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Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Times tables are crucial to help children to progress in all areas of Maths. This includes decimals, percentages, fractions, algebra and division. We use times tables in our everyday life for example:

- To calculate how many 8p sweets you can get for a pound at the shop
- To work out how many miles you will need to run to burn off the sweets!

Children who know their times tables facts will be able to answer questions more quickly and be able to focus on using other maths strategies in more complex problems rather than being slowed down by the multiplication.

From June 2019, children will be tested on their times table knowledge in Year 4. This is a new, national statutory test set by the government.

In school, your child will be given a times table target and they will be expected to learn this in school and at home. Children will take part in daily maths sessions, which will focus on learning their times tables and recalling them. When your child's class teacher is confident that they know that times table, they will be given a new times table target. Children will be rewarded for learning their times tables and they will receive a golden ticket, with the chance of winning a prize. We will celebrate the children's successes in assemblies too.

As a school, we really appreciate the time and effort you put in at home to help your child learn. When your child receives a new times table target, they will be sent home with a slip to let you know their new target, so that you can help them to learn their times tables. We will send home lots of advice and support for helping your child learn their times tables and all SUMDOG questions will now be times table based. This will form the main part of children's home learning from September 2018.

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Dowgill
Maths Subject Leader

Websites to help children learn their times tables

www.sumdog.com (your child has an individual login)

www.transum.org/tables

www.maths-games.org/times-tables-games.html

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/numeracy/multiplication/index.shtml

<http://uk.ixl.com>

Other ways to practise include:

- Chanting (old-fashioned, but effective!)
- Listening to and signing along to times tables songs (many can be found on Youtube)
- Writing the number patterns down and writing them in and out of order
- Making a set of number cards labelled 1-12, shuffling them, turning them over one at a time and multiplying it by the table being learnt

Your child will be sent home with a slip that looks like this:

	<p>I have achieved my ____ times table! My new times table target is: _____ <i>Please help me to practise this at home!</i></p>	
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