

ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

We are introducing a new Mathematics challenge aimed at developing quicker recall of the multiplication facts (times tables). The new National Curriculum from 2014 states that: 'By the end of year 4, pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication table.'

From May 2014 there is no longer a separate calculator paper in Key Stage 2 SATs so mental calculations are gaining even greater prominence in primary schools. In fact, the draft version of the new Key Stage 2 tests that come into place in 2016 has a test specifically on calculations. Therefore to ensure children are ready to move on to Key Stage 3 at high school, learning tables' facts plus recalling these quickly and accurately will give children a distinct advantage.

Learning multiplication facts does not have to be boring and repetitive; we will be encouraging the children to recall facts in different ways through games, challenges and investigations as well as the weekly speed tests that will be held on a Friday. They must though spend the time trying to learn the facts to make it easier in the classroom. Each child will have a record sheet for them to copy in their multiplications facts and record their progress.

The rewards for this will be bronze, silver and gold stickers that will be presented by class teachers and eventually the children will receive the Platinum Certificate for Multiplication Excellence which will be presented in the Friday assembly. Each year group will have their own targets which are outlined below:

Y1 – Counting on in steps of 2, 5 and 10.

Y2 – 2,5 and 10.

Y3 – 2,3,4,5,8,10

Y4 – ALL TABLES FACTS TO 12x12.

Y5 – ALL and completed 12x12 mixed tables square in under 8 minutes

Y6 – ALL and completed 12x12 mixed tables square in under 6 minutes

Any help you can provide for your child will be greatly appreciated, encourage them to achieve their targets in any way you can. Here are some websites that offer games, grid challenges and interactive tests:

<http://www.maths-games.org/times-tables-games.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/ma13tabl-game-tables-grid-find>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/mathstimestable/>

If you have any questions about this then please feel free to ask,
Regards,

Mr Matthews
Year 6 and Maths Subject Leader.

"May God's love shine in our lives as we care and share and learn together."