



St White's Primary School

Challenge, Commit, Conquer and Celebrate



Dear Skylark Class 2019/20,

A warm welcome back!

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

To begin the year, our first topic is centred on the time-period from the Stone age through to the Iron age – quite a considerable amount of time but we will attempt to condense it into the first term! Skylark Class will be taught by Miss Underwood Monday though to Thursday lunchtime and Mrs King Thursday afternoons and Fridays.

This half term, PE lessons will be on **Tuesday** and **Friday** 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 is essential that your child has the correct uniform for these sessions and we would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation. In addition, Skylark will also be taking part in Forest School on **Thursday** afternoons in term one; a separate letter will be sent home detailing this.

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. If you need further guidance, support or resources, please do not hesitate to come and talk to us as soon as possible so that we can arrange this.

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. Additionally, there will be some fun activities based on topic learning.

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 us.

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"This is a
good school."
Ofsted 2015



Reading

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. For those children who struggle to read 5 times a week at home, staff will support them by providing a lunchtime reading club.

Children need to ensure their reading record is in school every day; 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 an older class. These are very good routines to get into in readiness for when your child goes to secondary school, where all students have planners that act as a good means of communication between home and school.

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 us in plenty of time if there is a problem.

Writing & EGPS

Each week children will be given one set of spellings to learn. This will be a dictation list of 5 words. Children will learn these words and be given the next set of words when they get 5/5 in their dictation task in school. Copies of the spellings will be uploaded to the class webpage for future reference. Please do help your child by practising with them. We are undertaking a new spelling program and children will be having a daily focus on spellings during EGPS lessons.

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





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methods your child is taught so that you can support them with their homework then do not hesitate to come and see us.

Knowing their multiplication tables will be vitally important to assist your child with the maths that we complete this year, and beyond. Children will continue to access TT Rockstars and competitions will be organised within Jay class and against other classes. Our Friday assemblies will now incorporate these 'battles' and you will find through our assembly timetable when Skylark class are competing for you to come and watch if you wish.

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. This part of our homework is entirely voluntary and is designed to enhance learning and give opportunities for you to enjoy learning alongside your child. There will be opportunities every term for you to come in and celebrate the POWER projects with your child and certificates will be awarded for those that complete this challenge.

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; we look forward to working with both you and your child. We are always on hand at the beginning or end of the school day if you have any queries that we can help with.

Best wishes,

Miss V Underwood and Mrs N King

Skylark Class Teachers



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