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Thursday 22nd September, 2022

Dear Parents/ carers

Homework

We are aware that there have been a few little hiccups with rolling out new procedures for homework, and there seems to be a lot to take in. As a school, we want to balance our homework policy with children's ability to play and enjoy home life with their parents/carers, take part in more active or creative pursuits such as drawing or playing sport which will benefit their emotional wellbeing enormously. We are also fully aware that many of you are eager to recommence the support you give your child at home through homework opportunities, whereas some of you may believe that your child is exhausted after a full week at school and homework is a step too far if pupils are attending their own clubs and out-of-school-classes. It is all a bit of a balancing act and we appreciate that every child learns differently. We are also aware that, even though we are now at the point where our ICT technician has renewed Teams logins for each class, not all of our children have the same access to digital devices.

Consequently, please find below a summary of homework opportunities for pupils to participate in, which are a mixture of compulsory and voluntary tasks.

Reading: This is a compulsory part of homework and we expect every pupil to read their home-school reading book at least **three times a week**. For pupils undertaking the RWI programme, they will receive a RWI 'book bag' book that is exactly matched to the phonics they are learning in school. RWI pupils will have the opportunity to change these books once a week, in their RWI lessons each Thursday to match the learning they are in receipt of. They will also bring home a love-to-read book, which is closely matched to their phonic ability, but where some of the words in the text may need a little additional support from you. For pupils who are not on the RWI programme, they will have a book that is closely matched to their reading age, and they can change these books themselves at a time appropriate to their class timetable. For pupils who have their home reading evidenced in their reading records/diaries at least three times each week, they will receive a reward at the end of each term.

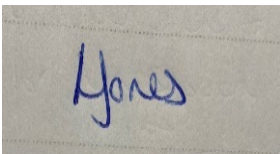
Spellings: Pupils in RWI lessons will not receive spellings to learn at home, as all of their learning around spelling is delivered on a daily basis within their RWI sessions. For pupils not on the RWI programme, in Year 2 and in KS2, teachers will send home a paper copy of their spellings which will be compulsory to learn on a weekly basis for a test each Thursday. Spellings to learn will be sent home this Friday (if they haven't already started) and tests will be from the following Thursday. Spellings are a compulsory element of homework.

Times Tables: Each pupil in Year 1-6 has been allocated a login for TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars). Their login will be provided on a sticker that will be on the inside front cover of their homework diary. This homework is voluntary and their teacher will allocate times tables that they have been rehearsing in class. There will be a weekly certificate given on a Friday to the pupil who has accessed TTRS the most each week, or has gained the most points that week, or has

improved the most that week. **Please note that, if your child is unable to access Times Table Rock Stars on a device at home, we will provide the opportunity in school, should they wish to, during lunchtimes.**

Literacy and Numeracy: In previous years, pupils have been allocated homework in text books. These have always come with mixed reviews from our parents and have resulted in a huge cost to the school. We will now be setting homework on pupils' Teams accounts and the login again has been provided on labels on the inside cover of reading diaries. Homework is age appropriate and is based around learning that the class teacher is delivering to pupils each week. This homework is voluntary, however if you and your child choose to complete the homework and submit it on Teams, the teacher will provide marking feedback and rewards will be allocated each term for pupils who consistently return their literacy and numeracy homework. Submission on Teams can be as simple as reading the worksheet, writing your responses by hand on a piece of paper and taking a picture on a mobile file to upload to the homework assignment, or can be a PDF/word document upload. **If, however, you find that Teams is not the correct avenue for you, but you would still like your child to complete the homework, please speak to your child's class teacher and a paper copy will be provided.**

We hope this clarifies expectations, but if you do have any further questions, please speak to your child's class teacher or book an appointment to speak to myself. Many thanks for the ongoing learning support you give to your child.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored, textured surface. The signature reads "Jones".

Mrs L Jones (Deputy headteacher)