



Hateley Heath Primary School
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Head Teacher: Charlotte Davis - Deputy Head Teacher: Leanne Wooldridge / Andrea Garcha - Daycare Manager: Sue Elwell-

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Homework

Thank you for your valuable responses from the parent questionnaires within regard to homework. We would like to take the opportunity to clarify our homework expectations. In order to make it more enjoyable and achievable to all we are promoting active learning at home. We would like children to take activities home for them to complete on a regular basis as this is a government requirement but it will be based on a rotation of different recommended activities which can be oral or written. These activities should be engaging and promote children retaining information for a longer time rather than completing a written challenge that could be forgotten in the long term.

Homework will now be based on 3 main activities which will be practiced every single week! These activities will be spellings, reading and times tables. We have prepared a homework sheet to accompany this information which outlines different games that can be played with your child to support the long term retention of these basic skills.

The government recommends that children should spend a specific amount of time completing homework each week. This means that your child should spend time each day practicing and playing games to support reaching this recommended time.

These are as follows

*Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – 1 hour each week (spend about 10/12 minutes after school)

*Year 3 and 4 – 1.5 hours each week (spend just under 18/20minutes after school)

*Year 5 and 6 – 30 minutes per day.

This does not always need to be written practice and could include reading alone, reading and answering questions with an adult, practicing spellings, times tables practice, researching by reading or interviewing an adult, trying out simple experiments or even cooking. It is your choice whether you provide addition homework activities for your children.

I will be carrying out a homework help session on Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 2:00pm until 3:00pm to support parents. Your child will be invited to the session to play the games with you too!

I hope that you can attend. However, if you cannot attend this session, there are some details on how to carry out these activities on the back of this sheet.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs L. Wooldridge

Deputy Head Teacher

I _____ would like to attend a homework help meeting

(Parent of _____ (name) in _____ (class)

Number of parents / carers attending the session. _____

Times tables

- *Macarena - Sing the times tables songs in the tune to the Macarena and have a dance too!
- *Beat the clock – give 20 seconds to write down the multiplication facts and division facts.
 $3 \times 4 = 12$, $4 \times 3 = 12$, $12 \div 3 = 4$, $12 \div 4 = 3$.
- *Bing, Bong, Zong – Like rock paper scissors but say ‘Bing, Bong, Zong’. Instead of holding out rock paper or scissors, hold up a number of fingers instead. Multiply the number of fingers held up by each player (this can be with one or two hands – one for less-confident players) and the first person to call out the answer gets a point.
- *Roll the dice – Each person holds a dice and rolls it, you multiply what the dice shows and then you call out the answer. The first person to call out the answer gets a point.
- *Hit the button - <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>. Play the game online which has many fun options.
- *Nintendo DS – Brain training. Has lots of time tables practice games are available to play.
- * Ask you child about RM easi maths. They have a password that is used in school and they can bring it home in order to share this electronic resource. If you have a tablet, you can download a free app that from the app store.

Spellings

- *Look, cover, write – look at the word, cover it up and then write it down.
- *Back writing – use a finger to write each letter of the word on the back of another person. Get your child to guess the word and the swap.
- *Messy spelling – use shaving foam, sand or angel delight to practice spellings in or even just paint them with water onto the fence – it disappears and can be played every day (when it is warm!)
- * Speed Spellings – Give the child a time limit and then ask them to write the correct spelling as many times as possible. Race against another player to make it more fun.

Reading

- *Read their home reading book and take it in turns reading it aloud to each other.
- *Ad-break reading – read in the advert break. Can they remember what happened before, can they predict what will happen next.
- * Bed time story – Read a story at bed time, take it in turns to read a page of the story.
- * Rhyme time – set up a timer for 1 minute, what the timer runs out, finish the sentence and then think of a silly rhyme which would make the other person laugh. Most funny rhyme gets a point!

There are many other books that you could buy from ‘The Works’ or from ‘WH Smiths’ that would help to practice comprehension, grammar and written tasks at home. These include CGP text books and the ‘Letts’ exercise books and they are priced between £1.50 and £3.50. These would further support learning at home.