



Lindley Junior School

Head Teacher: Mrs C M Jubbs, BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH, LLE

Wednesday 14th September 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The Lindley Junior School 'Times Table Challenge'

We are pleased to announce, that the 'Times Table Challenge' will be continuing again in school for the fourth year running.

The aim of our challenge is to promote the learning and retention of times tables facts. We feel that this has enormous benefits for children, in terms of increasing their attainment, in both mental and written calculations and their mathematical confidence. We also believe that it is hugely important for children to be able to recall these facts quickly and accurately, as it helps support their understanding of mathematical concepts such as fractions.

We hope that you will be able to support and encourage your child, at home, as they work through the challenge. We know from our Maths Parents' Evenings and Curriculum Evenings that many parents/ carers wish to support their child at home and we feel that this will provide children with a goal to work for, which can be celebrated at home, as well as within school.

The challenge has four levels – *Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum*:

Bronze – Children will learn and recite their 1 – 12 x tables in order.

Silver – Children will recite their tables (1 – 12) and be able to answer questions on them *in any order*. This level includes learning the language associated with multiplication.

Gold – Children will be able to recall multiplication and division facts for tables 1 – 12 in any order. They must also understand the language associated with multiplication and division.

Platinum – Children will know square numbers up to 12 x 12 and associated square roots; they will know cube numbers up to 12³; they will know all prime numbers <100 and prime factors for numbers <100.

Children will be encouraged by their teacher to learn their times tables and associated facts. Supported by parents/ carers, children will decide when they are ready to take up one of the 'Challenge Tasks'. These will be timed recall of multiplication facts, division facts and associated mathematical language, based on the level the child is working at.

Children can then come to be tested in school, during Monday or Wednesday lunchtimes from *11:40 – 12:15 on their recall of these facts. If they are successful, in the time given, they will be awarded with a metal badge to wear on their uniform to reflect their achievement and celebrate their success.

**Please note that I will endeavour to test as many children as possible over lunchtime, but at peak times your child may have to wait for a space to become available. If your child is having a specific problem making it in to be tested during these times, please don't hesitate to ring me at school to discuss.*

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C. Green
Mathematics Specialist

Suggested websites to support learning of multiplication facts:

<http://www.lindleyjun.org.uk/> - links to our times table challenge website and booklet

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.maths-games.org/times-tables-games.html>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy-multiplication.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/ma13tabl-game-tables-grid-find>

<http://www.multiplication.com/games/all-games>

<http://resources.oswego.org/games/mathmagician/maths1.html>