



# BRINKWORTH EARL DANBY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Serving the communities of Brinkworth and Dauntsey

Headteacher: Mrs L Hilliard

17<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

## Times Tables Rock Stars

As teachers we love maths. It's an awesome subject to learn and to teach. You may however be surprised that there are a few changes appearing on the horizon that we need to get ready for. For example, you may have heard the announcements about the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) for year 4 pupils. We are not worried about the checks and this announcement was not a surprise. In fact, we are already in a good place with learning the tables and the children are already working in line with the National Curriculum, so in some ways it is business as usual for us.

This year we will take part in the national trial so we are ready for when the official national check starts next year. This means our current year 3 pupils will be the first to officially complete the check in June 2020. The check will be completed online, with every child completing 25 questions taken from the times tables up to 12x12, and they will have 6 seconds to enter their answer.

To help children develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to successfully tackle the MTC we have signed up to **Times Tables Rock Stars**. Every child in the school will bring home a username and password, which will allow them to logon, create their own Rock Star and launch their band, while unknowingly learning their times tables and developing their recall speed. To make it easy to access at any time and in any place you can even download the free App to any mobile device.

Maths is a big subject and we appreciate there's more to it than times tables and there is more to times tables than learning them off by heart. However, a lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about the multiplicative relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of the tables. For that reason, learning the tables is fundamental – they are a key facilitator to the maths that sits on top. We have always believed that. This is why we have also given access to year 5 and 6 pupils so they can build firm foundations ready for the end of year 6.

Yours sincerely

*C Foster*

Mr Foster

Upper School, School Hill, Brinkworth, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 5AX Tel: 01666 510406 Fax: 01666 510958  
Lower School, Dauntsey Green, Chippenham Wiltshire SN15 4HU Tel: 01666 510311

Web: [www.brinkwortheardanbys.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.brinkwortheardanbys.wilts.sch.uk)

E-mail: [admin@brinkwortheardanbys.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@brinkwortheardanbys.wilts.sch.uk)

