Dear Superstar Families,

Multiplication fluency is ESSENTIAL for success in all future math classes! For a student to be considered FLUENT they must be able to recall a fact within 3 seconds. Memorization is not my favorite way for students to learn, but knowing their facts by heart will ensure that they are successful in 4th grade when they begin multiplying numbers with 2-digits.

In order to encourage students to practice their facts regularly, they will have the opportunity to earn parts of a REAL ice cream sundae for every level they pass! Students will take timed multiplication fact tests a couple times a week. They will work at their own pace and take the tests they are ready for. I will keep you updated from time to time so you know what they need to be working on.

During the last week of school, I will host an ice cream party in which every student will get to build a sundae with all the parts they have earned. I want every child to feel successful, so passing their 3’s is an automatic scoop of ice cream! Students will have until the end of May to pass as many levels as possible.

I normally do not like to stress speed in the classroom, however this is just one area in which students must conquer with speed. We will spend about 15 min. a day practicing our facts, learning strategies help us learn our facts and even play some games to get those facts stuck in our heads, but we will need some help on the home front! I have included a list of ways to help your child study. We are currently working on 3’s and 4’s. I will also send home some flashcards for you to use. The flashcards can also be downloaded on our class webpage under classroom info 🡪 newsletters. Thank you in advance for your support and efforts at home!

Warmest Regards,

Ms. Davidson

What they can earn…

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| **Facts** | **I earned…** |
| 0’s | Bowl |
| 1’s | Spoon |
| 2’s | Napkin |
| 3’s | 1 scoop of ice cream |
| 4’s | Sprinkles |
| 5’s | Chocolate syrup |
| 6’s | 1 scoop of ice cream |
| 7’s | Chocolate chips |
| 8’s | Gummy bears |
| 9’s | 1 scoop of ice cream |
| 10’s | M&Ms |
| 11’s | Whipped Cream |
| 12’s | Cherry on top! |

Ways to practice…

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| Flashcards | Show them 1 card at a time. Always keep a mix of facts they know with facts they need to learn in the pile. If your child misses a fact, say it to them six times 3 is 18” and have them repeat it back to you. Turn it into a game, have a reward, whatever you can do to make it fun! |
| Skip counting (forward or backward) | Take whatever they are working on (5’s, 6’s, 7’s, etc.) and have them skip count by that number forwards and backwards.  Example for 6’s: 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42, 48, 54, 60 and  60, 54, 48, 42, 36, 30, 24, 18, 12, 6. This helps them memorize the products! |
| Card games | Multiplication War (turn over 2 playing cards and multiply as fast as you can!) or just take out all the face cards, give the pile of all the rest of the cards to your child. Have them flip over a card and multiply it by whatever fact they are working on. (if they are on 7’s multiply whatever card is turned over by 7!) |
| Write facts out of order | Write out all the facts they are working, out of order without the answers. See how long it takes them to fill in the products. 6 X 4 = \_\_\_ 4 X 8 = \_\_\_ 3 X 4 = \_\_\_ |
| Write facts with missing numbers | Write out all the facts they are working on out of order, but this time, write the product, but leave out the number it is being multiplied by 4 X \_\_ = 16 4 X \_\_ = 28 4 x \_\_\_ = 36 |
| Oral quiz | State fact orally and have child repeat whole fact back to you.  Parent: “What is six times three”  Child: “Six times three is eighteen” |
| Saying & writing facts multiple times | Have child write each fact at least 5 times (doing them out of order can help!) Then have them repeat them to you at least 5 times. |
| Computer | Go to [www.multiplication.com](http://www.multiplication.com) for fun practice games! |