



Lytchett Matravers Primary School
Wareham Road, Lytchett Matravers, Poole, BH16 6DY
01202 622378 / e-mail: office@lmpsdorset.co.uk



Headteacher: Matt Vernon
Deputy Headteacher: Laura Dominey

Tuesday 1st October 2024

Dear parents/ guardians,
KIRF's - What are they?

We have introduced KIRFs as a whole-school program for raising standards in Mathematics, with a focus on mental strategies. KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts) are designed to support the development of the mental skills that underpin much of the maths work in schools. They are particularly useful when calculating; be it adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing. An important part of maths development has always been rote learning of certain numeracy facts.

Times tables are a key skill that children need to know inside out, for them to be able to access other areas of the maths curriculum as they progress up the school. The use of Times Tables Rockstars to practise these and build speed work is particularly important; especially now that the national Times tables Multiplication Check will take place every year in Year 4 in June to test children on their speed and fluency in all tables to 12 x 12. However, alongside times tables there are many other key number facts that knowledge of makes undertaking complex reasoning and problem solving much more accessible.

Each half term, children will be given Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) to practise and learn at home as well as the work in school. These are sent home on A4 sheets and include practical ideas to assist children in grasping the key facts. It is important that they know these thoroughly and can recall specific facts instantly. Whilst children have a wide range of abilities in mathematics, the KIRFs are designed to be a set of facts that need to be learnt thoroughly as they build on each other year on year. Again, we stress that the children must aim to know their KIRF inside out, back to front and with instant recall.

We strongly encourage you to engage with your children in the learning of their KIRFs; fun, practical ideas are included on the sheet and should be undertaken regularly as part of their homework schedule alongside extra support that will be provided in school. We know that, by internalising these key facts which have been carefully structured to build upon each other term by term, year by year, children will leave Lytchett Matravers Primary School with a much stronger foundation of mathematical understanding to build upon.

Attached you will find a PDF copy of the Autumn 1 KIRFs, with links and ideas, If you require a paper copy, please ask. We hope that you enjoy working alongside your children with this mathematics work.

Miss West
Maths Lead

