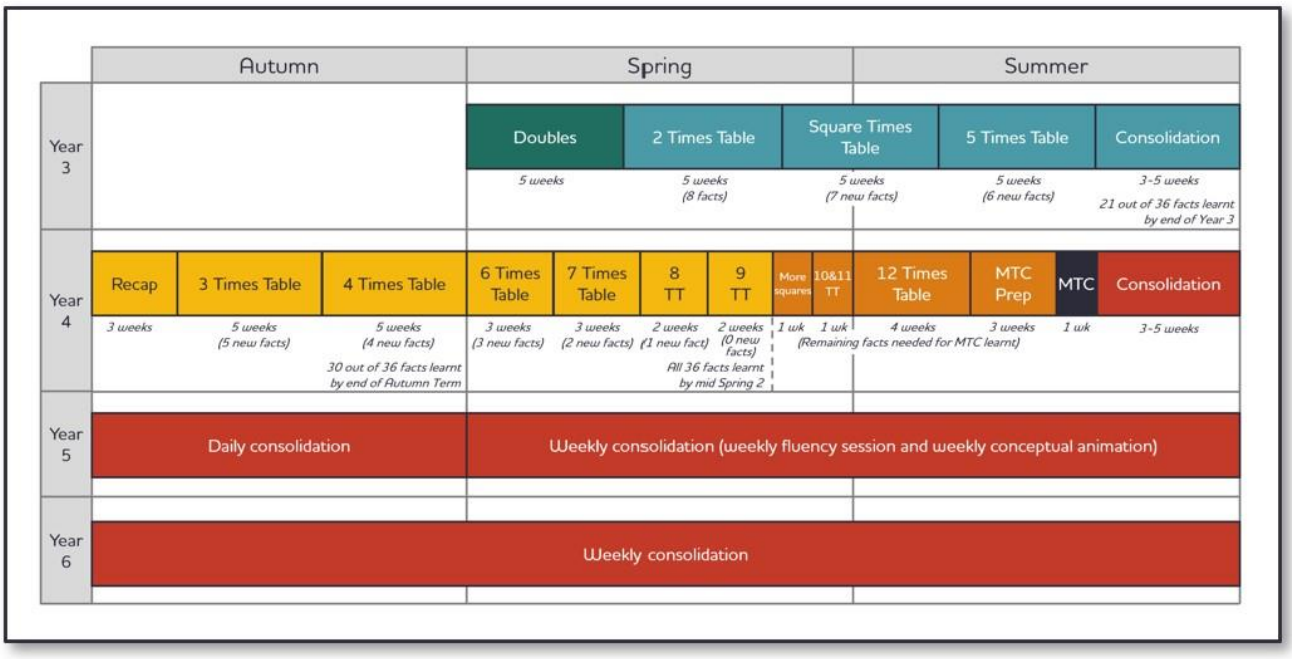
Fluency in number facts

At Woodlands, we understand the importance of factual fluency in maths and to facilitate this we the Number Facts Fluency Programme from Reception to Year 4. The programme is informed by research into the mathematical development of young children.

Learning times tables is crucial to quick mental maths calculations and provides the building blocks for other areas, such as fractions, long multiplication, division and percentages. Your child needs to know all their times tables (up to 12 x 12) by the end of Year 4 and will be tested on their knowledge in the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check.

Below is an overview of when we teach the multiplication facts. Please note this will look slightly different for Year 4 this year as we're following the 'Getting going plan' to ensure they are ready for the Multiplication Tables Check.



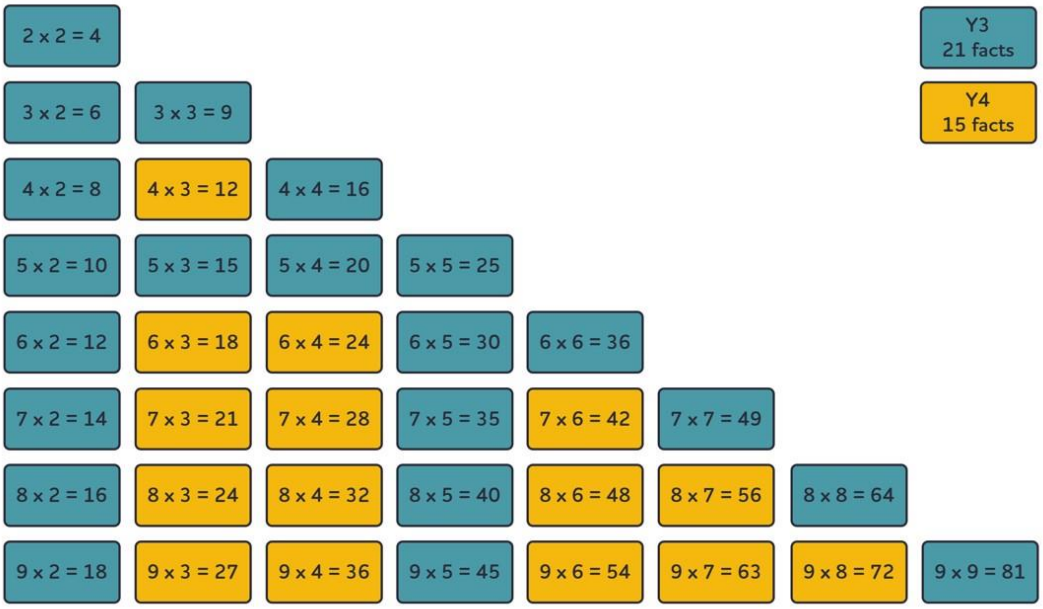
The children are taught conceptual lessons to help them understand multiplication as well as learn the facts. In these lessons they make links between multiplication and division.

All children are taught at the same time and the programme allows teachers to closely track progress. Where children are not keeping up, an intervention can be planned. Very occasionally, some children who have a specific difficulty with learning might need to follow the programme at a different pace.

When the children are taught the multiplication facts, they learn it like a song lyric, e.g. "7 sixes are 42" has eight beats when chanted. The children have learned that multiplication is commutative (you can do it in any order, so 7 x 6 = 6

x 7) but when chanting we always say the largest factor first, e.g. 7 x 6 – seven is the largest factor.

This means that the children only have to learn 36 facts:



We learn the 10, 11 and 12 x table as part of getting reading for the Multiplication Tables Check in Year 4.