

Homework

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support a child's learning. Engaging in homework makes the home school relationships we value so highly, stronger. Our homework policy has been designed to make a positive impact on progress and enhance pupils learning. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have separate homework expectations. This ensures progression throughout the school, transition from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 and helps to prepare children for secondary school.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
- to promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school
- to consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons
- to help children develop good work habits for the future

The Meadow and The Woodland

In The Meadow and The Woodland Classes (Years R, 1 and 2) we encourage the children to read at home with their parents using high quality storybooks from home and school. Book bags are taken home and we believe that parents should read with their child daily. Parents then write in the Reading Diary so the class teacher can evaluate the child's progress against the amount of reading experience. We explain clearly to parents how they can best support their child at this time in order to achieve the maximum benefit.

A list of homework tasks related to the class topic will be issued to Year 1 and 2 children at the beginning of each term. Children choose to complete three (or more) tasks from the list. They bring the homework to school as soon as it is finished and share this with the class. In preparation for Key Stage Two, there will be some topic-based tasks throughout the year which lead to sharing assemblies and school displays.

The Ocean Class and The Mountains Class

This year, children in KS2 will be expected to complete three tasks each week:

- **Reading (15mins a day):** Children will be expected to read at least five times a week at home, both alone and with an adult (even if your child is already a fluent reader). This will be recorded using Padlet.
- **Maths (15 mins):** LBQ differentiated tasks
- **TTRockstars practice (10 mins):** Will be set and checked weekly.

Each half-term, the children will be asked to complete a task related to the school topic – this could be creating a leaflet, or a short presentation, or learning a part for a sharing assembly in school. This will be explained to the children a couple of weeks into each term to give them 3-4 weeks to complete it. We strongly encourage you to support your children in completing these tasks. They provide an invaluable opportunity for your child to extend their knowledge, revise what they have learnt and share in the creation of some invaluable public displays around school.

The Role of Parents in supporting homework

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their child as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit a library regularly, and by discussing the homework set with the child. Access to the internet can always be provided at school if parents have difficulties with this.

We ask parents to support and monitor the homework completed, to encourage the children to read at home regularly and also to write in the reading record where appropriate.

If parents have any problems about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the head teacher. Finally if they should wish to make a complaint about school homework or the way it is implemented, they should contact the Governing Body.

We try to develop an understanding in our pupils of the benefits of homework. We want them to understand how it will extend their learning but also prepare them for the routines of secondary school. We promote homework through positive reinforcement. Parents have a crucial role to play in this process.