

*in God's hands***ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Mr. C.J. Bonner

Friday 21st May 2021**Year 4 Optional Multiplication Tables Check- June 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware, the government has introduced a times tables test for pupils in Year 4, to be taken in June each year. The statutory test was due to be mandatory for all pupils this summer, but due to the pandemic it is not going ahead. Instead schools have been given a choice whether they decide to take the optional test in June 2021 and so this year no performance data will be published.

At St Ignatius we have decided to go ahead with the optional test in June and we have also decided to give the pupils an opportunity to take the 'try it out' test before this date. The purpose of the test is to check whether pupils can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. For pupils, the first thing to know about the test is that there is nothing to worry about! However, it would be lovely if children could show their full ability in the test. As a school we already have a strong focus on times tables in maths lessons and we are also encouraging the children to log onto TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars) and learn their times tables at home.

The MTC (multiplication tables check) is an online assessment, taken on a computer or tablet. There are 25 questions in total. Children get 6 seconds to type in their answer; there is a 3 second pause before the next question. The test will have an emphasis on the 6,7,8,9 and 12x tables, as these are judged to be the harder times tables.

The children can take the test within a three week window from 7th June. They will take the tests using our ipads in school. Children will not take the test all at the same time in the classroom- they will either take the test in small groups, or individually, in a quiet environment.

In order to help your child to prepare for the test we would encourage you to help your child to practise their times tables at home. I have attached a guide with some ideas on how to support your child to revise their times tables. They can also log onto TTRS and revise on there. If you have any questions about the check please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support!

Miss Taylor