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Thursday, 14th October 2021

Guide to Times Tables “Rock Stars” (TTRS) & Numbots

Dear Parents and Carers,

Recall of times tables and addition/subtraction number facts are recognised as essential to allow pupils to access many mathematical concepts and knowledge throughout the curriculum. When it comes to number facts/times tables, speed and accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations.

We have now been using Numbots for the last year and Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) for the last few years as a way to encourage pupils to practise the speed and accuracy of their number facts/times tables and TTRS forms part of the weekly home learning for Year Two to Year Six.

What’s the difference between Numbots and TTRS?

TTRS is a fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils (Year Two – Year Six) master the times tables. Your child’s class teacher has introduced the pupils to how TTRS works and the children are encouraged to use the resource within school and at home. This programme can be accessed online via the [web address](#) and teachers have provided pupils with their logins (most of which have been stuck into their Reading Records). You may also download an App for the iPhone/iPad or Android App through which your child may practice. For further information on how to login, please see the attached guide.

‘Numbots’ is an add-on website to Times Tables Rock Stars and is aimed at 5-8 year olds (but can be useful for older pupils too) to help develop fluency in mathematics skills (including addition and subtraction). All children can access this using their TTRS log in (same login for both). Year One pupils will receive their logins prior to the half-term break (by Friday 22nd October 2021) and these will be stuck into their Reading Records for ease of access. Similar to TTRS, this programme can be accessed online via the [web address](#) or via the app. The attached login guide for TTRS should also help you through the Numbots logging in process.

How does TTRS work?

When they first log in, your child will choose their own rock star name and design their own avatar before starting to practice. They may have already done this within school.

There are four single player modes to play:

- **Garage** – This is the mode that the children should play most often. TTRS put pupils on a level which determines which times tables to practise. This game mode ensures they are only exposed to the times tables which they are ready for. As they develop their

speed/accuracy of recall, their level will increase and they will be gradually introduced to more times tables.

- **Studio** - The questions in the Studio can be anything from 2x2 up to 12x12. TTRS calculates the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates into a Rock Status (e.g. Rockstar, Headliner, etc.). They need to complete at least 10 Studio games to get a Rock Status.
- **Jamming** – This allows pupils to choose the times tables they would like to access. They can select whether it's multiplication, division or multiplication & division as well as the number of questions they would like
- **Soundcheck** – this replicates the Year 4 multiplication check that Year 4 pupils will take in Summer Term. To pass this check, pupils are expected to get a score of 25/25.

There are also multi-player modes:

- **Rock Arena** - The Rock Arena allows players to compete against all other members of their Band/Class (their Band mates would need to join the same game in order to compete together).
- **Rock Festival** - The Rock Festival games are open to players from around the world. The questions are selected at random from 2x2 to 12x12.
- **Rock Slam** – This allows a student to challenge someone from their Band, year group or school, setting a time for the challenger to beat.

The coins they earn within these games which can be spent on changing the appearance of their 'Rockstar'.

How does Numbots work?

Once logged in, your child will then get the option to choose a robot in order to play the games. There are two different modes:

- **Story Mode** - There are 18 different stages to work through starting with 'Rust' and ending with 'Diamond'. In each of these stages will be several levels where your child can earn stars and coins for completing them. The more accurate and faster their answers, the more stars and coins they will get. They will need to earn 2 or more stars to progress to the next level.
- **Challenge Mode** - This is a quickfire testing round, where pupils can test their skill set and earn trophies and coins.

Similar to TTRS, pupils can spend the coins they earn on changing the appearance of their Robot.

How often should my child practise?

It is recommended that that your child does a little bit of number facts/times tables practice every night. Short bursts of practice on a daily basis are more effective than spending hours once a week. To make a success of this programme and ensure your child remains motivated, we need your help. Your praise, your reminders and your regular check-ins on your child's progress will help them remain motivated and ensure that they get the best from these educational resources.

Thank you for your ongoing support; if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and speak with your child's Class Teacher or myself.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. S. Foster
Assistant Headteacher – KS2 and Maths Lead

TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS

Goal

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!

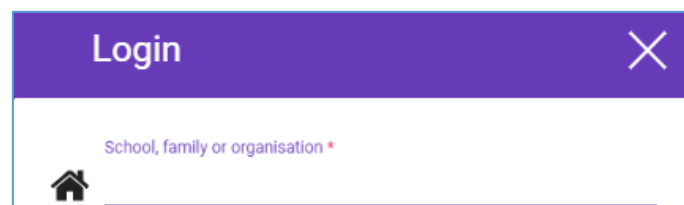
To be a Times Table Rock Star you need to answer any multiplication fact up to 12×12 in less than 3 seconds!

Logging in to Times Tables Rock

1 Type play.ttrockstars.com into your browser's address bar.

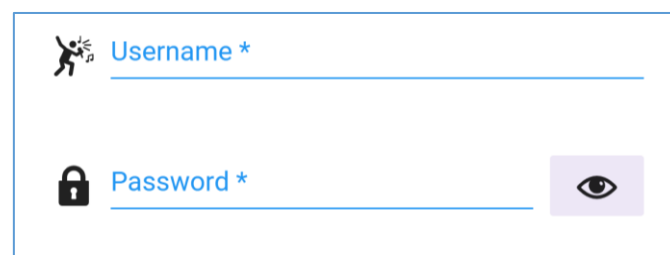
2 Click Login! > School > Student

3 Enter the School Name.



The screenshot shows a purple header with the word 'Login' and a close button. Below it is a white input field with a house icon on the left and the text 'School, family or organisation *' in purple. The input field is currently empty.

4 Enter your child's username and password.



The screenshot shows two input fields. The first is labeled 'Username *' with a person icon on the left. The second is labeled 'Password *' with a padlock icon on the left and an eye icon on the right to toggle visibility. Both fields are currently empty.