

Oak Tree Federation - Homework Policy

Purpose

We give pupils homework for a range of educational benefits.

- They can share learning with their families and families are more aware of what the child is learning at school
- It gives pupils an opportunity to practise skills that they have learnt in class.
- Opportunity to prepare for a future lesson

Homework is not an extension of school; it's an opportunity to enhance and reflect on the learning. When setting homework, teachers should be aware of how the activities fit in with family life

How Homework is Set

IN EYFS, homework consists of

- Sharing books
- Reading and spelling key words
- Number and letter recognition
- Family projects

In KS1 and KS2, homework is clearly linked to the expectations of the National Curriculum. There are on-going tasks set by teachers, and pupils are expected to be accessing these regularly, without prompting. These are the homework activities that should be prioritised as they enhance pupils' key skills. At the beginning of the school year, teachers will give a list of these activities to parents with some ideas about how to complete them and some homework tips. This list will also be made available on the school website. Some of the activities might be:

- Accessing the Athletics website
- KIRFS- new KIRFS sent out each term for the corresponding year group. Year 6 KIRFS have only been produced until Term 4 in Year 6
- Reading every day
- Practising letter formation and handwriting
- Practising times tables (From year 2 onwards. All times tables should be learnt by the end of year 4 and pupils will need to practise at home)

Over the week, classes will keep a record of any ideas that would be useful for homework. Instructions for weekly homework will be set out on pink paper for easy identification and then stuck in homework books or diaries as appropriate. Since lockdown more homework has been set via the learning platform and this will continue for most classes on whole school return.

If pupils are unable to access the homework, the pupil should first talk to the class teacher. If this is still not resolved, then the parent should make contact with the class teacher at an appropriate time.

Parental Role

It would be useful at the beginning of the year to create a homework timetable which takes account of clubs, childcare and other elements of family life. This way, families will be aware of how much time is available to spend on home learning activities. Ideally, parents will support pupils with the on-going tasks set by all teachers at the beginning of the school year. The amount of support that parents are able to give children will vary from family to family and day to day. Parents are asked to enter into a dialogue with their child about the weekly homework that is set and decide with them how much support will be needed.

Feedback

All homework completed will be acknowledged and rewarded. There will regularly be an opportunity to share homework with the rest of the class, such as in a "Homework Show" and pupils will receive positive and constructive comments from their peers and teacher. Any feedback given about the homework is for the pupil.

In KS2, class teachers will inform parents of the sanctions if homework is not completed, in preparation for the expectations in KS3.

The key priorities for homework are;

- Daily reading
- Practising KIRFS
- Spelling activities and investigations
- Times tables

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