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Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed a restful week and were able to enjoy some of the sunshine we had last week. I am extremely pleased to see everyone back to school and look forward to another exciting term. This term we will be continuing with our school development focuses from last term. As you will remember, I wrote to you at the beginning of Term 3 to explain in detail about Resilient Learners, Times Tables knowledge development and our celebration of Wonderful Writing using the Pie Corbett 'Talk For Writing' philosophy.

The school would like your continued support with this and would like to outline clearly how times tables will be tested within the classroom.

### Helping At Home

Every week the children will practise, and be tested on, a focused times table they are trying to learn. The children will be able to tell you the times table they are practising. When testing to see if the children really know the times table we will:

- Ask them to say the times table from start to finish.
- Ask them to say the division of the times table e.g. (24 divided by 2 = 12, 22 divided by 2 = 11, etc.)
- Then they will be asked random times table facts e.g. (3 x 2 =, 9 x 2 =, 18 divided by 2 =)

If the children can do this they will receive acknowledgement that they have learned the times table.

To become a times table **Scholar** you must know: 2, 5, 10

To become a times table **Wizard** you must know: 3, 4, 6

To become a times table **Master** you must know: All times tables from 2 to 12.

Once the children reach each level they will receive a certificate at our Celebration Assembly.

Pressure will not be put on the child if they are unable to complete all activities; they will simply spend another week learning the times table.

Children learn times tables most securely by practising little and often. If you ask the children to recite the times table they are practising or randomly ask them times tables facts about the table they are learning it will help them internalise their learning.

### Value

The value we are thinking about this term is humility. The children will be hearing stories, acting out sketches and discussing what the characteristics of people demonstrating Humility look like. They will be shown the importance of sympathising and empathising with others to ensure everyone at school feels valued and supported.

**World Book Day**

World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Reading is something we really value at Barcombe, so we are celebrating World Book Day by asking children to dress up as a character from a traditional tale/fairy story. There will be a prize for the best dressed!

**Parent Questionnaire**

Thank you very much for completing the Parent Questionnaire sent out in January. If you are able to complete the form online on the Ofsted site as well (<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>) that would be most helpful.

Best Wishes

Mr S James  
Head Teacher

*Learning Together, Believing Together*

East Sussex County Council

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