

Abbey Road Primary School



Homework – Guidance for Parents

Curriculum Information for Parents

At Abbey Road we have been working hard to develop our curriculum and to ensure that it is well sequenced, progressive and engaging for all children. We want them to be enthusiastic learners, so we aim to deliver content in ways that are exciting, challenging and help the children to learn more and remember more. Alongside this letter, you should have received your child's half termly learning letter which details the curriculum coverage for the half term. Hopefully this will help you to engage with your child's learning.

A great place to get further information about each subject area is the school website - key learning - curriculum (hyperlink below). Here you will find each year group overview for the year and also specific subject pages which outline the curriculum content and our approach to each area.

<https://abbeyroadprimary.co.uk/curriculum-assessment/>

Supporting Your Child at Home

We know that the children work hard at school and that whilst they are here, we are providing them with all the knowledge and skills they need to succeed and develop. We encourage children to be active and pursue their passions and interests out of school and we know that many of the children take part in clubs and activities in the evenings and at weekends, often to a very high standard. We also know that this can be demanding on your time. However, we recognise that parental interaction with children's learning at home can have a very positive impact on children's progress and the regular consolidation of learning can help the learning to stick.

Reading

We have chosen to prioritise reading and reading at home in our homework guidance as learning to read, both word decoding and language comprehension strategies, are vital to ensuring success at school.

"The reading and writing of Standard English, alongside proficient language development, is the key to unlocking the rest of the academic curriculum. Pupils who struggle to read struggle in all subjects, and the wonders of a knowledge-rich curriculum pass them by. Reading is also a key indicator for success in further education, higher education and employment." The Reading Framework DFE 2023.

As specified in our reading diaries, we ask that children aim to read at home EVERY day. We ask that parents read with their child whenever possible as this encourages reading aloud, which helps with text comprehension and also allows parents to model fluent reading by sharing a book together. In Reception and Year 1, we also send home worm words for the children to read. These are sets of word which cover those words which are sometimes tricky to read and need to be learnt by sight rather than by decoding.

Please can all reading be recorded in the school reading diary. Each class is encouraging reading participation in various ways. Teachers are making reading recommendations to children, promoting the reading lists in the reading diaries, sharing high quality texts in whole class reading sessions and rewarding regular reading at home in a variety of different ways. Please ask your child for further details about what is happening in their class.

Phonics, Spelling and Grammar

In Reception and KS1, we teach phonics in school daily. A knowledge of each phoneme/sound letter correspondence and developing the ability to blend these together to read words, are the first step on the reading journey. Sound sheets/booklets will be sent home which detail the sounds being taught and details of the RWInc rhymes to allow you to support your child at home. Please look at the phonics section on the school website (hyperlink below) for further information. This includes a pronunciation guide, a useful guide to blending for parents and information about our approach.

<https://abbeyroadprimary.co.uk/phonics/>

In the first half term of Year 2, we revise set 2/3 phonic sounds, before moving onto daily spelling lessons after October half term. Before half term, we will send a weekly 'sound sheet', with phonemes that have been revised at school for children to rehearse, practise and identify in words at home. After half term, we will begin to set weekly spelling tasks via the reading diaries. This will usually involve accessing Ed Shed and playing the spelling games on there (usernames will be provided and stuck into reading diaries at this point). We are asking parents to encourage and support their children to engage with this and request that the children practise at least 4 times every week. This spelling approach continues in KS2, with the addition of a weekly page of grammar learning using the CGP books for each year group. This will link with either the grammar or spelling teaching in school that week.

Maths

Our final priority for homework is learning basic addition, subtraction and multiplication facts, as these are so important in ensuring fluency in maths and will support all maths learning in school.

In KS1, number bonds to ten and twenty are included at the back of the children's reading diaries, but we would also recommend a free app called 'One Minute Maths'. We recommend accessing this at least 4 times per week to practise subitising and basic addition and subtraction skills.

In Year 2, the children begin learning their 2, 5 and 10 times table number facts and we ask that you use Times Tables Rock Stars to practise these.

In KS2, all multiplication tables are included in the back of the children's reading diaries and we also use Times Tables Rock Stars to practise our retrieval of these number facts. We ask that parents support their child to access this at least 4 times every week.

Additional Tasks

We will also send home optional home learning projects each half term that you can support your child with, which are linked to their wider curriculum. Previous projects have included: designing and making an island, making a stone age weapon and creating a working board game using an electric circuit.

Summary

The tables below clarify our approach for each year group:

Reception	
Reading	Aim to read with your child every day – minimum 4 x weekly
Worm words	A few minutes each time you read. These will be sent home when your child has their first red reading book.

Year 1	
Reading	Aim for every day – minimum of 4 x weekly
Worm words	A few minutes each time you read
Addition and Subtraction Facts	Practise basic addition and subtraction facts (using number bonds in the back of the reading diary or by downloading and accessing 'One Minute Maths')

Year 2	
Reading	Aim for every day – minimum of 4 x weekly
Phonics (before October half term)	Practise the sounds that are sent home weekly and identify them in words.
Spelling (after October half term)	Access EdShed 4 x weekly
Addition and Subtraction Facts	Practise basic addition and subtraction facts (using number bonds in the back of the reading diary or by downloading and accessing 'One Minute Maths') 4 x weekly
Multiplication Facts (From Spring Term)	Access Times Tables Rock Stars to revise and become fluent with 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
Homework Project	One per half term (optional)

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6)	
Reading	Aim for every day – minimum of 4 x weekly
Spelling	Access EdShed 4 x weekly
CGP Book	Class teachers will set a section per week which will link with either the spelling pattern or grammar/vocabulary being taught in school
Multiplication Facts	Access Times Table Rock Stars 4 x weekly
Homework Project	One per half term (optional)

The aim of our approach to homework is to consolidate and provide extra practice of those key skills which enable the children to continue to make progress in key areas, whilst sharing their learning at home.

If you have any questions or require any support with this, please feel free to contact either Mrs Horton or Mrs Lever on the email addresses provided below:

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Many thanks for your support.