



Headteacher: Mrs C Fulstow
Elloughton Primary School
Stockbridge Road
Elloughton
Brough
East Riding of Yorkshire
HU15 1HN

21st September 2018

Year 1 – Year 6 Home Learning

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have recently been reviewing our approach to Home Learning following feedback from parents. As always your views are extremely helpful although it is apparent that opinions vary widely between those who think that more homework should be given to those who feel that there should be much less. Some like the variety of tasks whilst others prefer work that simply concentrates on the basics of Maths and English. Whilst a whole range of different opinions are apparent the need for more relevance across the school is certainly evident.

We are aware that Home Learning is a vital part of helping children to progress but can also be an activity that takes a lot of children's spare time. With this in mind as from this term our Home Learning will simply focus on the important basic skills – maths, spelling and reading. There will no longer be tasks for all subjects.

Maths

Linked to our new Mastery approach to maths the Home Learning will focus on a few, carefully selected objectives based around understanding of number, place value and mental calculations. Each week your child will be sent home with an objective or key facts which they are required to learn. These facts will come with a short activity or task which should be repeated as often as possible over the week. The more practise your child gets the more fluent they will be with these skills. As much as possible the facts will mirror what is being taught in school at the time. The aim is for your child to become confident with numbers and how they are constructed whilst also ensuring that your child has as much free time as possible. The tasks should only ever take 5 -10 minutes a day to practise.

Spellings

For spelling your child will bring home a spelling card which will contain four to six common exception words. These are words which generally do not follow phonetic patterns, so need to be learnt independently. A full list of the common exception words for your child's year group are in their planners. It is vital that the children can retain and apply these spellings in all of their written work to enable them to reach their end of year expectations in writing. We would encourage the children to practise their spellings a little each day to aid their retention. Once the children confidently know their spellings, they can practise writing them within sentences to ensure they can apply them. Within the classroom, children will be expected to check their work and self-edit spellings they have learnt. If a spelling is repeatedly spelt wrong, this spelling will be given again. Our aim is to ensure all children have a culture of high expectations and take pride in their work and correctly spell words that they know.

Telephone: (01482) 666231 Fax: (01482) 666642 Email: admin@epsch.co.uk

Website: www.elloughtonprimaryschool.co.uk



Reading

Children should be heard to read at least 4 times per week. Reading a range of texts aloud at bedtimes is a great way to develop your child's love of reading and language. Reading aloud with an adult is very important. Even if your child is a fluent reader, having a discussion about the story (e.g. characters' personalities and actions, the 'wow words' an author uses, how the author describes the setting or creates an atmosphere) is a valuable way to develop reading skills.

In addition reading Home Learning will now be in the form of a reading challenge. This will be aimed at encouraging children to read books by specific authors, on specific subjects, in inventive places with friends and family. There will be one challenge for each phase (Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6) which will last one full term. There will be three levels of challenge: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Bronze will be moderately challenging, Silver will be intermediate, and Gold will be more advanced. Once your child has completed the reading challenge, they will be rewarded with a bronze, silver or gold certificate. Their completed record sheet will also be entered into a draw to win a prize. Further information to follow shortly.

Pupil Planners

All Home Learning (Maths and Spellings) will be recorded in your child's pupil planner. Please make sure you, or your child, write in the planner each time they read at home. The planner can also be used for messages to and from home. It should be brought to school every day and signed by parents/carers once a week.

If you have any questions regarding our Home Learning, please speak to myself or your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carole Fulstow
Headteacher