

Calthwaite C of E School

Home Learning Policy

Written Autumn 2016

Aims

We use home learning to develop the partnership between home and School with the aim of working together to help all children achieve their full potential. We believe that home learning should be a positive and useful experience for all.

Purposes.

The purposes of home learning are: -

- To enable parents to work with the school to help their child;
- To encourage children to develop the confidence, skills and motivation to study on their own;
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at School;
- To exploit the resources of the home setting to enhance learning opportunities.

Framework.

- Home learning should generally follow a 'little and often' approach.
- Specific home learning should be set for clearly defined purposes, not for its own sake.
- The class teacher is responsible for setting home learning ensuring that demands are manageable and conform to the School's guidance on the recommended amount and type of home learning.
- Parents will be informed about home learning and guidelines will be communicated to children and parents so that all concerned are clear about the requirements of the tasks.
- Parents will be encouraged to provide an appropriate setting in which the child and adult can engage with the home learning with the minimum amount of distractions.
- Parents should be encouraged to praise the efforts of children.
- The total amount of home learning set in a week should be consistent and manageable.
- Teachers should respond to the needs of the individual e.g. be flexible if home learning is causing confrontation at home or a child is unwell/tired or unsupported at home.

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- Teachers should be sensitive to the home situation e.g. availability and access to resources at home.
- Guidance for parents should be appropriate, use simple language and be clear.
- There should be a balance between home learning that needs marking and other activities where oral feedback is more appropriate.
- The work set should be linked to what the child is being taught/experiencing in the classroom.
- There should be a balance between consolidation and practice and investigation and research.
- Home learning set should be followed up in class and it should be made clear to children that, unless clearly specified home learning tasks are not optional.
- Failure to complete a home learning task should be treated in the same way as failure to complete a piece of class work.

Specific Home-Learning Tasks / Expectations – 2016/17

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Class 1

- Reading - EVERY NIGHT if possible – Sharing a book in order to discuss and understand the text is just as important as learning letters, sounds and text. As a result, reading a whole book is not expected. (Adult to fill in Link Book as a record)
- Practise Big Maths ‘Learn Its’ that have been set by School.
- Make corrections to ‘Big Maths Beat That’ tests that arrive home on a Friday. These are to be handed in the following week.
- Phonics – Practise sound recognition with actions and letter formation. (REC/Y1)
- Spelling – High Frequency Word – Reading/Spelling Booklets

Class 2

- Reading - EVERY NIGHT if possible – Sharing a book in order to discuss and understand the text is just as important as learning letters, sounds and text. As a result, reading a whole book is not expected. (Adult to fill in Reading Record)
- Practise Big Maths ‘Learn Its’ that have been set by School.
- Make corrections to ‘Big Maths Beat That’ tests that arrive home on a Friday. These are to be handed in the following week.
- Spellings – 15 spellings sent out each fortnight. Children tested every other Friday.

Class 3

- Reading - EVERY NIGHT if possible. Share a book / reading independently (as advised by class teacher) Child are expected to add several words to their Vocab Viper books every week.
- Practise Big Maths ‘Learn Its’ that have been set by School.
- Make corrections to ‘Big Maths Beat That’ tests that arrive home on a Friday. These are to be handed in the following week.
- Spellings – 15 spellings sent out each fortnight. Children tested every other Friday.

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Guidance for Parents.

Handy Home learning Hints.

- Find little and often opportunities for tasks e.g. car journeys, check out queue, swimming lessons.
- A little quality time is better than a long slog.
- Share your enthusiasm with your child and make it fun.
- Praise your child for his/her efforts.
- Resist temptation to do the work for your child if he/she is finding it difficult.
- If your child has difficulty with his/her home learning on more than one occasion discuss this with his/her teacher.