



Home Learning Information
February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may know we launched a new approach to Home Learning in October following a year of research, visiting schools and looking at different formats. Two parent sessions were delivered, with the presentation available on the school website. The school carried out a parent questionnaire, met with pupils and a representative group of parents.

We have been reviewing the Home Learning Parent Survey results and comments and we have integrated many of your suggestions into school practice.

Following your feedback we will be making the following modifications:

- Learning coverage (what teachers have taught throughout the week) will now be emailed to parents as well as being available on the school website. For Years 1, 2 and 3 this will be represented in a newsletter format and in table form for Years 4, 5 and 6.
- When applicable teachers will provide links to educational websites that will support home learning.
- Collaborative learning projects (Tier 2) will be clearly signposted so that you know due dates, the theme or purpose of the project and activity.
- We have also listed a greater range of collaborative learning projects (Tier 2) with increased opportunities to produce handwritten home learning that does not involve screen time.
- We are looking into additional resources (English and Mathematics) for parents/carers requiring pencil and paper activities.
- We have created a distinct home learning page on the website to enable easier navigation.

We hope that these amendments will deliver a system that meets the needs of all our families. Please be assured that Home Learning will continue to be reviewed throughout this academic year

I would like to thank everyone who completed the survey.

Adrian Hall
Headteacher

Tier 1 (Non-negotiable home learning)

1. Daily Reading

Books centralise the school curriculum and reading forms the foundation for all learning. Consequently the school aspires to promote a love a reading at school and home.

We actively encourage children outside of school to either:

- read or listen to stories daily;
- read independently daily;
- read to and/or share a story with a family member;
- be read to.

Reading exposes children to rich, expressive language. Reading promotes a wide vocabulary, grammatical structures and it can create new, exciting, fictional worlds and enhance children's imagination.

As part of their home learning parents and carers are encouraged to talk with their children about the content of their books. Parents and carers can help in this process by:

- discussing the characters and important events in the text;
- encouraging children to predict what might happen next;
- discussing emotions felt by characters through dialogue and actions;
- extending discussions beyond the text by relating it to everyday life;
- encouraging children to give, and to justify, their opinions.

All children will bring a book home to read. This will be a school library book and/or a banded level reading book. Older children are encouraged to bring in their own reading books from home. Levelled reading books are based on the teacher's assessment of reading and comprehension. Parents and children are encouraged to record their reading comments and thoughts daily in their reading diary; this book will also act as communication between home and school.

1b. Times Tables or daily numbers (Reception to Year 6)

Rhodes Avenue School values the importance of children recalling key number facts (e.g. number bonds/halves and doubles etc.) quickly and accurately.

Through knowing their times tables pupils will gain the foundation for learning different aspects of mathematics such as: place value, division, algebra, long multiplication and fractions.

Different year groups will set number activities and times table tasks encouraging children to learn and practice; some activities may be web based.

1c. Phonics (Nursery, Reception and Year 1)

Phonics support children when learning to read and spell. Sounds will be shared with the parents to show what the school will be teaching each week. We will support phonic home learning through parent workshops and information sessions.

Tier 2

Collaborative and Whole School Home Learning Projects

- Throughout the year there will be opportunities to enhance learning through participating in collaborative projects.
- These activities are designed to encourage shared learning. It's a collaborative approach to learning that can be completed with parents, siblings, family members or friends.
- Each year group provides a list of projects and you select a minimum of three activities to complete throughout the year.
- The projects range in outcome, some are creative but all encourage research and independent thinking.
- Children will be asked to share their collaborative learning with their peers in school. This could be through class presentations, at a school fair/event, through display, in an assembly or by entering a competition with local schools.
- Tier 2 collaborative projects for the rest of the school year have been planned, due dates and project information have been provided.
- Many parents like the Whole School Home Learning projects so we have added a list of other projects to be completed with due dates included.

Tier 3

Additional Voluntary Home Learning Opportunities

Additional voluntary home learning is available for you to complete at home. This learning includes *Mathletics*, an online mathematics program. Children have been given login information and there is a link on the Class website page and the weekly e-mail.

There is also a table on the Home Learning website page that contains a range of education internet sites.

Finally we are looking to see if workbooks could be purchased via the school linking to year group learning as a paper and pencil home learning activity.