

# Blakedown CE Primary - Homework Leaflet



#### Dear Parents

Please find below our homework procedures for the beginning of 2018-19. There are a few changes from last year, but most year groups will continue to be set daily tasks and a range of other 'Grid or Topic Tasks' that will allow children to have choice, be creative and independent and link closely to their topics. The grid below outlines the expectations for each year group.

## Homework Expectations

Year Group	Weekly Homework
Reception	Daily reading, weekly topic grid activity - starting in the spring term.
Year 1	Daily reading, spellings and number work. At least one activity chosen from
	the topic grid. (Spellings will begin in the latter half of autumn term)
Year 2	Daily reading, spellings and times tables.
	Literacy and/or Maths activity.
	Half termly topic activity.
Years 3 - 6	Daily reading, spellings and times tables.
	Literacy and Maths activity.
	Half termly topic activity.

Children in Reception should try to read a little each day. Children in Class 1 will be given a Homework Book where there will be a topic grid with various activities linked to their topic. Children will need to choose to do at least one of these a week so that over the course of 6 weeks they have completed one activity from each row, however they are encouraged to do more if they would like to do so. Once each task has been completed it should be put into their journal and returned to be marked. Homework books should be handed in on a **Tuesday**, these will be returned on a **Thursday** ready for the next chosen activities.

Children in Classes 2-5 will have one topic activity to do over a half term, this will be quite open-ended to allow creativity and independence. At the end of each half term, topic homework will be celebrated in class during an afternoon and will also be displayed during 'Open Book' nights and Parents' Evenings.

The purpose of all the topic activities is to give your child a chance to choose an activity and style of presentation that is of interest to them and also another opportunity for you to share in their learning. Literacy and Numeracy tasks for Years 2-6 may include online homework which will be set on <u>Education</u> City, MyMaths or SPaG.com.

#### SPELLINGS

In Year 1 spellings will be given out on a Monday and tested the following Monday.

In Year 2 children will initially focus in school on phase 5 phonics and phonics patterns with spelling homework set later in the term.

In Years 3-6 spellings will be given out on a Friday and tested on the Monday.

Spelling patterns are learnt across the week and should be learnt over a weekend to be tested on the Monday. Set word patterns and lists from the curriculum will be followed. In most year groups, children will be given a number of words to learn and practise. If the spellings follow a pattern, children may be tested on a mystery word that follows the same pattern.

#### NUMBER/TIMES-TABLES

All children need to know their number bonds, times tables **and** related division facts. These can be learnt in a fun way, through a variety of games.

Expectations in Year 2: 2, 5 and 10.

Expectations in Year 3: 3, 4, 6 and 7.

Expectations in Year 4: 8, 9, 11 and 12.

The curriculum expectation is that all pupils are able to know and use their tables by the end of Year 4, up to and including x12.

In 2020 it will become compulsory for all Year 4 pupils to undertake a new times tables test.

# Reading Records & Zone Board Sheets

All children have Reading Records. Year 3-6 have Zone Board Record Sheets. The Zone Board Sheets show daily zones, spelling and mental maths scores and will be sent home each day and need to be returned to school the following day to allow for teacher-parent communication. Zone Board Sheets require a parent signature over the weekend and on their return on Monday will be signed by the teacher.

## How can parents help?

- 1. Parental support and interest in learning will heighten academic success and pupils' interests in learning. We would encourage you to hear your child read out loud each day for around 10 minutes and a number practice/game for around 10 minutes. Ensure children have a quiet place and time to concentrate on the written tasks set.
- 2. In Reception Year 1 reading books will be changed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. In Year 2-6 books will be changed when the children put them in the class box. In all year groups, please encourage your child to read all types of reading materials, these can be recorded in their reading records.



- 3. Please ensure reading records, Communication Books and Zone Board Record Sheets are in school every day. This helps your child record their spellings and tasks accurately.
- Parents of pupils in Year 3-6
  must sign the Zone Board
  Record Sheet to show that you
  have seen their weekly results.
- All activities should be completed as independently as possible. Please comment how much help was needed and if the tasks were enjoyed. Teachers will use the feedback effectively.
- If possible, attend open days, opportunities to work alongside your child and parents' evenings as these will give additional support for you and your child.

## <u>Dialogue</u>

The Communication Book. reading record and Zone Board essential Sheets are for facilitating parent-teacher communication regarding homework tasks. This dialogue is very useful and can help your child to understand that we are working in partnership and that all parties value learning.

By working together we can support all aspects of learning and development and in doing so help raise the perception of our pupils as successful learners with improving standards.



# Handing in Homework

Team points will be awarded to each child for handing in their written homework by the deadline. Additional team points will be awarded for the level of effort or accuracy put into completing the homework.

In Year 3-6, if homework is not handed in on time this will need to be completed in school during break time.

In Years 1 & 2, homework is being given out on a Thursday and will need handing in on a **Tuesday**. In Years 3-6, homework is being given out on a Friday and will need handing in on a **Wednesday**.

Homework will be referenced on the class page of the website.

We are aware that there are occasions when it is difficult to complete homework in the given time, if this happens then please communicate the circumstances to the teacher. This work will then be sent home to be completed for the following day. Please note that homework handed in late may not be marked until the following week.

Consistently late or absent homework will result in parents being contacted by their child's class teacher to discuss the matter further.

<u>THANK YOU:</u> Thank you for your continuing support in this important matter. Should you have any queries regarding the content of this information sheet please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.