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Headteacher – Mrs C Hughes

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Monday 28th January 2019

Homework Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

An agenda item discussed at the parent forum meeting in December centred around the schools' current homework arrangements. Thank you to all parents who attended and provided feedback. The staff have since met to review the homework policy and I am now able to write out to inform you of some slight changes we are planning to make to the current arrangements. Research indicates that reading regularly for enjoyment is one of the most valuable activities that children can do to support their attainment in school. The power of reading should not be underestimated. Evidence shows that reading for pleasure leads to increased attainment and a significant positive relationship has been found to exist between enjoyment and attainment indicating that pupils who read more are also better readers. Children who read regularly also develop a greater acquisition of language which is seen in their written and oral work.

With this in mind, we ask that as a minimum expectation, all children should read at least five times per week. We want to keep reading materials flexible to appeal to all readers and therefore encourage the children to read a variety of materials including non-fiction such as fact books and children's newspapers. Younger children may prefer at times to be read to, and this is fine too. We ask that parents keep a record of the reading (both reading aloud and being read to) so that we are aware of the children who are not accessing books or reading material regularly. We can then ensure these children are provided with regular opportunities to read in school. Parents of children who do not read regularly at home may be contacted to see if school can offer better support with this minimum expectation. Classes will continue to complete the reading ladders to recognise and reward good effort with reading at home

In addition to reading practise, each child from Y1-Y6 will receive basic skills work each Monday. This will vary each week and include a mixture of spelling and grammar work, multiplication tables, maths practise and other skills-based work which may include learning or rehearsing facts. Year 6 will also receive extra work in addition to this to support their preparation for SATS at the end of the year. We ask that homework is returned to school on Monday morning. We run a homework club on Friday lunchtimes which all children are welcome to attend. In the club, teacher help and support will be offered and this is an option for all children if they would prefer



to complete their homework in the school day. As some of the homework will be Internet based, the club is also there to allow access to computer and tablets.

Whilst there are always differing views on the type and quantity of homework, we have considered parental feedback carefully and responded to this through the changes that we have made. We hope you find the work sent useful in enabling you to support your child with their learning at home; please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher for further support or clarification. The next forum meeting will be held at 9.00am on Wednesday 20th February. All parents are welcome and you do not need to sign up, just come along on the day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Claire Hughes

Headteacher

