

At Bailey's Court Primary School, we have been running a very successful scheme which both motivates and rewards children to learn their number bonds and their multiplication tables. Children from Year 1 upwards are encouraged to work at home and at school towards the following badges:

Number bonds to 10 (green)

Number bonds to 20 (dark blue)

Number bonds to 100 (sparkly blue)

x2, x5 and x10 multiplication tables (bronze)

x2, x3, x4, x5 and x10 multiplication tables (silver)

x2 up to x10 multiplication tables (gold)

x2 up to x12 multiplication tables (platinum)

As well knowing their multiplication and addition facts, for each of these badges the children need to know the inverse operation for each 'bond' and each 'table'. For example, with the number bonds to 20 challenge, the children need to know that  $13 + 7 = 20$  and also that  $20 - 13 = 7$ . This applies also to a 'tables' badge, where the children need to know that  $7 \times 6 = 42$  and also that  $42 \div 7 = 6$ . The final badge in this list (platinum) represents the government's new expectation for children at the end of Y4.

There are two additional badges which the children themselves have thought up for those who have achieved their 'platinum'. The first of the additional badges is called the 'Master Badge' which tests the children on their x13, x14 and x15 multiplication tables! Our children are aiming high! The second of the additional badges, again devised by the children, is the 'Challenge Badge'. This tests the children on their knowledge of square numbers and square roots, cube numbers and cube roots, plus prime numbers up to 100.

We have been running this system for a number of years and it continues to work very successfully.