



Kents Hill Junior School



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Head of Academy: Miss Joanne Parkes

8th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

You may be aware that in June 2020 the Government announced a new, compulsory test for Year 4 children called the 'Multiplication Tables Check' (MTC). Children in Year 4 will be participating in the MTC in June, 2026. The National Curriculum for Mathematics states that primary school children are expected to know their 12 times tables by the end of Year 4.

But why are times tables so important?

Having rapid recall of times tables makes other areas of maths much easier. Fractions is the most obvious area where learning times tables well is essential. However, every multiplication, division, long multiplication method and short division and long division method require speed and instant recall of times tables while at primary school. At secondary school the needs become even greater. Furthermore, having the tables secure frees up their working memory for newer, more challenging tasks at hand. Learning them now, in Year 4, sets children up for a more successful maths career later in their school life.

The check itself:

- Will take place during school hours, week commencing Monday 1st June, 2026
- Is completed online using a computer or tablet and the online programme will automatically score the MTC
- Will take no longer than 5 minutes
- Will feature 25 questions and children will have 6 seconds to answer each question
- There are no problem solving or division questions, just simple "3 x 4 =" multiplication questions
- During the test, there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables, which will form the majority of the questions.

The results of the test are not published and there is no pass or fail mark. Your child's score will be given to you in a letter once they are released. The results are mainly for the teachers; it will help class teachers to identify if your child may need additional support as they move through upper Key Stage 2.

We do not want your child to worry about the check, hence why the Government has called it a "check" rather than a "test" or "exam". Myself and the Year 4 team will be doing lots of preparation in school for the MTC alongside teaching the broad Mathematics curriculum, but we will need your continued support to help practise the times tables with your children at home.

What can you do to help your child learn their times tables?

The following websites are great for your child to practise at home:

- <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>
- <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>
- <https://trockstars.com/> (the 'Sound Check' option is similar to how the MTC test will be)

The above websites are free and can be accessed on any device that has access to the internet. KHJS has a subscription to TTRS, which is a great resource for practising times tables. Your child should have a log in, but if there are any issues please speak to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Jackson and the Year 4 Team.

Learning ~ Friendship ~ Safety ~ Success

At Kents Hill Junior School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Designated Safeguarding Lead – Miss Joanne Parkes

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