March 22nd, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to everybody who returned their homework questionnaire. We had a total of 162 responses from across the school. Please find the main responses below.

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| How would you prefer homework to be given out to the children? | | |
| In a homework book | 72% Parents | 62% Children |
| How would you prefer homework to be returned to the teacher? | | |
| In a homework book | 71% Parents | 64% Children |
| How much homework do you think children should receive each week? | | |
| 30-45 mins | 48% Parents | 42% Children |
| Would you be in favour of a half term’s homework set in advance so you can see what is coming up? | | |
| Yes | 70% Parents | 59% Children |
| Would you be in favour of a half term’s work set in advance and you can pick what activities you do each week? | | |
| Yes | 69% Parents | 67% Children |
| Would you rather focus on reading, writing and maths or do you like creative activities? | | |
| A mixture of reading, writing, maths and creative | 70% Parents | 54% Children |

In light of this feedback, we have decided that we will continue to use books for setting and returning work but homework will be found on Padlet if children forget to take their books home. We will generally set a half term’s homework in advance so that you can see what is coming up, although some year groups may choose to send maths weekly as it depends on what children are learning at the time. We will still have set dates for returning homework. We will expect English and maths to be completed weekly but will set optional creative homework for those children who want to do it at any point over the half term.

We ask that homework is completed over two pages of the book each week and would expect it to take up to an hour for children in years 3, 4 and 5 and up to an hour and a half in year 6 as preparation for secondary school. As in lessons, we expect writing to be done in pen and maths and drawings to be completed in pencil. If children wish to type writing, that is also fine.

Thank you for the many comments and suggestions you made; we take them all on board, positive and negative.

* For parents who commented that homework should be set to children’s needs, we do generally set differentiated homework but if you still feel that it is not meeting your child’s needs, please come and talk to the class teacher.
* Some parents wanted homework to be set on Monday and returned on Friday but many parents like a weekend to do homework. Due to timetabling, different year groups will set homework on different days.
* Please remember that our school methods for the four main maths operations are on the website and in home school books. Weekly spellings should be set in each year group and children should be practising those at home.
* When clubs are running, we do offer homework club. However, we cannot make it compulsory for all children, as logistically this would not be possible.
* As a staff, we are looking at how we can improve our homework feedback as we appreciate that a comment moving children forward would be helpful. We do also have homework share time in class so that children know the expectations and homework is praised.
* Some parents requested daily homework. However, we feel that this would place more burden on you and your children. If you would like your child to do something each day they can use TT Rockstars to practice times tables, Letterjoin to practice their handwriting, Spelling Shed for spelling practice as well as reading.
* We appreciate that some children have felt overwhelmed coming back to school and we don’t want homework to be a cause of anxiety. Please do feel free to come and talk to your child’s class teacher if homework becomes an issue.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Wiseman

(Assistant Head teacher)