



I would like to start up the class **Times Tables Championships** again. There are medals to be won and a leader board to fill !

As we know a strong knowledge of times tables is important, for our mental maths and to help with dividing, fractions and percentages. Good times tables recall also improves our confidence and positive attitude.

To help us get up to speed some examples listed below are games that can be played.

1. Traditional Methods

Recite the times table: This is the simplest way to practise times tables as it can be done any time and in any place - walking to school, in the car, at bedtime - simply say the times table together with a family member.

Write it out: Again, simple, but it can be very effective. Simply write out the times table you are working on over and over again until you know it or use a dry wipe pen and the times table chart sent home to write out the answers.

Quick-fire questions: Whether out walking, in the park or at home, ask a family member to ask you mixed calculations from the times table you are learning and keep doing it until you become confident. Don't forget the reverse too e.g. $4 \times 5 = 20$ and $5 \times 4 = 20$

2. Sing the Times Table

Music and jingles really aid our memory and can help us learn a variety of things, including times tables. Simply sing the times table as you recite it or have a quick search on the internet and you will find a plethora of times table songs.

3. Pass the ball

Stand across from a family member and pass the ball back and forth, each taking turns to ask a quick fire times table question. Give yourself a point for each correct answer.

4. Splat

Make simple number cards using pieces of paper for each of the answers to the times table you are working on. Ask a family member to ask you times table questions and 'splat' the correct answer by slapping your hand down on the correct card. Pick up and keep the card for each correct answer.

5. Online Games

A good starting point for online tables practise is Sumdog. Another good website to help learn tables is Top Marks.

Practise a variety of the above each week.