Hoddlesden St Paul's Church of England Primary School

As God's family, together we achieve

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to announce the launch of our new times tables initiative for children in Years 2 – 6. As you will be aware, learning your times tables is an integral part of the Maths Curriculum, as well as a skill that will help you throughout your life. Additionally, the Government have introduced a 'Times Tables Test' which will be undertaken nationally by all children in Year 4, where they will be expected to recall all of the multiplication tables up to 12 x 12. To help motivate the children to learn their times tables, we are introducing the new 'Times Tables Badge Scheme' by awarding badges to those children who have learnt their times tables off by heart.

Children will be given the opportunity to achieve badges that show which times tables they know; they can wear these proudly on their uniform to show they have successfully learnt their times tables. The staff in school cannot wait to see the children wearing their badges around school. All children need to start from the beginning of the badge programme and work their way up regardless of their year group, but they will be able to progress through them at different rates. The times table tests will be inclusive to all learners and resources and strategies will be implemented to meet all our learners needs.

Children can earn a badge once they have completed a short times table test in school, achieving full marks. If they do not achieve full marks, they will be given time to practise them further at home before taking the test again on another day. Children will be able to take the multiplication tables tests for the times tables their year groups are expected to know (by the end of the year) as listed below:

Year 2 – x2 x5 x10
Year 3 – x2 x5 x 10 x 3 x 4 x 8
Year 4 – x2 x5 x10 x3 x4 x8 x6 x9 x11 x7 x12
Year 5 – all multiplication tables up to 12 x 12
Year 6 – all multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and the related division facts.
As part of the Mathematics curriculum, year groups will be learning the age-appropriate times tables over the course of the year, so we would not expect the children to know them until after they have learnt them as part of their Maths lessons.

The children have to enter themselves into the test independently when they feel they are ready to earn the badge they have been working towards. We want the children to feel a sense of pride and responsibility when learning their times tables. We hope this initiative will help to motivate the pupils to take some time out of school to practise their times tables. There is no pressure for the children to enter at specific times, just when they feel ready. Please do not encourage your child to

take the test if they have not practised at home and they do not have a solid understanding, as it can be disheartening for the child if they find it tricky.

The scheme will start the week beginning Monday 27th September and children will be able to put themselves forward to take the tests from this date. Each year group will have a specified day to take the tests, which is detailed below.

Year 2	Friday – in the Year 2 classroom at 10:25
Year 3	Monday – in the Year 4 classroom at 10:45
Year 4	Wednesday - in the Year 4 classroom at 10:45
Year 5	Thursday – in the Year 4 classroom at 10:45
Year 6	Friday – in the Year 4 classroom at 10:45

I can't wait to see the children wearing the badges around school! I hope that you will support us with the initiative and continue to work with your children at home on learning their times tables. TTRockstars is a great tool to use for practising times tables and is available to all children in school in Years 2-6. The badges that the children can earn are shown below. The golden trophy is for children who know all of their multiplication facts and the related division facts off by heart.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Bullen