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The Avenue Primary School, The Avenue,  
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Friday 15 February

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may have heard your child mention the new times table challenge we have launched in school. Your child will have the opportunity to achieve a bronze, silver and gold award when learning their times tables. Each year group will have a selection of chosen tables relating to the end of year expectations for that year group.

**Bronze Award** – To be able to recite the times table in order.

**Silver Award** – To be able to answer questions in a random order.

**Gold Award** – To be able to answer multiplication and division questions linked to a times table.

The children will be quizzed in a variety of engaging ways at school, all of which will include a time limit. Then they will be given the chance to advance on to the next award. If your child achieves 'Gold Award' they will receive a 'Times Table Champion' certificate.

We will continue to practise times tables in school but we would also like the children to practise at home. You can support your child in many ways such as singing songs, chanting, playing games, quick-fire questions and problem solving. You will find a help sheet detailing lots of fun ways to support your child on our website.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

We look forward to seeing many children achieve their Gold Awards this year.

Thank you for your support.

Mr Warriner & Miss Firman



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### How can you help at home?

#### Facts

Learn the relationship between multiplication and division.

For example the children should learn that  $4 \times 2 = 8$ ,  $2 \times 4 = 8$ ,  $8 \div 2 = 4$  and  $8 \div 4 = 2$ .

#### Doubling

If children are able to double it helps them with more than just the 2 times table, it will give them short cuts to working out other questions. For example, when working out  $4 \times 5$  your child could work out double 5 equals 10, then double 10 to work out the answer of 20.

#### Chanting and Singing

Although old-fashioned they still work, integrate the chanting into your daily life as you go upstairs, kicking a football and many other ways. Rhymes and songs often help tricky bits stick in your memory.

#### Posters

Creative posters may help children learn their times tables. How quickly can they write all the facts of a time table? Make it into a race.

#### Games

There are so many games you can adapt to involve times table practice.

- Bingo is a great opportunity to practise times tables in a fun, competitive way.
- Fizz-Buzz is a hilarious game which will have your whole family in a twist. You will need more than two people to play and you should all be sat in circle. One person starts counting from 1 and the next person will say the next number and so on. BUT if the number is divisible by 5 the player must say "Fizz" and if it is divisible by 3 they must say "Buzz". Can you guess what you might say when you get to 15? "Fizz-Buzz!" When Fizz Buzz is said the direction of play is reversed. You can choose any set of two multiples
- Activities based around a times table square. How quickly can you fill it in? Make it into a missing numbers game.

#### Multiples of

Make a set of number cards and chose a table of your choice, for example the 5 times table, then sort the number cards into multiples of 5 and not multiples of 5.

#### Online

Here are some websites that offer fun and engaging ways to practise at home.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers>

<http://www.primarygames.co.uk/>

<http://www.teachingtables.co.uk/>

<http://mathszone.co.uk/>

<http://www.multiplication.com/>

<http://www.ilovemathsgames.com/>

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/index.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

<http://amathsdictionaryforkids.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/advice-for-parents/maths-at-home/>

If you and your child work together on inventing a fun, new game we would love to hear about it!

Thank you for your support.

