Why bother doing homework?

Aside from developing a strong attitude to learning and developing the ability to follow rules and meet deadlines, homework supports academic achievement. At the end of year 2, to meet the expected standard in writing, children need to demonstrate that they can spell most common words * correctly. Y1 and Y2 spellings are taught in school but to make sure that they are embedded and there for the child to use in their writing, they need to be rehearsed over and over. The spellings sent home in Y1 and Y2 support this and unless the child has chance to revisit and rehearse, they struggle to apply spelling knowledge in writing. Y2 have a reading test at the end of the year where they have to answer questions about a text. This is a tricky test and without continued reading (and questioning) practice, the child may struggle to meet the expected standard. Aside from good timetables knowledge underpinning most aspects of math's, at the end of Year 4, children are required to sit a national times tables test which is timed. Their recall needs to be really fast and children need a secure knowledge. Without regular practice at home they could be at risk of not passing this test.

At the end of Y6, to meet the expected standard in writing in the SATs, children must be able to spell most of the statutory spellings * correctly in their daily writing – they also have a separate spelling test. As with Year 2, without repetition and frequent practice, they may not meet this standard. Children in Y6 also have a very tricky reading test where, like year 2, they have to answer questions about a text. Here is a link to the 2019 test and the questions.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key -stage-2-tests-2019-english-reading-test-materials

This test is timed so children in Y6 not only have to be confident readers, they have to be able to read quickly whilst still understanding what they read. They only get 1 hour to complete all of this test. Without continued reading practice throughout all of the years, children are at risk of not completing, understanding and (in some) areas not being able to access this test. You can help your child to be successful in all of these tests by supporting them with the homework which we send home.

*Lists of words at the expected standard are available from class teachers.

Bewsey Lodge Primary School Weekly Newsletter Friday 8th September 2023

Information: How You Can Help Us At Home

Towards the end of last year we had some issues around children not completing homework. I am pleased to say that after introducing some new initiatives and reminding everyone about the expectations, things improved. I thought it may be useful to share with you again what the expectations are and other strategies we will be using going forward to motivate the children to take responsibility for this part of school life.

We understand that children and families have lives outside of school and they have clubs and pastimes which mean (on some evenings) they are busy. With this in mind we ask that:

Children (in all year groups) read at home a minimum of 3 times a week. Spellings for Y1 and Y2: children will be given a weekly sheet with their spellings on, there will be 3 columns to fill, and therefore spellings need to be practiced at least 3 times per week.

Spellings for Years 3-6: 5 times per week.

Timetables are for Years 3-6- only – the full sheet should be completed.

As I am sure you can appreciate, it would be easier for teachers to NOT send homework home and spend time in school checking and monitoring it however we believe it has a purpose. Homework is sent for 3 main reasons: it **aids academic achievement** (particularly reading and spelling), it **prepares** the children for the greater volume of homework which is sent out at high school and completion of homework at given deadlines **prepares the children for adult life** and the workplace.

A homework support session runs from **12.30-12.50** in school, if children are struggling to complete reading 3 times per week at home, they will be able to catch up during this time. I will be present to help with any issues relating to reading. In Key Stage 2, timetables and spellings will be checked on the child's CLASP day (either Thursday or Friday). If this homework isn't completed, the children will be expected to complete this homework during the homework support session during CLASP time. Again Mrs Bailey or I will be there to support with any problems. We are giving raffle tickets weekly to every child who completes all homework AND 5 reads. Tickets will be drawn at the end of the half term and the winner in each group will get a £10 prize!

Lunch price increase:

We have been informed by the Local Authority that the price of a school lunch has now increased from $\pounds 2.40$ to $\pounds 2.60$ per meal. You should continue to pay for all school meals via Parent Pay in advance.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Williams

PRIDE in all we do: Perseverance Respect Individuality Diversity Equality !

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Reminders...

Clubs will be back on from the week commencing 18th September 2023.

Polite reminders:



- Please continue to send your child in to school wearing their PE kit on their class PE day.
- The school day starts at 8.45am. Children should be in their classrooms ready to start learning by this time.

School Meals: Please ensure that all outstanding ParentPay debts are cleared and remain this way every day.

<u>School Meals are £2.60 per day and MUST be paid for in advance</u> (KS2 only)

Little Links...

Please remember to complete a registration form before your child attends little links (before or after school) even if they are only going to be attending once. The forms are available at the office, thank you.

Star of the week award winners

Nursery - Callum	Nursery - Aria
Red - Alfie-Joe	Orange - All of the class
Yellow - Mobare	Green - Kadie
Blue - George	Purple - Emily
Silver - Mia	Diamond - Connor
Gold - Bryce	Opal - Michal
Sapphire - Ali	Topaz - Eli
Emerald - Umar	Jade - Ella-Francesca
Amethyst - Max	

Well Done Everyone!

★ Headteacher ★ Award ★ Award Ella-Francesca, Jade Umar, Emerald Harry, Purple Reagan, Amethyst Dominic, Gold Angel, Opal

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