

14th February 2008

Dear Parent/Guardian

TIMES TABLES!

Here at Chilton Primary School we are planning to put an extra special effort into getting our junior pupils to learn their times tables over the next term. Times tables recall is an essential part of the maths curriculum which is transferable and vital in many areas of the subject.

We have several events and approaches lined up to make learning tables fun but are asking for your support too!

After this short holiday we will be setting up the 'C-Team' which will be open to all pupils who manage to accurately answer 20 questions, from mixed times tables, in 1 minute. Children can simply tell a teacher when they are ready to be tested and if they succeed in the challenge they become a member for the remainder of that academic year. They will receive a certificate, which will be presented in assembly, and have their name displayed on the 'C-Team' display board. Maybe the holiday would be a good time to start practising tables ready to take the test? A list of the times tables facts the children must know ready for the test are on the reverse of this letter.

We are also planning on spending the final fortnight of this term where every junior class will have a real focus on times tables including practising them everyday in mental maths sessions and during any spare moments, maybe even chanting them as they come into assembly! This fortnight will culminate in each class identifying a Tables Champion who will go on to compete at Chilton Primary School's first Times Tables Mastermind event where our school champion will be crowned!

We want every child to improve their times tables knowledge during the next term and should you wish to support your child at home we have suggested some methods below. However, please feel free to share with us or other parents at the school gate any miracle methods which you have found to work!

- www.teachingtables.co.uk
- Tables facts on post-it notes around the house
- Chanting to music
- Writing them down repeatedly

Yours Faithfully

Mary Veale
Maths Leader