Year Five News
Miss Eccles and Mr. Tracey
November 2016

NOVEMBER

Just a note to say …

A Note From the Teacher
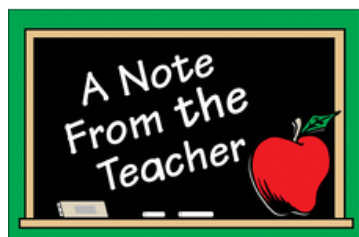
Miss Eccles and Mr. Tracey would like to thank you for coming along to the recent Parent-Teacher meetings. We hope you found the meeting informative. We enjoyed celebrating your child's successes with you. Please contact us if you need more support or information.

Congratulations!

It's a Girl!

Congratulations to Mrs. Waring, and her husband Aaron, on the wonderful news of baby Ida's birth. We are delighted to hear that mum and baby are doing well. Everyone in Year Five sends their best wishes to the Waring family.

Sporting Activities

Change of P.E. day
- Miss Eccles' class will now have Gaelic coaching on a Monday morning. Mr. Tracey's P.E. time will move to a Tuesday.

Afterschool activities
- Wednesday: Rugby (girls and boys)
- Thursday: Gaelic (boys only)

Christmas craft afternoons

Crafts for Christmas

Miss Eccles' class
- Wednesday 9th & 16th November

Mr. Tracey's class
- Wednesday 23rd & 30th November

We are delighted to announce that Heather Cunnah, one of our parents, will lead Year Five pupils in a series of Christmas craft workshops in November. Children will learn to sew and create a wonderful Christmas gift.

Ulster Museum trip: Thursday 24th November, 2016

save the date

On **Thursday 24th November**, Year Five will travel to the **Ulster Museum**, in Belfast. We will take part in an interactive workshop about Ancient Egypt, view and explore Ancient Egyptian artefacts and get to visit Takabuti, the Ulster Museum's mummy!

A permission slip has been sent home with this newssheet, and we'll send out more information closer to the time, but for now we'd just like to make you aware of the date and these two important points:

1. The cost of the trip is **£9.50**. It can be paid in instalments, or in full, any time before the 18th November.
2. We will finish school at **4:00 p.m.** on the day of the trip.

Learning your times tables

Learning multiplication and division facts is an important part of learning in Year Five. Not only that, multiplication and division are important skills we all need to use in everyday life. In this newssheet, we're focusing on ways to learn the times tables. We hope the information will help to support you and your child in their learning.

Language

There are many different ways to say the tables. It will help if your child is familiar with the following terms, and you use them regularly when learning and recalling tables at home.

- Product
  o The **product** of 6 and 4 …

- Multiplied by
  o 3 **multiplied by** 9 …

- Times
  o 5 **times** 2 …

- Lots of
  o 7 **lots of** 6…

- Double
  o Means multiply by 2
  o **Double** 12 …

- Triple
  o Means multiply by 3
  o **Triple** 8 …

- By
  o 10 **by** 1 …

Steps to Success

1. Initially, stick to one table, at a time, to minimise confusion.
2. Start with chanting the table slowly and then writing the table out in order. Take your time at this stage.
3. Then move on to completing the answers quickly, and in order, on paper and verbally.
4. Finally, move on to completing the answers in any order, on paper and verbally. Work on improving speed.

Memory Hooks

- Each times table has a square number: 3×3, 7×7, etc. These are special answers that can act as a point or a memory hook, within the table, to refer to and work around.
- Talk about the numbers as you encounter them, e.g. '$5 \times 7 = 35$ … that's mummy's age', or '$3 \times 6 = 18$ … that's our house number.'

Multiplication is Commutative

Multiplication is **commutative**. This means that the sum can be done in any order, and you will get the same answer. For example, 3×6 is the same as 6×3.

Useful Websites

Hit the button
('Topmarks' website)
www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

Ghost Blasters
('Oswego' website)
http://resources.oswego.org/games/Ghostblasters1/gbcd.html
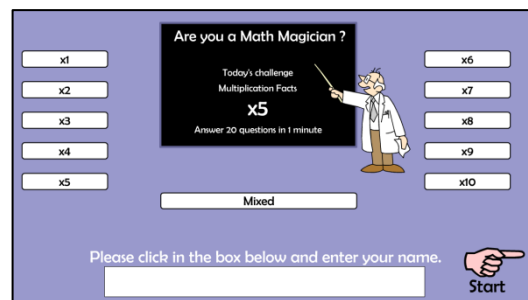
Math Magician
('Oswego' website)
http://resources.oswego.org/games/mathmagician/maths1.html

We've put together ten tips, for fun ways to help children learn their times tables. Let us know how you get on!

