



Wednesday 26th January 2021

St Mary Cray Primary Academy
High Street
St Mary Cray
Kent
BR5 4AR

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Times Table Rockstars

Thank you to those of you who were able to speak with me this morning to express your concerns about the times tables assembly yesterday, and allowing me time to investigate what happened. I hope this letter clarifies how we want to support children with their times tables and also my response to the concern around the assembly.

TT Rock Stars is a fun and interactive way for children of all ages to learn their times tables. Before Christmas we sent out log in details for the platform; however it is apparent that no more information was given at this time. I apologise for this. Ideally, your children will be able to log in across the week at home and play the games relevant to their ability level. This is not compulsory and there will be no consequences for a child not taking part. As a school, we recognise that there are many reasons for children not using interactive media, and that as parents it is your choice when and how they use screen time. On Monday lunch times, we will be running twenty minute Rock Star lunch clubs for children to attend so that they are able to join in, and class teachers will contact you directly if they feel it would benefit your child. No children will be losing their play time if they have not logged on and used the programme.

After speaking with parents, pupils and the teachers present at the assembly yesterday, it is clear that although the aim was to encourage the children to take part, the opposite happened. I have spoken with the lead adults about what is and isn't appropriate and discussed the impact this has had on the children. I will be visiting all classes this morning to ensure that the children understand they are not in trouble and they will not be missing any playtime. I will also be running training with the school team on delivering assemblies, giving positive support and also communication with parents, as I also agree that this could be better.

If you would like to discuss this with me further, then please do get in touch. As your Head of School I take all concerns very seriously and will always endeavour to take these on board.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Bild
Head of School

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Ofsted Inspection
September 2017 Good,
EYFS Outstanding and
Leadership Outstanding.



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