

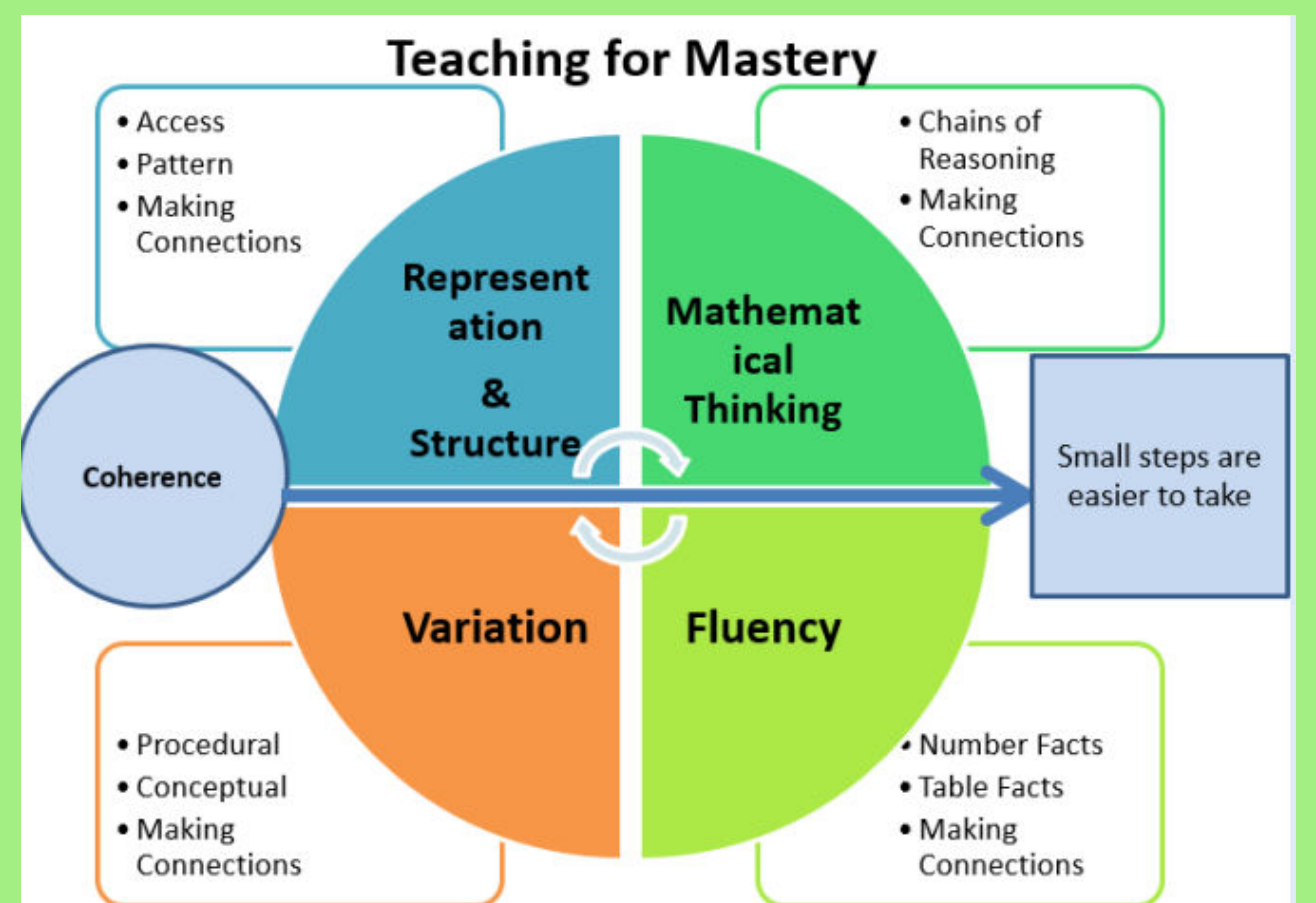


Maths Newsletter

February 2024

I am so excited to be writing our school's second maths newsletter! It has been another busy half-term here at William Rhodes Primary School with lots of maths learning for both the children and the staff.

Since September 2023, we have been following a teaching for mastery approach within our maths lessons. This means that our teachers follow a set of principles based around the view that every child can be a mathematician. Teaching for mastery is based around five big ideas: small coherent steps in learning; careful choices of representations, so that children can see the structure of the maths; fluency – being able to recall, work out and manipulate facts; mathematical thinking, which helps the children to spot patterns, make connections and reason; and variation, the process of making small changes whilst keeping essential features the same to aid understanding.



See the maths intent statement (on the school website) for more information on how our maths lessons look in school.

