

Herne Junior School Times Tables Policy

Aims:

- To achieve a greater level of consistency across the school about how times tables are taught and assessed.
- To stress the importance of having a secure understanding of multiplication and corresponding division facts to ensure that all pupils:
 - Become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics
 - Are able to reason mathematically
 - Can solve problems by applying their mathematics with increasing sophistication

Introduction:

In order to become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, children must have a secure understanding of the multiplication tables and corresponding division facts. The sooner the children learn their tables the easier maths will become and the more confident they will be in reasoning mathematically with a range of problems.

Herne is a 'stage not age' school where children are challenged depending upon their level of understanding and academic development, rather than their chronological age. This is reflected in Herne's Calculation Policy in which children move onto the next stage of the calculation once they have consolidated and applied their previous learning successfully. In line with the new curriculum, children should progress through the yearly objectives for multiplication for their age group. However, most children at Herne will progress at a faster rate and should be taught the yearly objectives which match their ability. Similarly, some children may require more consolidation before moving onto the next stage of learning.

National expectations for learning multiplication facts:

- By the end of Year 3, the children should become fluent with their timetable facts for the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10. Children should also begin to make connections between the times tables, e.g. through doubling the children connect the 2, 4 & 8 multiplication tables.
- By the end of Year 4, children should know the multiplication facts up to and including the 12 times tables and show an increasing ability to relate the multiplication facts to the corresponding division facts and vice-versa.
- By Year 5, the children should be able to apply all of the multiplication tables and related division facts, commit them to memory and use them confidently to make larger calculations. Children will begin to develop and extend their multiplication knowledge through the use of factors, multiples, as well as prime, square and cube numbers.
- By Year 6, all children should be able to quickly and confidently recall multiplication and division facts to calculate mathematical statements of increasing difficulty.

Learning times tables

Every week the children should be given regular opportunities to practise and refine their understanding and recall of the multiplication and division tables. Good practise will encourage the children to focus upon one set of multiplication facts at a time until they are secure, before moving onto the next times table.

Regular homework opportunities for the children to practise their times tables knowledge are strongly encouraged.

Assessing times tables

Every year group should complete weekly informal and formal times tables tests, and corresponding division facts tests where appropriate. This may take the form of: 'Tables torture', pop quizzes, games e.g. fizzbuzz, Qwizdoms etc.

Beat the Clock!

At the end of every half term, each child will undertake a 'Beat the Clock' multiplication facts test. There are now 2 types of Beat the Clocks:

- A – Multiplication test up to and including the 12x tables.
- B – Mixed multiplication and division facts test for children who have achieved the '100% Top Tabler' award AND have achieved 100% in less than 5 minutes.

The children have 10 minutes, working in silence and independently, to complete the Beat the Clock assessment. Children who have achieved the 100% Top Tabler award 3x consecutively must then be timed under 5 minutes. Children who then achieve 100% in less than 5 minutes should move onto the 'B' test with mixed multiplication and division problems.

Certificates for Beat the Clocks:

Children to complete 2x consecutively before receiving the following awards:

- 50%-59% - Beginners
- 60%-79% - Apprentice
- 80%-89% - Tabler
- 90%-99% - Master

Children to complete 3x before receiving the following award:

- 100% - Top Tabler

After achieving 'Top Tabler' award, children to be timed under 5 minutes.

- Top Tabler Under 5 minutes.

Children should then progress to test B. Children have 10 minutes but they will receive special praise for achieving 100% in less than 5 minutes.

- 100% on test B in under 5 minutes - Maths Magician Award

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