



7th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are introducing two new and exciting apps aimed at supporting the children with their times tables and spellings. These were discussed at the recent workshop (Times Tables and Spellings), however we thought it best to follow up with an email.

The apps are full of fun games and challenges aimed at practising the areas children often find tricky.

The times tables app (PiXL Times Tables) is made up of the following sections:

- 1) **Knowledge**
This allows students to practice any times table up to 12x12 using the app without any time limit. They can use the 'up' and 'down' arrows to increase or decrease the times table that they want to focus on.
- 2) **Time attack**
Similar to the 'Knowledge' section but they will have either 5 seconds or their last recorded time to be able to complete the question.
- 3) **The test**
Students will have 5 seconds to answer a structured sequence of questions.
- 4) **Trophies**
This feature outlines all of the achievements of the user. If the user secures a significant confidence level with a particular times table, they will be awarded a trophy.
- 5) **Fastest times**
This allows students to see where they sit in terms of their class and the time taken to complete a particular times table.
- 6) **Raft run**
Similar to the knowledge section but with a slight difference, students compete against other students in a race!



Daily practice of these times tables skills will allow your child to become confident with the instant recall of these facts which will help them no end when it comes to key units within the Maths curriculum (e.g. multiplication, division, fractions, percentages, area and perimeter to name a few). We have no doubt that the children will also love competing against themselves and other children!



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The vocabulary app (PiXL Unlock) is made up of the following sections:



When children are learning spellings, it is vital they explore the word in depth and this app is the perfect tool to help them do so. It will help them to be able to transfer the correct spellings into their writing and hopefully commit the spelling of the word into their long term memory.

If you have any questions about the apps, please come and find us on the playground.

Many thanks,

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Maths Subject Leader

Rebecca Cheetham
Assistant Head & Year 5 Group Leader
English Subject Leader