This half-term, our focus for improving maths across the school is to improve our engagement with learning our times tables. We are achieving this by:

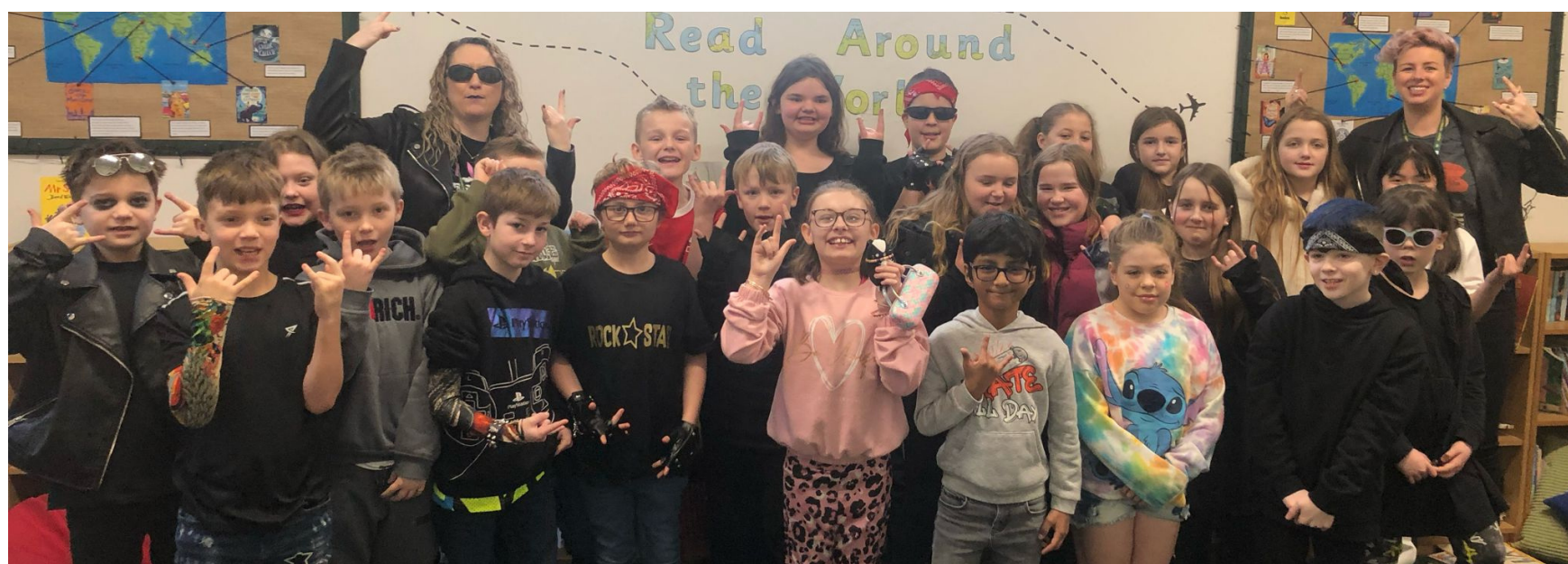
- Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) – complete TTRS worksheets up to three times a week.
- Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) – one iPad session a week to practise times table.
- Explicitly teaching times tables – in class, teachers have a range of strategies to help children learn their times tables.
- Central TTRS display – showcasing our TTRS superstars.
- TTRS trophy – awarded weekly to the child who has ‘most improved in accuracy’.
- Individual TTRS heatmaps sent out – to show how quickly your child is correctly responding to facts
- Times Table Fact of the week – displayed in classrooms.
- TTRS ‘dress like a rock star’ day – to promote the love of times tables and to re-launch TTRS



$$2 \times 2 = 4$$

$$3 \times 1 = 3$$

Times Table Fun

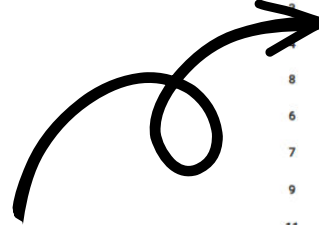


TTRS Dress-up Day



How can you help?

TTRS heatmaps



	10	2	5	3	4	8	6	7	9	11	12
10	10×10	10×2	10×5	10×3	10×4	10×8	10×6	10×7	10×9	10×11	10×12
2	2×10	2×2	2×5	2×3	2×4	2×8	2×6	2×7	2×9	2×11	2×12
5	5×10	5×2	5×5	5×3	5×4	5×8	5×6	5×7	5×9	5×11	5×12
3	3×10	3×2	3×5	3×3	3×4	3×8	3×6	3×7	3×9	3×11	3×12
4	4×10	4×2	4×5	4×3	4×4	4×8	4×6	4×7	4×9	4×11	4×12
8	8×10	8×2	8×5	8×3	8×4	8×8	8×6	8×7	8×9	8×11	8×12
6	6×10	6×2	6×5	6×3	6×4	6×8	6×6	6×7	6×9	6×11	6×12
7	7×10	7×2	7×5	7×3	7×4	7×8	7×6	7×7	7×9	7×11	7×12
9	9×10	9×2	9×5	9×3	9×4	9×8	9×6	9×7	9×9	9×11	9×12
11	11×10	11×2	11×5	11×3	11×4	11×8	11×6	11×7	11×9	11×11	11×12
12	12×10	12×2	12×5	12×3	12×4	12×8	12×6	12×7	12×9	12×11	12×12

Your child has been sent home with a copy of their individual TTRS heatmap. This shows the times tables that they are able to answer in the quickest time. The lighter the box, the faster they are at answering that calculation. The aim is to get as many light boxes as possible.

We have sent these heatmaps home to help you identify which times table facts your child knows really well, as well as the times tables you can help your child to practise more to improve their speed and knowledge.

We will be sending out your child's TTRS heatmaps again later on in the year so that you can see their progress! If all of the times table facts on your heatmap are light green, your challenge is to improve your rock star status speed. This might take some time and lots of practise but remember, practise makes perfect.

THANK
YOU



To Mr Crawford for having a TTRS competition with Y6 - they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have even improved their TTRS scores!



To all parents who have generously donated something for the raffle or have bought raffle tickets!