



Northbourne CE Primary School

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Homework Policy: Owls, Falcons and Hawks (Y3 and 4)

Aims of homework

At Northbourne, we believe that homework should:

- Help children extend and build on the learning taking place in the classroom
- Help parents and family members play a full and active role in their child's education

How can I help my child with their homework?

- We know that things at home are busy! Wherever you can, ensure that your child has time and quiet space to complete their homework, learn the facts sent home, and to read in amongst this schedule of weekly activities.
- A 'little-and-often' approach is the best one to take to learning number facts and spellings – a few minutes each day is better than trying to learn them in half an hour once a week.
- If possible, tackle homework as soon as possible. This will allow time to get in touch with your child's class teacher if there are any problems, especially during this time when quick face-to-face meetings and discussions in passing are slightly harder to facilitate.
- Talk to your child about the methods they have been learning in class—especially in maths – as they will need to use these for their work on mathematics. We know that the way maths is taught is different to how many of us were taught, but your child will not be asked to complete any work they have not been practising in school. If, after discussion, your child still struggles with this, get in touch with your child's teacher who will be happy to help.
- Keep us informed about any problems with homework—whether these are related to the activity or the timescale, we are happy to provide advice or allow extra time for work to be completed when asked in advance.
- Similarly, let teachers know about any successes to allow these to be shared and celebrated in class.

Homework your child will be set

<p>Maths Homework <i>(Up to 30mins a week)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils will be set Maths homework each week. Usually this will be through the Mathletics website (www.mathletics.co.uk), where specific, personalised games and activities will be set for pupils to practise and consolidate classroom learning. Your child will record their username and password for this website at the front of their reading diary.• Sometimes Mathletics will not have an appropriate task for children to use to consolidate their in-class learning. On these occasions, a different activity—such as a game or worksheet— will be sent home.• Homework in both forms will be set on Wednesday and need to be completed by the following Wednesday.• Pupils will know the methods they should use to solve the problems included in their activity from their work in class. If there are any problems, however, please bring these to the attention of your child’s maths teacher with a note in their reading diary or email (to lowerkeystagetwo@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk in the first instance).• Your child should complete the activities using paper and jottings to help them – they do not have to calculate answers without writing down any information.
<p>Spelling: <u>Owls and Hawks</u> <i>(5mins a day)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A set of spellings, following a spelling rule being looked at in class or taken from the relevant statutory word lists will be sent home in the child’s spelling book. In Hawks and Owls, these will be given out on a Friday and tested the following Friday.• These should be looked at, any relevant rule discussed, and the words practised at home ready for the child’s test each week. Please help the child understand the meaning of the word if they do not already, as this will be part of their test.• Please help your child to learn these spellings using the Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check sheet in their spelling book. This approach is where the child tries to memorise the shape of the word and the order of the letters from looking carefully and saying the word; they then cover the word up and attempt to write the word, before finally checking it is spelt correctly. Other ways your child might enjoy are drawing images around the word to help them remember it, using different colours for each letter; making up a rhyme or phrase for each letter in the word, for example, ‘because’ – big elephants can always understand small elephants; building the words using magnetic letters; or creating wordsearches or crosswords using the spelling words. Please see the Spelling handout for further ideas.
<p>Reading <i>(10mins a day)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children need to either read to an adult, be read to by an adult for 10 minutes or so 5 times a week. This could be a book from the classroom, the library or from home.• Reading Records will be used to monitor this reading, so please either fill this in yourself or prompt your child to do so neatly every time they read.• Children need to ensure that their reading diary is in school every day.

Times Tables and Number Facts

(5mins a day)

- Throughout each week, pupils will complete times table tests, including both multiplication and associated division facts (so $5 \times 6 = 30$ and $30 \div 6 = 5$). These are then marked and sent home with children. Please encourage them to share these with you and focus on learning any incorrect answers.
- Pupils will be assigned specific times table games through the Times Table Rockstars website (www.ttrockstars.com/login) to practise and consolidate their classroom learning. Your child will record their username and password for this website in their reading diary. On TTRS, your child will be asked the same questions repeatedly, in order to develop automaticity in these facts. As your child gains speed and accuracy, they will automatically progress onto new questions.
- Please note, all pupils should know all of their multiplication and associated division facts by the end of Y4 (up to 12×12). In Lower Key Stage Two, the following are taught:
 - (Y2 covers 10x, 5x and 2x)
 - Y3: 3x, 6x, 4x and 8x
 - Y4: 7x, 9x, 11x and 12x
- As with spelling, a 'little-and-often' approach to learning these facts is the best one to take – 5 mins a day, focusing on specific, trickier facts, is ideal.

During the year, some activities may be set for pupils to complete in their Google Classroom; most children will be familiar with this from their home learning last year. Further details will be sent home when these activities are set.

What feedback will I receive?

- Teachers will keep records of spelling and times table results, and results from Athletics activities. Where pupils seem to be struggling with any of this learning, teachers will get in touch to discuss this with you. They will also aim to let you know when these facts are learnt well, either through a discussion or with certificates, stickers or other rewards.
- It is helpful to teachers to have a short comment when a child has struggled with homework, including with learning any facts sent home, or found anything especially easy. Please drop a brief email or note to your child's teacher if they have any problems with any homework; you are welcome to use your child's reading diary for this, or can use the lowerkeystagetwo@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk email address.
- It is helpful to have comments from home about aspects of reading which are going well or proving a struggle; please use the home-school reading diary to record these. These are checked daily, so please record any reading which your child does.

Please remember, your child's class teacher is always happy to answer any questions you may have or provide any help which you need. While this can be slightly harder to arrange than it normally would be currently, please don't let that stop you getting in touch and someone will get back to you as soon as they can.