



Homework at the Junior School

Home Learning is an opportunity for children to consolidate their learning at school and for parents to help practise key skills with them. This is why we focus on reading and maths and set weekly expectations around completing the tasks.

Reading

Reading is such a key skill that underpins so much learning across the curriculum. Reading on a daily basis helps children to thrive and develop a passion for books. However we understand that this is not possible for all children and their families and so we ask that they read a minimum of 3 times a week, for at least 20 minutes. After learning to read phonetically at the Infant School, children move onto to focus on the key skills of reading with fluency, an understanding of new vocabulary, retrieval of information from the text and by beginning to make predictions about the book. We use Accelerated Reader to support this, where children try to pass quizzes after finishing a book.

Join the Millionaire Reading Club

The children complete a half termly Star Reader test online test that determines the range of books that they read at their current level of comprehension, this is called the ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development).

When a book is finished and a quiz is passed, the words read is stored and children can aim to join the Millionaire Reading Club.

Simply by reading a million words or passing 100 quizzes in a year. Last year we had 133 children in the school and altogether we read 250,000,000 words.

We have an amazing library, stocked with thousands of books, which teachers and our librarian help the children choose.



Why read for 20 minutes a day?

CHILD A	CHILD B	CHILD C
reads 20 minutes per day	reads 5 minutes per day	reads 1 minute per day
hears 1,800,000 words per year	hears 282,000 words per year	hears 8,000 words per year
scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests	scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests	scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests

Maths

We use a range of online programmes that the children should spend between 20-30 minutes on each week.

Year Group	Online Programme
3	NumBots
4	TT Rockstars
5	Mathletics
6	Mathletics

Teachers use this flexibly to meet the needs of the children. For example some children in year 3 will begin to use TT Rockstars as they complete NumBots.

Year 4 children take a national Multiplication Tables Check in June of next year, where the expectation is that they will know all of their tables.



Spellings:

You child is taught spellings daily by their teacher. We found that children being tested by parents each week, was meaning children were just learning them for a test and it wasn't making them better spellers in their writing. Parents also told us about finding time to do it and it being quite stressful. The children may still want to bring home their weekly spellings and you may want to still support them, but there is no expectation to learn them for a test.

When is Home Learning set?

It is set at the start of the week by the teacher and can be completed when it works best during the week.

My child is finding it too hard and we can't fit it in.

Not a problem, talk to their teacher and we'll find a solution together.

When does it start?

Reading started from the beginning of the term, Maths will start this week.

We don't have access to the internet at home.

Come and talk to your child's teacher. Just like when the children were in lockdown, we don't want this to be a barrier.