



St Merryn School Homework Policy

Aims of the policy

- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents
- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupils
- Extend and support the child's learning through reinforcement and revision
- Provide opportunities for the parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to enjoy learning experiences together
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding (particularly in literacy and numeracy)
- To exploit all resources for learning including those found at home
- To extend school learning
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline required for individual study
- To prepare children for the demands of secondary school

Homework Overview

Maths

Without rapid recall of number facts and times tables in any order maths is a struggle at every level. We would like all pupils to spend a little time each week working on their maths, as set by their class teacher.

As you can see from the breakdown below the government have raised the bar with what pupils are expected to achieve at the end of each year, so we would appreciate your support in helping them develop their confidence.

Year 1 - Memorise and reason with number bonds to 10 and 20 ($6+4=10$, $16+4=20$)

Year 2 - Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20, and use these to calculate related facts to 100 ($3+7=10$; $30+70=100$; $10-7=3$; $100-70=30$). Pupils practice to become fluent in the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables

Year 3 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables

Year 4 - Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 X 12

Year 5 - Multiply and divide numbers mentally drawing upon known facts

Year 6 - Perform mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers

Reading

We would expect children to read or share books at home at least 3 times a week. Children start to get reading book when they are ready to read within their reception year. Their reading books are kept within the reception class. Children then continue to work their way up the coloured scheme until they complete the sets. These reading books are outside class 2 and 3. Children then become 'free readers' and can select books of their choice from our school, local library or home. Class 1, 2 and 3 staff aim to check reading book records at least every other week. Younger children will be given rewards for reading 3x a week. Class 4 children don't have reading records unless they are still needing support with their reading.

Spelling

We ask parents to support their child to learn key words and spellings that will enable them to access all areas of the curriculum in reading and writing. These will be sent home in a book which they will then use to practice in. We have a spelling booklet for parents that provides them with different ways to learn the key words.

Homework during school holidays

Compulsory homework will not be given during the Christmas, Easter or Summer Holidays. It is anticipated however, that all children will continue to read to parents during holiday times, from either a reading scheme book or other chosen text and can continue to do spelling and maths work following the table above if they desire.

Special Educational Needs

The above timetable applies equally to children with recognised special educational needs. However, the children will receive differentiated tasks according to their needs, which may be from a different context to the rest of the class and relate to their IPM's.

Planning and Coordination

It is the responsibility of the class teacher to plan and provide manageable tasks for the children and to liaise with parents where necessary. All parents will be informed at the beginning of each term of the regularity of homework. This will include the day the work will be set and the deadlines for completion. Any child who fails to complete homework in Key Stage 2 will be asked to stay in during that morning's playtime to complete the task. If a pattern of avoidance develops, parents will be informed.

At the beginning of each new year parents/children will be given a homework book consisting of what is relevant to pupils learning:

- Maths times tables and or number bonds
- Spelling lists

Year 6 children will be given extra homework after Christmas of their last year in order to help with their transition into secondary school.

The Role of Parents

Parents are asked to provide a suitable place in which homework can be completed, whether working alone or with an adult. It is essential that parents make it clear to their children that they value homework and are willing to support the school with their approach. This includes encouragement and praise at all levels. Ideas to help parents is available on the school website.

Feedback

All homework is assessed and feedback will be given to pupils. This may take a variety of forms according to the work set, such as:

- Class discussion about the work
- Individual written feedback
- Individual verbal feedback

Parents are encouraged to give teachers any useful feedback. This may include:

- Notes sent into school via homework book or reading diary
- Verbal feedback with the teacher or teaching assistant

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