

Respect

Empathy

Ambition

Cooperation

Health



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Park Hill Primary School  
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Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Families,

As part of our work on our curriculum, we have been using available evidence to review some of the things that we had in place previously. This includes homework.

The [Education Endowment Foundation](#)'s review of the effectiveness of homework has helped us re-design the way in which we set it at Park Hill. Some of the research shows:

- "Homework has a positive impact on average."
- "Common homework activities in primary schools are reading, practising spelling and number facts."
- "Studies that included feedback on homework had higher impacts on learning."
- "Consider the quality of the homework over the quantity."
- "Studies involving digital technology typically have greater impact."

We have decided that homework will be set by teachers using technology, as it enables us to meet the EEF's recommendations: it involves digital technology so is likely to have a better impact on children's learning, it provides immediate feedback (children instantly know whether they have a right or wrong answer) and it will focus on the three common activities in primary schools.

Our expectations for homework ("Do Four to Score!") are outlined on the next page.



Teachers will set weekly assignments or tasks on the apps, in order to match the learning that is happening in class. Teachers will also check children's responses each week. To support your child, please encourage them to complete their homework.

Homework is, of course, like Marmite! People either love it or hate it but we hope that this approach impacts family life less whilst still having a positive impact on children's learning. We will also keep working on revising our approach and ironing out any kinks.




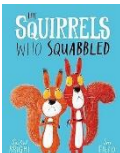
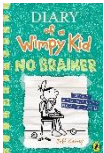



If you have any trouble logging in or completing the tasks at all, please let your child's teacher know.

Thank you for all of your support.

Kind regards,

*A Boardman*

Mrs A. Boardman  
Deputy Head Teacher

Activity	What to use	What to do	What adults should do	How often to do it
<p>Decodable reading</p>   	<p>Read Write Inc. phonics books and Oxford Owl (online) for children who <b>are learning phonics</b>.</p> <p>Staged reading books for children who are no longer <b>learning phonics</b>.</p>	<p>Snuggle up and ask children to read aloud to their adult (even if it is only a tiny bit at a time!)</p> <p>These books are matched to your child's reading skill and will help them become fluent readers.</p>	<p>Please sign your child's reading record every day and add a comment if there is something you want your child's teacher to know.</p>	<p>Either a decodable book or a choice book every day.</p> <p>Try to aim for children to read their decodable book twice (unless it is one of the longer texts that children read in Upper Key Stage 2).</p>
<p>Reading for enjoyment</p>  	<p>Choice books (books that children choose to read, which may be a little harder than those they can read independently).</p>	<p>Snuggle up and read aloud together.</p> <p>These books are simply for the love of reading! They'll also support your child's comprehension skills.</p> <p>If your child wants to read a story book, some poems, a magazine... anything goes!</p>	<p>Please sign your child's reading record every day and add a comment if there is something you want your child's teacher to know.</p> <p>Children in Year 2 or above might want to read these books independently – that's great!</p>	
<p>Number facts</p>  	<p>Numbots for children in Year 1.</p> <p>Times Tables Rockstars for children in Year 2 to Year 6.</p>	<p>Login and complete the challenge the teacher has set that week.</p>	<p>Please support your child with logging in and completing the challenge.</p> <p>Teachers will be able to see children's answers but if you notice anything that you want them to know, jot it in their reading journal.</p>	<p>10-20 minutes a week</p>
<p>Spelling</p> 	<p>Spelling Shed for children in Year 1 to Year 6.</p> <p>Challenges might be set from time to time on Maths Shed too (which is the same login).</p>	<p>Login and complete the challenge the teacher has set that week.</p>	<p>Please support your child with logging in and completing the challenge.</p> <p>Teachers will be able to see children's answers but if you notice anything that you want them to know, jot it in their reading journal.</p>	<p>10-20 minutes a week</p>