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9th December 2020

## 'Times Table Rock Stars'

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school, we are introducing 'Times Table Rock Stars,' which is a fantastic way to develop knowledge of times tables and division facts for all pupils from Y2-Y6 online at home.

'Times Table Rock Stars' is a fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils master the times tables! Times tables are recognised as being essential to access many mathematical concepts. When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations.

Your child has been shown how to access 'Times Tables Rock Stars' by their class teacher and will be set times tables to practice at home on a weekly basis. Please see below details for logging in and using the programme.

### How to access 'Times Table Rock Stars'

'Times Table Rock Stars' can be accessed online via the web address <https://trockstars.com/> You can also download an apple/android App for a phone/tablet etc.

Your child's login and password will be sent via the class Dojo by no later than Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. When you first login, your child will choose their own rock star name and design their own avatar before starting to practise.

There are two single player modes to play:

1. Garage – this is the main mode the children should play. The questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week. As pupils



start to answer questions, 'Times Table Rock Stars' works out which facts they take longer on and will give them more of these questions to answer.

2. Studio - the questions in the Studio can be anything from  $2 \times 2$  up to  $12 \times 12$ . 'Times Table Rock Stars' calculates the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates this into a Rock Status.

There are also multi-player modes:

1. Rock Arena - The Arena allows players to compete against all other members of their Band/Class (their Band mates would need to join the same game in order to compete together).
2. Rock Festival - The Rock Festival games are open to players from around the world.

The questions are selected at random from  $2 \times 2$  to  $12 \times 12$ .

### **Times Table Year Group Expectations:**

The National Curriculum 2014 expectation of times tables in each year group is as follows:

Year 2:  $2 \times$ ,  $5 \times$ ,  $10 \times$

Year 3:  $3 \times$ ,  $4 \times$ ,  $8 \times$

Year 3:  $6 \times$ ,  $7 \times$ ,  $9 \times$ ,  $11 \times$ ,  $12 \times$

Year 4:  $6 \times$ ,  $7 \times$ ,  $9 \times$ ,  $11 \times$ ,  $12 \times$

Year 5: All facts

Year 6: All facts

It is recommended that that your child does a little bit of times table practice every night. Short bursts of practice on a daily basis are more effective than spending a large amount of time once a week. To make a success of this programme and ensure that your child follows the programme of practicing and remains motivated we need your help. Without your praise and your reminders, practicing times tables will not feel important to your child.

Thank you for your support and I am sure your hard work and theirs will have a direct impact and make them a Times Table Rock Star!

Kind regards

Miss K L Evans

Mathematics Subject Leader

