Barnes Farm Junior School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

TimesTable Rockstars

We are very excited to announce that Barnes Farm Junior has signed up to Times Table Rockstars, which is an on line platform to enable Times Table practice.

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 tables! To be a Times Table Rock Star children need to answer any multiplication fact up to 12×12 in less than 3 seconds!
The goal is for all participating rockers to be Times Table Rock Stars after 20 weeks!

Each evening, your child should follow this plan in the order presented below:
1.   Read the times tables out loud in order eg 1x2 = 2, 2x2 = 4 etc (3 minutes). It is more important that they say them correctly than say them quickly at this stage.
2.   Scatter tables (up to 5 minutes) – Call out a question, from the times table you are focusing on with your child, out of order eg 2x5=10, 5x5=25 etc
3.   Write tables on a piece of paper (up to 5 minutes) – Your child should write down the times tables being focused on that week. Any piece of paper will do.
4.   Play online (up to 10 minutes)

Details of all of the times tables are available in your child's learning passport. Your child's teacher will let them know which times table they are currently working on. Times Table Rock Stars can be accessed on tablets, learnpads and phones, via Google Play, the app store and Amazon.

Logging in to TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

1.   Type ttrockstars.com into your browser's address bar.
2.   Log in using the log in details provided by your child's teacher.
3.   Play! There are 4 different game modes, which are described in more detail on the reverse of this letter.

We hope that you and your child will enjoy this exciting new programme and become Times Table RockStars!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Cole
Maths Leader

Game Modes

Single Player

Garage - the questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week. As pupils start to answer questions, TT Rock Stars 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 1×1 up to 12×12.
TT Rock Stars calculates each the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates into a Rock Status:

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

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

Multiplayer

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 game 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 1×1 to 12×12.
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.