



Homework

2016 - 2017

Year 4

How much homework will your child have in Year 4?

In Year 4 our homework policy recommends **around an hour and a half a week**. It will be set every Tuesday and should be returned the following Monday. Your child will be given a folder in which to keep their maths and grammar book as well as any spelling sheets. Homework in Year 4 will consist of:

Reading

Your child should be getting more confident at reading this year but it is important that they are heard read frequently at home. They need to read at least 3 times a week at home for approximately 7-10 minutes a time. As your child becomes more confident at reading, please try to encourage them to read independently to themselves. They can sign their own planner to say they have read, however they still must read at least once a week to an adult and have at least 3 entries in their planner.

Your child's planner will be checked every Monday and a sticker placed in it to show they have read at least 3 times. If you are able to hear your child read more than 3 times it will help make their progress more rapid. It is also still important to read stories to your child at this age. Each week your child will have at least one book suitable for their reading ability as well as a book of their choice from either the golden book list (in the back of the planner) or from the class library.

You will notice in the planner there is a space for children to write new vocabulary they have learnt. If your child notices a new word in a book they are reading please encourage them to write it in the box and then try to find a synonym (a word that means the same). This is to support them in extending their vocabulary. You do not have to fill all the boxes each week; however please encourage your child to try to find at least one new word a week!

Reading comprehension becomes even more important in Year 4, so please use the questions at the back of your child's planner to help you when you hear them read.

Maths Homework

Every week your child will be set some maths tasks to complete from their Maths Workbooks the school has purchased for your child. Maths work should take around half an hour a week to complete. There will be two maths workbooks, one practicing skills learnt in class the other mental maths. The national curriculum states that the 'expectation is that the majority of pupils will move through the programmes of study at broadly the same pace'. As such most children will have the same task to consolidate their learning but the level of understanding and the support needed will vary. Please speak to your child's teacher if your child is struggling with the work.

It is expected that the work books will take approximately twenty minutes to complete however some weeks this could be a little longer. Please do not let your child go on and complete more of the book. If you would like to purchase other books similar to the one your child will receive there will be some available at parents evening. In addition to this your child still has a Mathletics login. From time to time your child's teacher may set Mathletics tasks instead of the Maths Workbook; however this will be clearly identified on the homework sheet.



The end of year national expectation is for year 4 children to **recall the multiplication and division facts for all the multiplication tables up to 12×12** . 'Beat Your Score' – is a 6 minute weekly quiz made up of times table and division facts. The quiz is held, marked and sent home on a Monday so the child and parents know which aspects they find tricky. The following week the child tries to beat their score! The emphasis is firmly on improving your own score rather than simply who got the highest score. As with all assessments, they are carried out sensitively and without putting pressure on the children.

It is entirely up to you how you practise the number facts (e.g. quizzes at home, writing them out, Mathletics, flash cards, posters, apps) and there is nothing to complete to bring back to school. The evidence of working on them at home will come through when the children try to beat their scores.

Take Home Tasks

Every term your child will be given a choice of four take home tasks to complete. These are all linked to the project of the term and will cover the different areas of the curriculum. The tasks are open ended and the children have freedom to complete in a way that suits them! One of the aims of a take home task is for families to enjoy sharing the learning of the term with their child and to help them create something that can be shared with their peers in class. The take home tasks will be set towards the start of a project and will have a deadline towards the end. It is expected these would take up to 2 hours over the term, this could be done a little each week or in one go, it is up to you! We will always try to include a visit somewhere for a family to enjoy should they wish. If your child would like to complete more than one task they may however there is no expectation they will! The take home tasks won't be formally 'marked' however they will be shared with the class and the teacher will write some feedback in your child's planner.



Spellings

Every week your child will be given a spelling sheet containing 5 words from one of the spelling lists at the back of their planner or from words linked to the project their teacher has selected. These words are likely to be from either the Key Stage 1 list or from the Year 3 / 4 list. Your child should practice writing these on the sheet - they may copy them and then as they become more confident start covering them up.

As well as these words please select 5 additional words from the back of the planner that haven't been highlighted by your child's teacher. Please don't worry if your child takes longer than a week to master spelling a word. It is fine to reselect a word for a second week if your child needs more practice. It is also useful to revisit words so they don't forget them. At the end of each term your child's teacher will re assess your child's spelling and update the word list at the back by highlighting off the words your child can now spell. Please remember every child will progress through these words at a different pace!

Your child will not be formally 'tested' on the words each week, however the teacher will carefully monitor your child's progress with these words in their written work.



Grammar

In Year 4 your child will have a Grammar Workbook from which the teacher will set a page of this book which will link to work they have completed in class. It is expected this will take approximately fifteen minutes to complete. Please only complete the page (s) that are set by the teacher.

Children who do not complete their homework

If your child does not complete their homework by Tuesday morning they will be required to stay in for part of their lunchtime so they can finish the tasks. Please remember if your child needs support with homework or you struggle to complete it, you are welcome to book your child into the free homework club on a Friday afternoon from 1.30 - 3pm.

If you have any questions about homework please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Watt, Lower Key Stage 2 Leader.

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@RachaelWattGDPS

@RoseGDPS

@SusanSmithGDPS



