



22.10.18

<https://trockstars.com/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware from our Curriculum meeting last month, in Class 3, we are introducing a fantastic online way to help pupils master rapid recall of times tables. Times tables are recognised as essential to access many mathematical concepts and the children's knowledge in this area will begin to be assessed nationally at the end of Y4 from September 2019. This program is already in use in Year 4 and Upper KS2.

When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations. Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils master the times tables.

Class 3 have been introduced to how Times Tables Rock Stars works and the appropriate times tables to practise on a weekly basis have been allocated. This programme can be accessed online via the web address at the top of this letter- your child has their own login and password (stuck into the front of their spellings books).

When they first logged in at school, your child chose their own rock star name and designed their own avatar before starting to practise.

There are two single player modes to play:

Garage – This is the main mode the children should play. The questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week. As pupils start to answer questions, TT Rock Stars works out which facts they take longer on and will give them more of these questions to answer.

Studio - the questions in the Studio can be anything from 2x2 up to 12x12. TT Rock Stars calculates the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates into a Rock Status.

There are also multi-player modes: Rock Arena - The Arena allows players to compete against all other members of their Band/Class (their Band mates would need to join the same game in order to compete together). Rock Festival - The Rock Festival games are open to players from around the world. The questions are selected at random from 2x2 to 12x12.

It is recommended that that your child practises a little each evening. Short bursts of practise on a daily basis are more effective than spending hours once a week.

To make a success of this programme and ensure that your child follows the programme of practising and to remain motivated, we need your help. Without your praise and your reminders, without you sitting down next to them or checking their work, practising times tables will not feel important to your child.

Thank you for your support and I am sure your hard work and theirs will have a direct impact and make them a Times Tables Rock Star!

Kind Regards

The Class 3 Team