

The John Moore Primary School



Homework Information Leaflet

Guidance & Advice for Parents & Carers



Homework

Our rationale:

We appreciate how important the links between parents and teachers are and the need for us to work together. We believe that it is important that children bring home 'activities' or 'work' from a fairly early age, to help them learn, to reinforce basic skills and for them to see parents and teachers working together.

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important as it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks covered in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills. It also helps children and young people to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help them throughout their time at school and in adult life.

The range of home /school tasks varies throughout the school, according to the age of the child. The one thing that remains constant throughout is the fact that it can only benefit your child if we have your support and work together.

Pupils at The John Moore Primary School receive different amounts of homework depending on their age.

We would suggest the following as approximate amounts of time to spend on homework each week:

Foundation Stage: 45 minutes per week

Year 1 & 2 : 1 hour per week

Year 3 & 4: 1.5 hours per week

Year 5 & 6 : Half an hour per day



The homework we give at The John Moore Primary School is designed to reinforce and support the learning that happens during the school day. It is not meant to be onerous or burdensome. We hope that the emphasis will be on making learning fun and interesting, without too much pressure or fear of failure.

Teachers will set other home learning tasks as outlined in the remainder of this leaflet and these will be given out and handed in as specified on the overview letters which parents receive at the beginning of each term from your child's class teacher.

However, home learning activities do not have to be prescribed by the teacher and may include: reading, attending a club, playing a board game, visiting a museum, going swimming etc.. All of which are valuable developmental activities. Children also need time after school to play, socialise and engage in child type activities.

Children will always be given precise instructions about their homework. If ever your child is unsure about a piece of Homework or is struggling to complete it, please let the class teacher know the next day. He / She can then re-explain the work to your child, or to you if that would help.

If you have any concerns about homework, we are only too happy to discuss them with you.



What type of home/school tasks can I expect in each year group?

Foundation Stage

- **Story Sacks at the beginning of Reception**
- **Reading books**
- **Poetry Books** – this is a collection of poems for your child to keep and enjoy by re-reading favourite poems together. New poems will be added at intervals through the year.
- **Phonics folders** – when your children begin to learn letter sounds in class, they will bring home a book for you to practise the sounds of the week at home with your child.
- **Word strips** - these are for your child to have extra practice in blending sounds together to read regular words.
- Ask him/ her to say each sound in a word, then join them together. If necessary, point out any occasions where a sound is made by 2 letters together.
- **High Frequency Word books / Tricky word books** – your child will be given a word book containing both the high-frequency words & tricky words that children in Key Stage 1 need to learn; please practise reading them as often as possible.



Year 1 & 2 (in addition to Foundation Stage)

- **Spelling** – when your child has finished spelling practice with regular words, he/ she will start to bring home tricky words to learn. The procedure for learning these called Look Read Cover Write and Check, and instructions will be given in the front of the spelling book.
- **Key Stage 1 Maths activity**—This will be given once a fortnight.



Year 3 – 6

The following tasks will be set weekly:

- **Reading** – reading at home continues to be very important, even if your child is a fluent reader. Children still need encouragement to try different types of book, add expression to their voices when reading aloud, and reflect on and discuss different aspects of a book. They also have a Reading Journal which they are asked to complete once a week.
- **Spelling** – children will come home with a word list each week. Please make sure that they can read and understand the words, give them the opportunity to learn the spelling of each word and then dictate the words to them so that they can practise writing them down accurately. Encouraging your child to then write each word within a sentence will help to ensure that they can apply their spelling to a piece of writing.
- **Times Tables** — children will work at an individual rate through all the multiplication tables. In Year 2 they will have learned x2, x5, x10 in school. As they progress through the school, they will learn the others, and will need to practise them all at home. They need to have instant recall of all multiplication facts at random. This skill and knowledge is an essential aid to their mathematical development. The John Moore Primary School Times Tables Challenge leaflet available on the school website explains in detail how pupils can practise and be rewarded with certificates and stickers for learning their times tables.

Some additional tasks will also be set:

Year 3 & 4

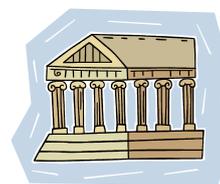
- One additional piece of Literacy/Numeracy homework each week. They will be given plenty of time to complete and return this to their teacher.
- Occasional Topic or Science related Homework.

Year 5

- One piece of Maths Homework each week
- One piece of English Homework each week
- Occasional Topic or Science related Homework

Year 6

- One piece of Maths Homework each week
- One piece of English Homework each week
- One Topic or Science related Homework



All Key Stage 2 pupils have Homework books in which to complete their Homework. In the front of these books you will find details of when homework is given out and when it should be handed back in to the class teacher.

Parents role in overseeing Homework

- Please ensure that your child is able to complete their homework in a quiet environment at a desk or a table, without distractions (such as the television).
- Please ensure that your child completes their homework to the same standard that they complete their work at school.
- Pupils should be able to complete their homework increasingly independently as they move through the school.
- We recommend that parents oversee homework in a supervisory capacity and ensure that pupils complete their home learning to the best of their ability.

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children

- Daily reading etc.. is important, however if your child is tired, please do not worry about missing occasional days. If you force a child to read when they are tired or irritable, you will achieve very little and everyone will end up feeling stressed and upset!! Homework is meant to be an enjoyable experience for everybody!



The most valuable support you can give to your child at home is to ensure that they:

1. Read EVERY day (whatever their age)
2. Learn their spellings and practise writing them in a sentence.
3. Know their times tables
4. Know their basic number bonds—addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

It is essential that children have all these basic skills at their finger-tips, so that they can progress onto higher level skills.

Please help your child to take responsibility for handing in their homework on the



Thank you for your continued help and support. It makes all the difference to your child's educational progress and attitude to learning, when school and home work in partnership together.