

Homework at Herne Bay Junior School January 2016

Opinion is often divided on homework and as already intimated we have been undertaking a review of homework across the school with the intention of ensuring that homework is effective and manageable for all.

We are very aware of the increased expectations as the children move from the Infant School to the Junior School.

Research from the Institute of Education carried out several years ago found that homework can often cause friction at home. The analysis, which examined seventy-five years' worth of studies into homework, concluded that schools needed to focus more on the purpose and quality of homework, and not the amount.

With this in mind and with the upcoming tests in 2017 where children will be tested on their understanding of and recall of all times tables up to 12 x 12 we want to make this a key focus. There are still many children across the school who do not know their multiplication tables and without a secure understanding of these they will find Maths increasingly difficult as they go through their school career.

In addition we consider it important that every child reads widely, can spell words from the statutory and high frequency word list with confidence and we greatly value the wonderful Home Learning Projects that parents complete with their children at home.

In order to help parents with supporting children with their learning of the times tables and spellings, Miss Walker and Mrs Cleur will be running a workshop on **Tuesday 19th January between 2.30 and 3 pm** in the new hall where they will be giving useful tips and support on how you can help your child/children with these at home.

Every child will get a sheet outlining the expectations for this term in their particular Year Group. Should you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher.

Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Homework Expectations 2016

Home Learning Project	There will be three Home Learning Projects set over the course of the academic year and the Projects will be based on the topic being studied over two terms. These will be shared at open mornings where parents and children can celebrate the work created at home.	Three times a year
Maths	Each week multiplication tables will be set for a weekly test.	Weekly
Spelling	At the beginning of each term children will be sent home with a card with 48 spellings to learn for the term. At the end of the term there will be a spelling challenge to see how many words can be spelt correctly. (Children will be practicing them in school as well and using a range of strategies to help them learn them)	Every term
Reading	Children MUST read independently or with an adult. The reading diary needs signing three times a week so we know children are reading.	Three times a week as a minimum
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS) – Years 5 & 6 only	Exercises in the GPS book will be sent home weekly in preparation for the KS2 GPS tests in Year 6.	Once a week on a Friday