



## Northbourne CE Primary School

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## Homework Policy: Eagles, Kestrels and Kites (Y5 and 6)

### 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 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

<b>Maths Homework: Mathletics and Times Tables Rock Stars</b> <i>(Around 30mins a week)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pupils will be set Maths homework each week. Usually this will be through the Mathletics website (<a href="http://www.mathletics.co.uk">www.mathletics.co.uk</a>), 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.</li><li>• On other occasions, a different activity—such as a game or worksheet— will be sent home.</li><li>• Homework in both forms will be set on Wednesday and needs to be completed by the following Wednesday.</li><li>• Where necessary or appropriate, a short explanation of any methods pupils should be using to work through the activities will be provided. This will link to the methods being used in class but, if there are any problems, please bring these to the attention of your maths teacher with a note or email (to <a href="mailto:upperkeystagetwo@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk">upperkeystagetwo@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk</a> in the first instance).</li><li>• 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.</li></ul>
<b>Times Tables and Number Facts</b> <i>(5mins a day)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pupils will be set a times table target which they should know. Where this is the case, a ‘little-and-often’ approach is the best one to take when learning number facts – 5 minutes each day is ideal.</li><li>• There will be a range of websites available which pupils can use to practise these facts; class teachers will be happy to make some suggestions.</li><li>• Pupils will be tested on their times tables in their maths groups up to three times a week.</li><li>• Pupils will be assigned specific times table games through the Times Table Rock Stars website (<a href="http://www.ttrockstars.com/login">www.ttrockstars.com/login</a>) to practise and consolidate classroom learning. Your child will record their username and password for this website in their reading diary.</li><li>• Please note, all pupils should know all of their multiplication and associated division facts by the end of Y4.</li></ul>
<b>Spelling</b> <i>(5mins a day)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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. These will be sent home on Monday and tested on Friday.</li><li>• These should be looked at, any relevant rule discussed, and the words practised at home ready for the child’s test each week.</li></ul>
<b>Reading</b> <i>(10mins a day)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children need to either read to an adult, be read to by an adult, or read independently for 10 minutes or so 5 times a week...even in the final years of their primary schooling. 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.</li><li>• Children need to ensure that their reading diary is in school every day.</li></ul>
<b>Home Learning Project: Space</b> <i>(One project per year: term 3, due in on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A longer piece of work to be completed over the course of around 5 weeks. Pupils in Y5 and 6 need to plan their work at the start of the project, deciding what to produce and how they will tackle the project.</li><li>• This will involve a written element which will be explained on the introduction sent home. There will also be suggestions and pointers of other activities or work pupils may like to include in their project.</li><li>• Home Learning is not a competition! All work produced will be valued and celebrated.</li></ul>

### **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 [upperkeystagetwo@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:upperkeystagetwo@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.

### **What will happen if homework isn't completed?**

- To help pupils prepare for their transition to secondary school where homework becomes increasingly important, if homework isn't completed and facts aren't learned or practised at home, this will be followed up in school.
- Pupils will be asked to complete any work missed during breaktimes or lunchtimes to ensure they don't fall behind with class work.
- If homework is continually not being completed, your child's class teacher will get in touch to discuss this with you.

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.