



September 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This letter aims to inform you of the timestables strategy we are employing at Crossflatts Primary School for the year ahead. Due to the obvious and unforeseen challenges of the last two years, more than ever, it is important children know their times tables by heart to allow them to apply this life skill within other areas of maths and the world around them.

Timestable learning in class

In class, children will be learning and practicing a new Timestable each half term. Here is the schedule for each year group for the upcoming year:

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 1	Experience of counting in 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s					
Year 2	1x	(1x) 2x	5x	(5x) 10x	Revision	Revision
Year 3	(2x) 4x	(4x) 8x	3x	(3x) 6x	(6x) 12x	Revision
Year 4	(3x) 6x	(6x) 12x	(4x) 8x	9x	7x	Commutative law on all TT
Year 5	(x4) x8	x9	x7	Squares	Commutative law on all TT	Distributive law on all TT
Year 6	Commutative law on all TT	Distributive law on all TT	Squares	Cubes up to x6	Revision of all TT including DL and CL	Revision of all TT including DL and CL
<i>Why focus on 1 TT per half term?</i>						

**\*\* Neuroscientist tell us it takes 8 weeks of repetition to make a new neural pathway with a myelin sheath - basically making this 'go to' automated thinking! Then continued practice makes the sheath thicker!**

Children will be practicing their allotted timestable in class multiple times per week and the aim is for them to be able to deeply understand each timestable, be able to improve their recall of these number facts and apply them in their own maths.

## Timestables badges

Children will again take part in fun and popular times tables tests arranged by their class teacher based on the new curriculum guidelines for their year group. They will be given 3 challenges to complete for each timestable. The challenge includes a number of questions to answer within a minute and when they achieve 100% on each of the three challenges for that timestable, they will receive a coloured badge - which have proved very popular in school over a number of years now.

Knowing the division fact, or inverse has proven to be extremely useful for the children, particularly as they move up through school and move onto more challenging problems, that is why we include the division challenge as part of this process. Finally, they will apply their knowledge of the timestable they are focussing on at the time with an application task and once they achieve 100% on this task they will achieve a coloured badge.

As your child moves through the school and completes more challenges, they will build a bank of coloured badges. Having passed each test, they will then move onto the application tests. This will include division fact tests on the times table they just studied and then a Bronze, Silver and Gold test to demonstrate their deeper understand once they have passed all of the badges.

Example 1  Division Challenge  Application Challenge

### Red

Complete the sequences

2, 4, 6, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_

6, 8, \_\_, 12, \_\_, \_\_

10, 8, 6, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_

12, 14, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_

4, \_\_, 8, 10, \_\_, \_\_

20, 18, 16, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_

8, 10, 12, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_

### Blue

$3 \times 4 =$

$1 \times 4 =$

$4 \times 3 =$

$8 \times 4 =$

$6 \times 4 =$

$4 \times 9 =$

$3 \times 4 =$

$4 \times 11 =$

$12 \times 4 =$

$4 \times 0 =$

$2 \times 4 =$

$5 \times 4 =$

### Brown

$84 \div 7 =$

$14 \div 7 =$

$49 \div 7 =$

$7 \div 7 =$

$42 \div 7 =$

$21 \div 7 =$

$56 \div 7 =$

$70 \div 7 =$

$63 \div 7 =$

$35 \div 7 =$

$28 \div 7 =$

$77 \div 7 =$

### Silver

$7 \times 12 =$

$\square \times 6 = 72$

$80 \times \square = 320$

$9 \times 4 =$

$\square \times \square = 49$

$23 \times 5 =$

$15 \times 4 =$

$9 \times 90 =$

$\square \times 30 = 270$

$27 \times 3 =$

We know the children are excited by this strategy and we would encourage you to continue to support them by practising this essential life skill at home.

Year Group	Times tables challenge - guideline (we appreciate that it may be different for some children)
Year 1	Red - Counting in 2's Orange - Counting in 10's Yellow - Counting in 5's
Year 2	Light green - 2 x table Green - 10 x table Light blue - 5 x table
Year 3	Blue - 3 x table Light purple - 4 x table Purple - 6 x table Pink - 8 x table
Year 4	White - 9 x table Grey - 11 x table Brown - 7 x table Black - 12 x table
Year 5 and 6	Bronze, Silver and Gold  Consolidation of all the tables including the inverse.

### Timetables Rockstars

All children from Year 2 upwards have been provided with a TTR account. It has proved incredibly popular app over the last year or 2 and is a wonderful tool for improving children's Timetables skills.

We would strongly recommend the children to playing the game regularly at home - of course this is at the discretion of parents. The level of challenge will be set by the class teacher and can be tailored to the needs of each child.

We will be running a variety of competitions using TTR throughout the year.

Thanks again for supporting your child with their learning and here's to a great year ahead!

Mr Atkins

