of daily practice are more effective than spending hours once a week...and this is where you come in. For your child to be fully motivated and for them to get the best out of the practice, they need your help. Without your praise and your reminders, without you sitting down next to them or checking their work, practising times tables will not feel important to your child and the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations. Please encourage your child to play the game at home regularly over the next few weeks to develop a regular habit that will assist their mathematics, just as daily reading helps propel their reading and writing. Additionally, for your use, please find attached a times tables mat which outlines the multiplication facts up to 12x12. By the end of Year 4, all children should be able to recall all of the multiplication facts up to 12x12, at speed.

From this academic year onwards, at the end of Year 4 (in June), pupils will sit the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)- a key stage 2 statutory assessment to determine whether Year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables (up to 12x12). The MTC is an online test where children are asked 25 multiplication questions. They will have 6 seconds to enter



a response to the question and there will be a 3 second pause before the next question appears. There is an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 multiplication tables because these have been determined to be the most difficult multiplication tables. Below are two websites that exactly mirror the multiplication tables check which you can use to support your child at home:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

To celebrate the relaunch of Times Table Rockstars and to highlight the importance of children knowing their multiplication facts, we will be holding a **Rockstar Day** on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**. On this day, children can **come to school dressed either as a rock star or their Avatar from TT Rock Stars**. There will be various fun TT Rock Star themed activities throughout the day.

**On this afternoon, at 2.30pm**, the **parents/carers of children in Years 3 and 4** are invited into their **child's classrooms** to spend time with their children, to see how they are learning their times tables in school and to find out more information about the multiplication check and how children can best prepare for this. Please complete the slip attached if you are able to join your Year 3 or 4 child in their classroom on this day.

In school we are going to be doing lots to promote the use of TT Rock Stars. Each week there will be a 'Rocker of the week'. This is someone chosen by the class teacher who may have shown a lot of improvement in their times table, someone who has been practising regularly or someone who is just incredibly fast! The Rocker will be awarded a certificate and will pose for a Rock Star photo.

Over the course of the next few weeks and months, with regular use of the games, your child WILL get faster and more accurate with the times tables. All your hard work and theirs WILL make them a Times Table Rockstar!

Times Tables are such an important part of developing a secure understanding in Maths and we thank you in advance for supporting your children with this.

Your sincerely,

Miss R Kohli

Executive Headteacher.

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**Rock Star Day (re-launching Times Table Rockstars) and Information on the Multiplication  
Tables Check- Year 3 and 4- 22nd January 2020, 2.30pm.**

I will be joining my child \_\_\_\_\_ in class \_\_\_\_\_ on  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 2.30pm in their classrooms to see how they are learning their  
times tables in school and to find out more information about the multiplication check and  
how children can best prepare for this.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

