

Summer term update

Happy Friday and welcome back to the Summer term! Our overarching project for the Summer term is Ancient Civilisations. This project teaches children about the history of three of the world's first ancient civilisations: ancient Sumer, ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation. Children will learn about the rise, life, achievements and eventual end of each civilisation. Our Science topic is Electrical Circuits and Conductors, in Art we are studying patterns in Islamic Art and in RE we are considering how music is important and powerful in different religions.

Homework:

Spelling week – spellings sent home in diaries.

Maths – set on Purple Mash as a 2Do. Y3 Money / Y4 Multiplication tables revision

Topic – Ancient Egyptians Logo Coding (History and Computing)

Reading – 3x per week and recorded in diary (either independently or with an adult).

Year 4 Parents – I spoke to a lot of you at Parents Evening about the Government Multiplication Check in June. Further information about this can be found [here](#) on our class page. I've included some extra information below.

Use the correct terminology

When helping your child practise, use the same terms they are using in the classroom. Recognising times tables as number sentences really helps their understanding in contrast to rote learning.

Terms we use in the classroom are...

$3 \times 2 = 6$ (Different words for multiply – e.g. times, lots of, groups of, what is the product of 3 and 2...?)

$2 \times 3 = 6$ (This shows 'commutativity' – in other words, swapping 2 and 3 won't make a difference to the answer.)

$6 \div 2 = 3$ (Here we see the 'inverse operation', division is the opposite of multiplication)

$6 \div 3 = 2$

The above shows how four number sentences can be derived from one times tables fact.

Practise regularly, out loud, and quiz!

Research shows that regular retrieval practise which involves recalling information, examining it, and committing it back to memory is a successful way to learn. It's a simple and effective way to support times tables learning at home – try it for 5 to 10 minutes, and do it 3 to 5 times a week. When practising at home, saying, and showing the times tables will also help them 'stick.'

At school, we are careful to ensure your child isn't simply reciting their times tables. We aim to work towards your child developing a fluent understanding of the times tables 1 to 12 while being able to quickly recall the answers. The Government Multiplication Check allows a 6 second recall and input time, and is taken by the children on an electronical device (tablet or laptop).

Play times tables games

A benefit of playing educational games is that your child will be able to measure their progress, which motivates them to keep trying. There are lots of games on Purple Mash, including:

2Simple Table Toons, Monster Multiplication, Multiplication and Division aged 7-9, 2Race, Times Tables Videos.

Spellings will be checked every 2 weeks.