

27th January 2023

Dear Parent/ Carer,

YEAR FOUR: HOME LEARNING AND TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS

Recently you will have read the earlier message about home learning. Below is an introduction to The Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) programme which the children will need to include in their home learning work each week.

Guide to Time Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)

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 students master the times table!

How does it work?

World famous rock musicians are the best at what they do because they've spent hours practising guitar chords, writing music, or playing the drums. It is just the same with times tables – all Times Table Rock Stars need to practise and practise and practise. It's absolutely essential that your child does a little bit every day as in our experience, short bursts on a daily basis are more effective than spending hours once a week.

And this is where parents/ carers come in...

For your child to be fully motivated and to do their best, they need your help – your praise, reminders and support will help your child feel confident and motivated.

Over the course of the next few weeks and months, your child **WILL become faster** and more accurate with the time tables. All your hard work and theirs **WILL make them a Times Table Rock Star!**

On the next page are details on how to log on to TTRS and play mode details.

Soundchecks

Soundchecks are the closest match to the official multiplication check. The children have six seconds for each question and answer twenty-five questions up to 12 x 12. The outcome of this work enables us to intervene more effectively and helps children improve their pace. It is really important that you support your child with these Soundchecks each week in their home learning.

The children in Year Four home learning expectations **MUST be completed at home each week**. These are shared on the Google Classroom.

Please ensure that you and your child read the expectations together so you can support your child. If you have any questions or would like to speak to the class teacher about home learning, please arrange a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Amy Archer
Head of Year Four

Logging into Times Table Rock Stars

1. Head to **play.ttrockstars.com** into your browser's address bar
2. Click **Login! > School > Student**
3. Enter the school name
4. Enter your child's username and password

Rock Status Rankings

It's helpful to understand that the quicker your child can answer a times tables question, the higher their Rock Status. Use this list as a guide to help your child work out their Rock Status:

- ≤ 1 sec/ question = Rock God
- ≤ 2 secs/ question = Rock Legend
- ≤ 3 secs/ question = Rock Star
- ≤ 4 secs/ question = Headliner
- ≤ 5 secs/ question = Support Act
- ≤ 6 secs/ question = Breakthrough Artist
- ≤ 7 secs/ question = Unsigned Act
- ≤ 8 secs/ question = Gigger
- ≤ 9 secs/ question = Busker
- ≤ 10 secs/ question = Garage Rocker
- > 10 secs/ question = Wannabe

Game Modes

SINGLE PLAYER MODE

Garage – the questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week. As pupils start to answer questions, Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) works out which facts they take longer on and will give them more of these questions to answer. The Garage is best for getting quicker at a few facts. Players get 10 coins per question.

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

Under 1 second per question to become a Rock God

Under 2 seconds per question to become a Rock Legend

Under 3 seconds per question to become a Rock Star

Over 3 seconds is a Busker

They earn 1 coin per question and the Studio is the place for them to set their best time across all the tables.

MULTIPLAYER MODE

Rock Arena – The Arena allows players to compete against all other members of their Band (their Bandmates would need to join the same game in order to compete together). A new Arena games starts every 15 seconds and once the clock starts they race to answer more questions than the others. In the Arena, questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week, similar to the Garage. They earn 1 coin per correct answer.

Rock Festival – The Rock Festival games are open to players from around the world. Like the Arena, there is no limit to the number of players who can join a game; however, unlike the Arena, questions are selected at random from 2x2 to 12x12. Pupils might choose the Rock Festival if they were playing at home (and therefore couldn't easily synchronise playing against a classmate) or wanted to compete against others not in their Band. They earn 1 coin per correct answer.