



Friday 22nd September 2023

Homework information

Dear parents,

As we come to the end of the first few weeks of the new academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to share an outline of homework expectations and support. Homework will come home with your child on Friday 22nd September and you will notice that we have timetabled the first term as an easy guide of what should be received and when.

You will notice we have aligned year groups timings so that all homework across school will be set on a **Friday** and will be collected in by the following **Thursday**. We appreciate that many children have busy schedules throughout the week with clubs and activities so this should give all children the opportunity to find time to complete. We ask that you please support by encouraging your child to think about suitable times to complete and not leave homework all until the night before to avoid causing unnecessary stress. The aim is that home learning opportunities are to be small chunks of revisit and practise activities which children should all be able to be completed independently, with perhaps a little encouragement at times. If you find that your child is struggling with any component of homework, please do speak to the class teacher who will be more than happy to help. When completing times tables practise, please note that it is absolutely fine for a child to have the times table they are practising in front of them to refer to until they are confident to try without – the repetition of finding an answer and recording it is part of the learning journey.

Reading is, as always, a key priority at school. Over the last few years, we have invested heavily in new books for reading both at home and in school for the children to enjoy. Please support your child's reading progress and fluency by reading five times a week. For older pupils, this might be that you are monitoring that they are reading and signing their reading record weekly. Each week, teachers collate who has read five times and the percentage of readers in each class for that week will be shared on classroom windows and the newsletter. Rewards are earned each week for challenges set in each key stage for the highest percentage of children who have read five times and had their reading record signed. Please encourage children to enjoy reading in many ways – this may be on the Reading eggs app, magazines, newspapers, poetry, fiction or non-fiction; the greater variety, the greater the reading engagement and development.



You will receive a home learning wallet which will contain home learning for the week. There will also be some opportunities for online learning as many children really enjoy learning this way. Please refer to the home learning expectations for details of your child's year group.

Last year, we trialled new reading and maths software and feedback from both pupils and parents was positive, therefore we will continue for this academic year. Passwords should be sent with your child however if you have any questions whatsoever, please do contact your child's class teacher who will be able to help. On our website, there is some guidance about how to use both packages for those who are new to this particular software. There is a helpline direct through to the provider, however we are more than happy to help in school should you need a little support to get started.

To further support home learning, we will be offering a before and after school drop in learning club. Pupils may just want a quiet space to complete tasks which they have been allocated or they may wish to take the opportunity to do additional online learning via Times table rockstars, Reading eggs, Mathletics or Maths seeds. As a result of parent feedback, staff delivering the sessions will try to read with all pupils attending across a week so they have some quiet adult reading time too; as the club is voluntary, this is not compulsory and if a child would prefer not to read with an adult, they will be able to learn independently. Clubs will start week beginning **Monday 25th September** and will be available **Monday to Thursday**. The morning session will be **8:15-8:40 am** and after school will be **3:15-4:00 pm**. Please ensure you have completed a permission form (below) prior to your child's first session. As this is a drop in club, they may access as many sessions as they choose and are not committing to attending any particular session. Drop off and collection will be the school office. The club is suitable for years 1 to 6. We ask that if your child is attending a morning session, that they arrive on time so that the club can start promptly. The last session for this term will be **Thursday 14th December**.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you in advance for support with home learning. We understand that for a few children, home learning can bring particular challenges. We urge you to discuss any worries or concerns with your child's class teacher as they will be able to offer some advice and prioritise learning where needed. Please try to avoid overwhelming your child by trying to complete homework in a short time frame and causing anxiety – it would be preferable to just let the teacher know rather than cause any undue stress or anxiety around home learning. If you have any questions or would like support, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Kind regards

Nichola Stewart
Deputy Headteacher



Autumn After School Learning Club 2023

I give my child _____ class _____

Permission to attend learning club during any of the above times (Monday to Thursday the morning or afternoon sessions).

Signed _____