



Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School

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Monday, 17th March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are incredibly proud of the progress our Year 4 students have made in improving their mental recall of times tables. A significant factor in this achievement has been the increasing popularity of *Times Tables Rock Stars* (TTRS) across the year group. Our data indicates that not only have the children strengthened their recall of multiplication facts, but they have also gained greater confidence in mathematics overall. A strong foundation in multiplication supports a deeper understanding of division, fractions, problem-solving and overall mathematical fluency. This, in turn, places them in a strong position for the *Multiplication Tables Check* in the summer term.

To celebrate their progress, we have been holding termly TTRS assemblies where students who feel comfortable can compete against other classes, while enjoying lively rock music in the hall. These assemblies have been a fun and engaging way to encourage participation and enthusiasm for learning.

TTRS is designed to improve children's recall of times tables and motivate them to develop their mathematical skills. However, we understand that comparing results with peers—particularly through the Rock Speed rankings—can have varied effects. While a healthy level of competition can be motivating for some, it may have the opposite impact on others. In light of this, we have made the decision to remove pupil access to the leader board charts. Moving forward, students will only be able to view their own Rock Speed, allowing them to focus on their individual progress.

Additionally, new features have been introduced to TTRS, including updated colour themes, cinematic game cut scenes and enhanced accessibility options. The children watched this video ([link](#)) in class this afternoon, which further inspired them to engage with their times tables practice.

Please remember that times tables can be practised in any way that best suits your child's learning style. Whether you prefer to use *Times Tables Rock Stars*, *Mathletics* or traditional paper worksheets, the most important factor is regular and consistent practice. If you would like to discuss strategies to support your child's mathematical development, please do not hesitate to contact the school office to arrange a conversation with a member of the Year 4 team.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew McHale
Deputy Headteacher



Enjoying Learning - Exceeding Expectations