

## **Swallowfield Primary**

Weathercock Close, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8SR, Tel: 01908 582101

Monday 6th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Year 2 Times Table

As you may be aware, a key Year 2 maths objective is to recall multiplication facts for the **2**, **5** and **10 times tables**. Along with all of the other areas of maths, we teach these times tables at school in our maths lessons. Times tables are a key skill in maths that are often best learnt by rote. This means that the children need to practice them over and over again so that they can recall them quickly and accurately. To help the children learn their times tables off by heart, we will be sending home weekly times tables to practice. The children will then have a short, informal test each Friday (the test will be very similar to our weekly spelling tests). When your child has achieved 12/12 three weeks in a row, they will move onto the next times table.

We are aware that some children are able to recall some times tables already. However, all children will be starting with the 10 times table and will need to get them correct three weeks in a row before moving on. It is a curriculum expectation that by the end of **Year 4** most children are able to recall all multiplication and division facts up to  $12 \times 12$ , so we believe it's really important to ensure that the children's times table knowledge is really secure before moving them on.

If you do wish to extend your child's learning further at home, you may want to look at the related multiplication and division facts that go with each times table. For example, 'If I know that  $2 \times 10 = 20$  then I also know:  $10 \times 2 = 20$ ,  $20 \div 2 = 10$  and  $20 \div 10 = 2$ . At school we would call this a 'fact family'.

We will upload a practice sheet to Google Classroom each Friday. This is so that you know which times table your child needs to practise that week and also so that you have an idea of what the informal test will look like. The children will be expected to demonstrate their times table knowledge by completing the 12 muddled up times table questions within 3-4 minutes.

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We would suggest practising times tables in a variety of ways at home. Initially it might be useful to practice counting from zero in the given multiple. Then you can move on to saying the times table aloud and writing them down. At school we would encourage the children to use their fingers to help them with their counting i.e. 'use 3 fingers to count in tens for 3x10'. There are also a number of songs, games and apps available on the internet.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us via email.

Yours sincerely Miss James and Miss Harding