Number Bond and Times Table Challenges

Learning number bonds and multiplication facts is one of the most important building blocks in maths. When children know these facts by heart, they can solve calculations more quickly, tackle more challenging problems with confidence and spend less time working out basic facts. Regular practice helps improve fluency, accuracy and confidence.

The challenges outlined provide a fun way for children to practise at school. As each challenge is mastered, children can earn a badge to celebrate their achievement and motivate them to keep progressing. With regular practice, these key maths skills will become automatic, providing a strong foundation for future learning.

Number Bonds - Year Group Expectations

Year Group	Number Bonds
One	Secure in number bonds to 10 and beginning number bonds to 20.
Two	Secure in number bonds to 20 and number bonds to 100 (multiples of 10 and 5 and mixed).
Three	Secure in mixed number bonds to 100.

Developing Fluency

Number bonds can be supported by parents/carers at home and should be encouraged. This will ensure the importance of learning number bonds are enhanced and its profile is raised within school. In addition, it will encourage fluidity throughout school. We recommend using the following apps and websites:

- https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button
- Dominoes: join to make a total e.g. make 6 so 2 and 4 join.
- Chanting - Have your child chant out the number bonds for example '2 add 8 equals 10, 3 add 7 equals 10.... Have fun with it! See if they can do it in different voices like a robot, a parrot or a silly voice. Can they shout it out loud, can they whisper it?
- Flash cards- Create flash cards to help your child. You could select certain facts they keep getting stuck on rather than the whole set.
- Timed - Time your child and make it into a competition. Can they beat their last score? Put the timer on for 30 seconds and see how many they can answer. https://www.online-stopwatch.com/
- Quick question anywhere - fire questions at your children anywhere and everywhere! Take them by surprise and see how quickly they can respond.

Number Bonds – Award System

Content	Award	Time Allocation
Number Bonds to 10	Bonds to 10 Badge	All questions correct in 5 minutes
Number Bonds to 20	Bonds to 20 Badge	All questions correct in 5 minutes
Number Bonds to 100 (Multiples of 10)	Bronze Star Badge	All questions correct in 5 minutes
Number Bonds to 100 (Multiples of 5)	Silver Star Badge	All questions correct in 5 minutes
Number Bonds to 100 (Any Number)	Gold Star Badge	All questions correct in 5 minutes

Times Table - Year Group Expectations

Year Group	Times Tables/ Division
Two	Secure in 2,5 & 10 and beginning their 3s,4s and 8s.
Three	Secure in 3,4 & 8 and beginning 6,7,9 and 12s.
Four	Secure in all times tables up to 12 x 12.
Five	Secure in all times tables up to 12 x 12.
Six	Secure in all times tables up to 12 x 12.

The National Curriculum specifies that pupils should fluently recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12 × 12 by the end of year 4. Since the 2019/20 academic year, schools in England have been required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to year 4 pupils.

Developing Fluency

Times tables can be supported by parents/carers at home and should be encouraged. This will ensure the importance of learning times tables is enhanced and its profile is raised within school. In addition, it will encourage fluidity throughout school. We recommend using the following apps and websites:

- TT Rockstars (all children in Years 2-6 have a log in)

- Hit the Button Maths
https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

- TimesX Multiplication Tester (Times Table Trainer)
https://www.mathsisfun.com/numbers/math-trainer-multiply.html

- Timestables.co.uk
https://www.timestables.co.uk/

Times Tables – Award System

	Content	Award	Time Allocation
Bronze Award	2, 5, 10, 3 multiplication facts	Bronze Star Badge	30 correct answers in 3 minutes
Silver Award	2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 8 multiplication facts	Silver Star Badge	50 correct answers in 5 minutes
Gold Award	All multiplication facts up to 12 × 12	Gold Star Badge	110 correct answers in 8 minutes
Platinum Award	Square, cube and prime numbers	Platinum Star Badge	36 questions in 5 minutes
Mastery Award	Roman numerals and word problems	Mastery Star Badge	14 questions in 8 minutes
Extreme Award	3-digit × 2-digit 3-digit × 3-digit	Times Table Pencil	20 questions in 20 minutes
Ultimate Award	4-digit × 2-digit	Gold Medal	18 questions in 20 minutes