



Times Tables Rock stars at Orchard Lea Junior School

As a school, we are committed to improving children's mathematical fluency, as this is fundamental to all other areas of maths. We strongly believe that children should be provided with the opportunity to learn in engaging, exciting and unique ways. To support children with their fluency and understanding we have chosen to use Times Table Rock stars. This is a fun and challenging programme designed to help children master the times tables! In the long term, this will also help to improve children's rapid recall of times tables across the whole school.

What is Times Table Rock Stars?

Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. This can be either paper based or online using the app or website Teachers carefully choose which times tables they would like their class to focus on depending on their needs and year group. Children listen to Rock music while completing their Rock Stars Times Table practice questions including both division and multiplication.

Over the last 8 years, the programme has successfully boosted times tables recall speed for hundreds of thousands of pupils in over 14,000 schools - both primary and secondary – worldwide.

How can my child access Times Tables Rock Stars?

All children at Orchard Lea Junior School will be issued with login details for the online programme and further information regarding how to access this from home can be found in the 'how to log in' tab under the Times Table Rock Stars tab on the School website.

Why is it so important for children to know their Times Tables?

When it comes to times tables, recall and accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations. The National Curriculum (2014) states that 'By the end of year 4, pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication table and show precision and fluency in their work'.

The following outlines the times table facts that children should securely know by the end of each year group.

x	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3		9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4			16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5				25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6					36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7						49	56	63	70	77	84
8							64	72	80	88	96
9								81	90	99	108
10									100	110	120
11										121	132
12											144

28 multiplication/division facts to learn in year 2 (x2, x5, x10)
+21 multiplication/division facts to learn in year 3 (x3, x4, x8)
+16 multiplication/division facts to learn in year 4 (x6, x7, x9, x11,x12)

What is the Year 4 multiplication tables check?

In June 2020 the multiplication check became statutory. This test is an online test for pupils in Year 4. Children are required to answer 25 questions on times tables (up to 12x12). They are given six seconds to answer each question, with a three-second rest between each question. Although children are asked questions based on any of the times tables, questions about the six, seven, eight, nine, and 12 times tables are likely to come up most often, as these are often hardest for most children to learn.

How else do we support children with their multiplication skills?

The teachers at Orchard Lea Junior use a number of different teaching strategies to develop children's' conceptual understanding of table facts. Some of the strategies include:

- Making links with division facts and deriving facts from known facts.
- Using concrete pictorial and abstract (CPA) modelling involving objects and number lines/ arrays.
- Asking key questions to support pupils making links within table facts and with division.
- Encouraging children to use specific vocabulary to communicate their reasoning and understanding.
- Making links between learning 'tables facts' and units of work/ learning journeys including multiplication and division.