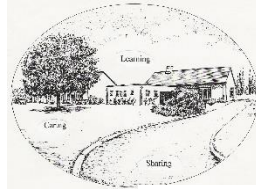


Byfleet Primary School

King's Head Lane
Byfleet
Surrey
KT14 7AT



Head Teacher
Mrs C Meyrick

Telephone: 01932 403116
Email: info@byfleet.surrey.sch.uk
Twitter: [@byfleetprimary](https://twitter.com/byfleetprimary)

16th October 2020

Dear parents/carers,

At Byfleet Primary School, we believe that times tables are a vital skill, which offer a foundation for learning other aspects of mathematics. Regular practise of times tables is essential in ensuring that they are embedded in the children's long-term memory.

The National Curriculum (2014) states in regards to maths:

- By the end of Year 2, pupils should be able to count in steps of 2, 3 and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward and backward.
- By the end of Year 2, pupils should be able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
- By the end of Year 4, pupils should be able to recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12x12.
- In 2021 there will be an online multiplication check for Y4 children.

This means it is important for the children to learn their times tables facts and to be able to recall them quickly and accurately. To support their learning of times tables, we are implementing a Times Table Challenge in school for Years 2 – 6 called '**The 144 Club**'. Children in Year 1 will only partake in the challenge if and when their class teacher feels they are able to access it well enough.

Every child will be assessed by their class teacher and placed on a Times Table Challenge which is appropriate to their ability. Once a week, children will complete a times table grid of jumbled up multiplication facts according to the level they are on (see below). To join the '144 club' and gain their first badge, the children will need to complete the challenge in under 6 minutes. There are 8 different levels from Bronze to Platinum+.

- Bronze 2x, 5x, 10x (multiplication facts only)
- Bronze + 2x, 5x, 10x (multiplication and division facts e.g. $40 \div 8 = 5$)
- Silver 3x, 4x and 8x (multiplication facts only)
- Silver + 3x, 4x and 8x (multiplication and division facts e.g. $32 \div 4 = 8$)
- Gold All facts up to 12x12 (multiplication facts only)
- Gold + All facts up to 12x12 (multiplication and division facts e.g. $108 \div 9 = 12$)
- Platinum All facts up to 12x12 plus 25x (multiplication and division facts)
- Platinum + Plus... 10 or 100 times bigger or smaller



The reason for the limited time is to ensure children are doing a mental calculation rather than working it out with support. Once an award has been completed, your child will then be given the opportunity to master their times table knowledge by attempting the PLUS awards. Here children will look at using their 'inverse' knowledge of division. It is also important that children understand the relationship between multiplication and division and, by knowing their times table facts they can use them to help solve division sums and become a 'Multiplication Master'.

In the past, different years within our school have had different ways of running and teaching multiplication and division; however, to have a whole school challenge ensures continuity across all year groups.

We would like all children to succeed at their Times Table Challenge! Your child will continue to work within school to learn their times tables but we would also like children to be encouraged to practise them at home.

Tips for helping your child to learn their times tables:

- Regular practise (at least 3 times a week)
- Demonstrate
- Chant / sing songs
- Stick up a chart
- Play games

Useful websites:

- <http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>
- <http://www.mymaths.co.uk>
- <http://www.fun4thebrain.com/division.html>
- <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/byfleet>
- <https://nrich.maths.org/9086>
- https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/?s=maths+online+activity&fwpost_types=activities

Tablet apps:

- Squeebles Multiplication trainer
- Maths Practice
- Splash Maths 7-9
- Splash Maths 8-10

We thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Elliott

Deputy Head