Idea 1:
Play '**Beat Me**' – challenge your child to recite their times table facts quicker than a member of the family.

Idea 2:
Try '**Give the question**' – say a number, e.g. *54*, and ask your child to give a multiplication question with that answer.

Idea 3:
'**Sing your times tables**' – can you choose a tune and sing your tables to this? You could even try rapping in the style of Honey G!

Idea 4:
Try '**playing cards**' – write the numbers 0 – 12 on two sets of different coloured cards. Turn one of each colour over and multiply.

TOP TIPS

TIMES TABLES

Idea 5:
Play '**Just a minute**' – see how many questions you can answer in a minute. Can you try and improve this score each week?

Idea 6:
Use an **iPad** or **computer** to download fun activities and games for learning your times tables.

Idea 7:
Try '**Chalk the path**' – if it's a dry day, use chalk to write your times tables on the path outside your house.

Idea 8:
Listen to times tables songs on **You Tube**.

Idea 9:
Play '**Ping Pong**' with the multiples of a number, e.g. *'I say 3 … you say 6 … I say 9 … you say 12.'*

Idea 10:
Use your stairs – going up a step, recite multiples of a times table. Go backwards with the table when coming down the stairs.

By the end of Year 5, it is really important that your child knows all of their times tables – multiplication and division facts. We will gradually introduce new learning over the course of the year and would ask that you follow this plan.

Not only are times tables a brilliant brain-training exercise, knowledge of multiplication and division facts is vital for problem-solving and mental mathematics. Also, we rely on times tables every day in life. Please help us to give your child the best possible start, by working with us this year, to develop their ability and confidence with those all-important multiplication and division facts!
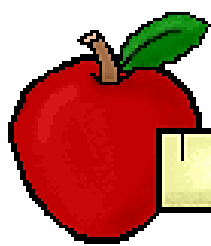
YEAR 5'S LEARNING PLAN

Literacy

- We are going to **'Read all about it!'** this month, as we read and respond to news stories. We will identify the main features of newspaper texts. We'll also have a go at writing newspaper style recounts.
- Our focus for grammar will be to look at **verb tenses**. In our punctuation work, we will explore the use of **speech marks** in writing.
- We'll continue to work on **suffixes**.
- In our phonics work, we will be exploring ways that we can write the **igh**, **oy**, **ue** and **aw** sounds.
- We'll be continuing with our joined handwriting, with a special focus on **horizontal joins**.
- We will visit the **school library** every **Friday**. Don't forget to bring your book in, so you can return it and borrow a new one!

Topic Work

We will be concluding our topic on **Ancient Egypt.** We'll find out about the **jobs** people had in Ancient Egypt. We will explore what **everyday life** would have been like for the Ancient Egyptians. We will learn about the importance of **artefacts** when finding out about life in Ancient Egypt. We will learn about **Howard Carter** and **Tutankhamun**. We will find out about Egyptian **gods**, **goddesses** and **Pharaohs**. We'll also visit the **Ulster Museum** in Belfast. What a busy and exciting month ahead!

Numeracy

- We will learn multiplication and division facts for the **eight times tables**. We will also learn multiplication and division facts for the **six times tables.**

We will complete our work on **length**, ensuring that we can:
- measure to the nearest quarter-metre;
- record lengths in different forms, e.g. 1m 36cm→136cm→1.36m;
- measure and draw lengths to the nearest half-centimetre;
- find the perimeter of simple shapes.

We will complete work on **area**:
- introducing the square centimetre and the notation cm^2;
- measuring and drawing shapes, with an area involving ½ cm^2;
- investigating drawing different shapes with the same area.

We will look at **number sequences to 10,000**, including finding the number after / before / between and 1, 2, 10, 50, 100 or 1000 more or less than.

We will begin to learn about **fractions**:
- revising halves, quarters, tenths, thirds and fifths of shapes;
- introducing mixed numbers involving these fractions, for example 2½;
- working on finding fractions of a number, such as one fifth and one tenth; linking this to our work on division.