



Y1/2 Home Learning Information

We have recently updated our provision for home learning and you can find our full Home Learning Policy on our website. We greatly value our partnership with parents in ensuring all pupils achieve their full potential in school and in life on the whole, so we think it is really important to provide worthwhile and meaningful home learning activities. Here is an overview of our provision and expectations for pupils in Years 1 and 2.

Reading - We firmly believe that 'children who read, succeed'; in our experience, pupils who are strong readers, read a lot at home and they learn quickly and well throughout the curriculum. Reading is our first priority in terms of home learning and we expect all pupils to read regularly at home - at least 4 times per week. All pupils have a home reading journal and, as they become more confident decoders and can read by themselves, we expect them to record their reflections and responses to reading. Pupils can access online books via Active Learn and these include comprehension games. Books must be carried in a book bags and brought back into school every day.

Phonics and Key Words – Pupils will be given word lists of key words and sounds to support their reading. A few minutes practise every day is the best way to learn these.

Talk - We know that when children can talk confidently, their writing is much better. Therefore as a school we talk at every opportunity and we encourage parents and other family members to talk to the children more too. As part of our Big Writing strategy, every Friday or Monday, we set a weekly Big Talk Topic for all pupils. We may never write about this topic but we encourage lots of talking about it. Additionally, before Big Writing which takes place in every class on Friday mornings, pupils are provided with the context to talk about at home the evening before.

Spelling – Pupils will receive weekly spellings to practise and learn by heart. For tricky words and words from the statutory lists, the pupils will receive up to 5 spellings to learn. For words that can be spelt phonetically but are consolidating the learning of a particular grapheme (e.g. ear or ure), pupils may receive up to 10 words. A few minutes practise every day is the best way to learn these.

Grammar and handwriting – The national curriculum places high expectations for pupils' grammar development, knowing correct terms, and using Standard English and correct punctuation. To help them meet the national expectation by the end of Year 2, pupils are encouraged to practise sentence writing (incorporating their spelling words) using correct handwriting. About 5 sentences per week will help.

Big Maths Learn Its - 'Learn Its' are addition facts and times tables facts which pupils will gradually learn by heart throughout school to help improve their fluency in maths and give them confidence. We expect pupils to practise their set Learn Its a few minutes every day.

Maths practise – generally once per week, pupils will be given an activity to practise current class work. This will most likely be an on-line activity on Mathletics, our maths learning platform, but may be a worksheet to complete or a game to play. Sometimes it is beneficial to give individual pupils additional tasks to continue practise from classwork. All of these have most impact on learning when completed on the same day as they are set and pupils can complete them at lunch time if they have commitments after school.

Topic Projects - Pupils will be set a longer term, open ended project linked to a class topic or science. The project will encourage family participation in learning and will provide ample time (e.g. 4-6 weeks) for pupils to research and complete. It is up to the pupil how deep they dive or how long they spend on their project.

Our routines

All classes give out weekly home learning activities, mostly on a Friday, but some as necessary. If a piece of work needs handing in, teachers will specify when. When pupils are required to practise for a weekly test (e.g. spelling or Learn Its, normally on a Friday), there is usually at least 4-5 days (including a weekend) in between.

Set work will have always been explained and discussed in class before coming home; it may be a continuation of classwork, or an online activity already familiar to your child. We will try not to send work home that the child cannot already do and we will include a clear explanation/reminder of what is expected.

Each child has a home learning book and the majority of tasks are kept in there. We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of home learning activities as we set in school, i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil.

Most tasks will not require marking. When they do, the task will be marked in the home learning book if handed in by the specified day. Not all tasks will need to be handed in; there are other ways in which we will respond or give feedback; for example, sharing results in class discussion, putting work onto a display or transferring work into class books.

Please remember that home learning is meant to be an enjoyable and worthwhile activity for all and should not be allowed to cause distress to pupils, parents or teachers! Problems should be discussed with your child's class teacher as soon as they arise.

Further information about helping your child at home will be maintained on our school website.

Useful Websites:

www.activelearn.co.uk – here pupils can access online Bug Club and Phonics Bug books and play the comprehension activities. Your child's login details are as follows:

- School ID: 67aa
- Username: *(the first 4 letters of your child's first name and the first 4 letters of your child's surname in lower case; for example: Joseph Bloggs would be joseblog)*
- Password: changeme *(unless you have previously changed it)*

uk.mathletics.com/ - lots of maths games and practise task that have been allocated by the teacher. Pupils' log in information is in their home learning books

www.phonicsplay.co.uk – there are lots of phonics games that the children are familiar with. Phase 3-5 games are suitable for Y1 and Phase 5-6 are suitable for Y2

www.topmarks.co.uk

www.ictgames.com – lots of maths and literacy games

www.mrthorne.com – pupils can have fun practising phonics

primarygamesarena.com/

www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames.html

primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/measures.htm#Time – super activities to help your child learn how to tell the time

www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr - Dance Mat touch typing