

Homework

2018 – 2019

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a year since we last reviewed our homework policy and implemented the 'Chilli Challenge'. We have received lots of positive comments from children and families around the improvements made to our homework policy.

This year, we have also included Knowledge Organisers within our homework policy and we have made two small changes to the 'Chilli Challenge' format, which we think will improve this aspect of homework.

Below is a reminder of our rationale for setting homework and the expectations for each year group, so that you know what homework your child is receiving each week.

Why do we set homework?

- To enable pupils to practice and consolidate their classroom learning,
- To prepare children for future learning and new topics,
- To enable parents to engage with and support their children's learning,
- To inspire and nurture a love of learning and develop pupils' independence,

What homework will my child receive?

Below is a list of the homework which your child will receive each week. Class teachers will keep a record of the homework completed and returned.

This year, paper will be available to pupils for them to complete their Chilli Challenge homework instead of sending homework books. This ensures that work can be displayed on classroom displays and around school.

Nursery

Here are some ways you can support your child's learning at home:

- Have you shared a book with your child this week? Picture books will be sent home with your child.
- Have you baked with your child this week?
- Have you taken your child to this park this week?
- Are you encouraging your child to feed themselves?
- Are you encouraging your child to dress and undress themselves?
- Have you encouraged your child to draw and mark make this week?
- Talk to your child about their likes and dislikes. Encourage them to answer in full sentences.
- Encourage your child to share and take turns.
- Sing number songs with your child. Encourage your child to count to 5.

Reception

Reading Challenge - reading books are sent home each week. Your child will receive 'Regular Reader' certificates through the 'Reading Challenge'.

Please continue to practise the set 1 speed sounds and high frequency/tricky words with your child.

Maths – one piece of maths homework will be sent home each week for you to complete with your child.

English/Mark Making - an English/mark making activity will also be sent home once a week for your child to complete.

Chilli Challenge – please see the information below about the 'Chilli Challenge'.

Knowledge Organiser – Children will bring home a Knowledge Organiser for their topic and they should try to learn the key vocabulary and the facts and information.

Year 1 to Year 6

Reading Challenge

Children in KS1 should read for 10 minutes every night and children in KS2 for 20 minutes. Parents are asked to listen to their child read, talk about the book together and ask your child questions.

Questions can include:

- Who is your favourite character and why?
- Why do think the character ...?
- What do you think will happen in the next chapter? Why?
- How do you think the character feels in this part of the story? Why?

Please sign your child's reading record every time they read as they will receive prizes through the 'Reading Challenge' and they can even win an eReader/Kindle.

Your child's class teacher will check their reading record each week.

Times Tables Rockstars

Children in **Year 2 to Year 6** have access to the TT Rockstars website. This is a fantastic website which allows the children to practice and improve their multiplication and division skills. Children will receive a unique username and password from their class teacher and just 10 minutes practice a few times each week can support your child in improving their speed and accuracy and becoming a more confident mathematician. Your child's class teacher will check their progress each week.

Spelling

Children will receive spelling homework each week. This could be a list of words to learn for a test the following week or an activity to develop their understanding of a spelling rule they have been learning in the classroom.

Knowledge Organisers

Children will bring home a Knowledge Organiser at the start of each topic. They should try to learn and remember the key vocabulary and the facts and information included. You can help your child by quizzing them and asking questions, e.g. In what year did Henry VIII become king? What is the definition of monarch?

Chilli Challenge

Children from **Reception to Year 6** will continue to receive the '**Chilli Challenge**' each half term. There have been two small changes to this.

1. Children will now receive a selection of eight activities at the start of each half term. There will be a mixture of activities from all areas of the curriculum. The 'peri-ometer' identifies the amount of challenge or time required to complete an activity. The 'Extra Hot' tasks may be project based and could be completed over a period of 2-3 weeks.
2. This year, children can complete as many activities as they would like to. The activities can be returned to school as soon as they are completed to be shared with their class. They will then be displayed in the classroom or on displays throughout school. There is paper available for children to complete the activities rather than a homework book. This will make it easier for work to be displayed and celebrated.

Children must complete at least 3 activities each half term and return them to school.

If you have any questions about homework, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support with homework.

Mr C North

Sent on behalf of Werneth Primary School