

## Holiday Homework

In order to maintain and extend the children's knowledge and skills, staff may give tasks to be completed during the holidays. These will often involve research or activities which are less onerous to complete. Although these may not be compulsory, the children will be encouraged to do as much as they can, while they are not in school.

## GENERAL HOMEWORK TIPS FOR PARENTS

### **Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework.**

Avoid having your child do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions, such as people coming and going.

### **Help your child with time management.**

Establish a set time each day for doing homework. Don't let your child leave homework until just before bedtime.

**Encourage your child to organize his/her time effectively.** A small amount of homework should be completed daily and it should not be left to build up.

**Be positive about homework.** Tell your child how important school is. The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.

### **Children should attempt tasks independently in the first instance.**

Try not to offer support immediately. Let your child 'have a go' on his/her own first.

### **When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers.**

Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Too much help teaches your child that when the going gets rough, someone will do the work for him or her. If your child has needed support, write a note to explain this on the homework.

**Reward progress in homework.** If your child has been successful in homework completion and is working hard, celebrate that success with a special event (e.g., pizza, a walk, a trip to the park) to reinforce the positive effort.

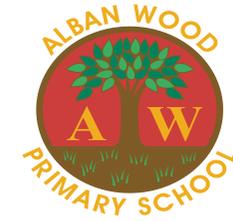
**And finally.... All of this information is provided as guidance only. Please let us know in school of any issues occurring with homework for your child.**

## Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body bi-annually. This policy was last reviewed in autumn 2014 and agreed by the Governing Body. It is due for review in autumn 2018.

Signature .....(Head Teacher)      Date .....

Signature .....(Chair of Governors)      Date .....



## Alban Wood Primary School – Homework Policy

### **Rationale**

Throughout their time at Alban Wood Primary School, children will be expected to complete tasks at home.

The purpose of homework is to consolidate, reinforce and extend skills, to provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, to allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school and to allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

Tasks will be set to match the developmental levels of the child. Recognition will be given to the fact that young children may be tired at the end of a school day.

### **Aims**

We aim to:

- provide a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
- ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they have, with regard to homework.

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.
- To provide support for children with the running of a homework club, and any additional guidance or support which is needed.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set a programme of homework that matches the children's abilities.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To mark and give feedback about homework.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard, which matches their ability, and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework. (Please see the class teacher if you need resources.)

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and ask the teacher if there is anything they do not understand
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

#### Whole School Reading Challenge Awards

In order to promote reading at home, our school has its own awards scheme. At the end of each half term teachers award a bronze, silver and gold award for reading effort. Children across the school receive Reading Targets for each half term, according to their age and ability. In addition to this, each class will have their own reading challenge which will be pupil voice led.

#### Number Superstars Awards

From Y1-Y6 the children at Alban Wood school are actively involved in practising their number bonds and multiplication tables as part of this initiative. Extra time spent on practising these vital skills at home is recommended. Children will receive certificates recognising their achievements in Achievement Assemblies.

#### Read a Story

All children, even the oldest in the school, benefit from listening to stories. Therefore, it is recommended that they all have opportunities to listen to/share stories at home.

#### Homework Information

Children from Nursery—Year 6 will be given a homework grid each half term. The grid will enable children to select which activity they would like to complete each week and these activities are recorded in their homework folder (EYFS) or homework book (Y1-6). Homework will be collected in on a specific day to enable teachers to mark homework. There is also one 'free week' per half term. Families can select when to use this week and although not homework is required we do encourage children to talk/ write about this week as they may have used it for a special occasion (family outing, birthday etc).

#### Nursery Class

Nursery children do as much learning outside of school as they do in school, so when your child does something special at home, we love them to share this with us, through bringing in their creation or a photograph of what they have done or where they have been. These will be added to your child's personal box on the Nursery wall. Speech bubbles are also added as capturing speech in Nursery is vital. Children love stories and reading to your child is valuable in helping your child to read. In Nursery we give all children the opportunity to choose a book once a week. Please read and enjoy these books with your child. In addition to this, Nursery children will have a half termly homework grid with a choice of hands on activities that they can choose from each week.

#### Reception Class

As with Nursery, children in Reception also have personal learning spaces. Work, photographs and speech bubbles are shared and celebrated within these boxes. We recommend that you share a book with your child on a daily basis. To support with this, children visit our school library every week and choose one book to read at home, which you can enjoy together. In addition, your child will take a reading book home with them from class after an initial settling-in period. It may be a book that you read to your child and discuss together or a reading scheme book, which your child will read to you. Please sign the Reading Record book every time you read together. As the term progresses, your child will also take a 'sound-book' home to practise recognising and writing new sounds, using the correct letter formation. Once they have a secure knowledge of individual sounds, children will take word lists home, to practise their blending of sounds in order to read words. Finally, as with Nursery, children will have a half termly homework grid.

Homework tasks from Y1-6 are set, by teachers, in line with time expectations.

Additional homework tasks may be set from time to time. These may be linked to their topic or be set because their teacher would like them to practise and celebrate new learning at home. Ample time will always be given to additional pieces of homework.

Year 1 : *Up to 50 minutes weekly*

Year 2: *Up to 1 hour weekly*

Year 3: *Up to 1 1/2 hours weekly*

Year 4 : *Up to 1 1/2 hours weekly*

Year 5: *Up to 1 1/2 hours weekly*

Year 6: *Up to 2 hours weekly*