

Dear Parent/Carer,

Update on homework.

We are in the process of redesigning the structure of homework at our school, in order for it to be effective and beneficial in supporting children's learning, with the additional benefit of reducing any burdens that, we appreciate, it can create at home.

One of the key elements of homework is to reinforce and build upon the learning within school. The knowledge of numbers, such as knowing number bonds and times tables; and being able to read are vital skills which are the foundations of all other learning.

The National Literacy Trust found that, 'Reading has a significant relationship with a person's happiness.' With this in mind, it is important that we foster opportunities for children to be able to immerse themselves in books, be exposed to a wide variety of rich language and become familiar with some fantastic authors. Taking a pleasure in reading, can really help to transport you to any place, at any time and to anywhere, no matter how old we are. It is therefore essential that we provide time for our children to be able to discover a love of reading.

Research has shown that, 20 minutes of reading every day is the magic number necessary for children to make good progress within reading.

Within school, we pledge to provide opportunities for your child to read every day. This includes, as part of our daily Rainbow Reading session, your child working in a small discussion group, reading and sharing a book. Every Friday afternoon, during our Fab Friday Reading Bonanza, every child in the whole school will be paired up with another child from a different year group to share a book together. Finally, all class teachers have carefully chosen a class story which they will read to their own class, and don't forget the Secret Teacher, who reads to the class on a Friday afternoon.

We promise to provide all of these opportunities but we need your support. We would like you to pledge to listen to and / or read to your child for 10 minutes every evening. If we work together, in partnership, then we can ensure that we reach the golden 20 minutes of quality reading every day.

While we are busy creating purposeful homework opportunities, we would like us, the school, and you, in joint partnership, to focus on the key skills mentioned previously, times tables and reading. Together we can build upon these foundation blocks of learning to provide every child with an opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Miss Kerry Mills
Principal