



St White's Primary School



Challenge, Commit, Conquer and Celebrate

Dear Jay Class 2018/19,

A warm welcome back!

I hope you had a wonderful summer holiday and are well rested and ready for what is going to be a very exciting year of learning.

To begin the year, our first topic is centered on the period of time between 1914 – 1918, with the centenary of the end of the Great War being a focus. This will be a whole school project with children in every class focusing on different aspects of this period. This week we have decided what we want to learn through our history and geography studies this term. Everyone has chipped in, thought of their key questions and had their say and the scene is now set for the coming term.

This half term, PE lessons will be on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** so children will need to ensure that they have their full PE kit in school on these days. If you are not sure of the school PE kit, a poster is displayed by the classroom door or the office can provide you with a letter detailing the full kit. It's really important that your child has all the uniform for these sessions. Thank you for your cooperation.

Homework

The school recognises how important it is to ensure that all homework set, is purposeful and achievable and that parents know what the expectations are. We also know that providing resources, where required is really important so that every child has an equal opportunity to complete activities with the same degree of success as their class mates.

The homework set will support the development of 'the basics' in English and maths, including reading, spellings and number fluency in accordance with your child's age and ability. This will ensure that they have the opportunity to develop effective learning strategies.

The school will provide parents and their children with guidance and support so that homework activities can be completed successfully.

Set out below, is information about your child's homework. If you have any queries at any stage, do not hesitate to come and see me.



"This is a
good school."
Ofsted 2015



Reading

Nurturing a love of literature for life, is without doubt, a strategy that the school is highly passionate about. Philip Pullman said that, "after nourishment, shelter, and companionship, stories are the thing we need most in the world." It is through wonderful stories that our children can begin to define their world and discover their places within it. Stories not only help everyone to understand the world that we live in, but also teach us about where we came from, and help us to visualise the possibilities for the future. In a nutshell, stories are our education and they are also our escape. To this end, I would greatly appreciate your support in finding books that your child enjoys reading. The children will have access to the library at least once a week to change their reading book. We will also share our reading time by reading with a younger class.

The school will provide a home-school communication book, with lots of great information included in it for both you and your child. It is also a means of recording homework activities, including a record of reading for both school and home reading. It would be very helpful if you could ensure that you are also recording in there when you hear your child read. It's as important to share that quality time with your child.

Children need to ensure their reading record is in school every day; it will then be signed weekly by both myself and you. House points will be awarded for the effort put into home learning.

As part of your child's reading comprehension activities, they will be given a 'guided reading' novel that they will read with their group in school but will also be used to complete important tasks at home. Children will record the day that this is due in in their reading record and should ensure they come and speak to me in plenty of time if there is a problem.

Writing & EGPS

Each week children will be given two sets of spellings to learn. The first will be dictation lists of 5 words. Children will learn these words and be given the next set of words when they get 5/5. The second set will be based on the spelling rule of the week, which will be taught in school on a Monday morning. Copies of the spellings will be uploaded to the class webpage for future reference. Please do help your child by practising with them.





Maths

Mental maths books will be given to each child to complete in addition to their class work. I would like children to complete a page a week and then mark it from the answers in the back of the book. Please ensure it is completed in pencil and that any jottings are written in the jotter provided. If there are any questions that your child isn't sure about then please ask them to circle them and we will go through them in class. If you would like support with any of the methods your child is taught, so that you can support them with their homework, then do not hesitate to come and see me.

Knowing their multiplication tables will be vitally important to assist your child with the maths that we complete this year. Children will be bringing home logins to Times Table Rockstars (www.ttrockstars.com). Here the children will be able to practice their times tables in a fun and exciting way. Children will also continue to complete the 99 club weekly to test their multiplication knowledge but this will also require them to learn them both in school and with your support at home. Please test them at any opportunity – especially if they are after a treat!

Curriculum Subjects

To support the work that the children are doing in school on their topic they will also be given a POWER project to complete during each short term. If your child requires any extra support or resources to support this then please do see me.

We will once again be running a KS2 homework club on a Wednesday after school where staff will be on hand to support children. Please look out for the clubs letter to sign up your child if you think this is something that they would benefit from in addition to the support you provide at home.

This year promises to be an exciting one with so many fantastic activities already planned; I look forward to working with both you and your child. I am always on hand at the beginning or end of the school day if you have any queries that I can help with.

Best wishes,

Mrs R Hewitt

Jay Class Teacher

