Princethorpe
Schools

29th March 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you may be aware, the government has introduced a times table test called the "Multiplication Tables Check", to be taken in June each year by children in Year 4.

Why has the government introduced the MTC?

Under the National Curriculum, children are expected to know their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. The check has been introduced in order to ensure that schools are focusing on this objective, and to help teachers identify children who may find their times tables tricky.

What will the check look like?

The check must be administered during a two-week window, beginning Monday 5th June and ending on Friday 16th June. It is administered online using a computer or tablet, in small groups and will take no longer than 5 minutes. It will feature 25 multiplication questions. Children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, with a three second pause between each question.

Can the check be adapted for pupils who may need extra support?

Children cannot be given extra time to complete the test. However, changes can be made which may help some pupils, such as altering the colour contrast, increasing the font size, or increasing the length of the pause between questions. We will make sure that all children find the test accessible. If you feel that your child may benefit from these changes, please contact your child's class teacher.

Can pupils practise the MTC before June?

We have been preparing the children to know their times tables by the end of Year 4 for quite some time now. It is important to us that the children are not worried or anxious about the check, and we will endeavour not to draw the children's attention to the check so will not be referencing it in school unduly. We would appreciate your support with this approach at home as well. However, as always, we encourage parents to practise times tables with children at home.

How will results be reported?

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Children's results will be given to schools once the two-week window has closed. The results of the check will only be used internally, and they are not published publicly or used in school league tables. The results will be made available to parents, however please be aware there is no pass or fail mark. If you have concerns or questions about the MTC, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's class teacher through the school office.

Kind regards,

Mr Hayhurst

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