

January 2016



Homework Survey

Question 12: Suggestions & Comments

- ◆ The homework relies too much on parental involvement in current form. As a vehicle to promote independent and confident learners I feel that in current format many of the homeworks do not allow for this to happen.
- ◆ I feel that reading comprehensions & maths worksheets would support independent learning as opposed to the projects which seem to heavily rely on parents involvement.
- ◆ Weekdays homework, weekend sport/leisure. Not the other way round.
- ◆ Homework spoils our family time at weekends as we spend a good few hours arguing over getting it done and my child not understanding what is needed. My child does like the writing home works and does better when it is maths or a fun homework. Having write reams just sets us off for a awful weekend. I feel my child should be able to do the homework with little input from parents but this is not the case
- ◆ The homework varies massively each week and can sometimes dominate a weekend. I am lucky that generally my daughter understands her homework and it is not a 'battle' however often doing the homework means that family time is compromised. Some of the homework is lengthy and requires much hard work from my daughter with our support and when the homework is marked we can all feel deflated. I think it would be helpful if the work was given earlier in the week or could be handed in later. The homework is inconsistent and some weeks it's straightforward others I need to google words to check my understanding and my daughters.
- ◆ I think a child's school day is long enough & with all my children they take part in after school activities both in the week & the weekend. Any other time should be left for family time & not added pressure of homework.
- ◆ parents homework rather than child's. With other commitments eg: swimming lessons, football, and siblings outside of school activities. I strongly feel quality family time is also needed. Homework causes much distress and arguments, more than happy to do reading and spelling. projects, making things, etc I strongly feel should be done in school. Spoken to many parents on this subject and they are all on the opinion.
- ◆ I like 'a proper homework'. By this I mean one which involves maths, writing or science. I don't feel homework where they have to draw a picture or design a poster is valuable. That's something they can do in their own time if they want to.
- ◆ It often appears that the homework has no link to the topics being taught that week. It is also very hard work when your child has no interest in drawing and design, to ask them to create posters/leaflets, I'm not sure I understand how asking them to do this as homework is of any benefit to them.
- ◆ I don't think that homework contributes to my child's learning enough to warrant doing it. She reads all the time at home, she learns through us through everyday activities and experiences. When she has spent the day working hard at school it encroaches on her playtime or time to socialise or take part in other activities. Homework often takes her longer to complete than the supposed time, and requires a lot of input from parents either to understand the task or to research etc. Generally I think it is not necessary in primary school, I agree with having reading and spellings should be all children are set, this would mean parents would have less pressure too, and if help was needed in a particular area, parents would have more time to dedicate to this.
- ◆ It would be much better if the homework related to what had been taught in class - so consolidation. Far too often homework is given which is very random in its nature and is sometimes a topic which my child has never even seen before, not ideal when my child dislikes homework anyway. She much prefers project work but I'm guessing there won't be much of that in January with SATS looming on the horizon. Please please please make homework more worthwhile. Thank you.

- ◆ Current homework requires too much adult involvement. I do not mind helping my child, but I feel homework should supplement what is learned in class and not start on a new subject or level that my child has got no knowledge of. I think the pupils should be able to read and understand the instructions with minimum assistance from parents. I am not a teacher and may not always know the best way to explain things. This frequently results in confusion, arguments and a miserable weekend! As a family we need time to spend together without the pressure of overly time consuming homework involving too much parental guidance (internet research etc).
- ◆ I feel that a lot of homework is research that my child can't do independently. The homework does take over a lot of the weekend too and eats into family time.
- ◆ I feel spellings and reading are more than enough for children's homework.
- ◆ Homework should be age appropriate, with little input for parents, would like (prefer) more mathematics (weekly)
- ◆ We believe it is important to continue the learning from school within the home, but don't want children burdened by too much homework. We do lots of our own activities at home which we like to have time to focus on.
- ◆ Our Sundays are homework day. It can take my daughter 3 or more hours to complete it and, if I'm honest, it spoils our weekend. We are busy during the week and the homework club simply isn't long enough for my child to complete their homework. I really feel that spellings, times tables, maths games and reading are enough, perhaps with optional ideas suggested by school such as useful websites, topic suggestions and reading material to further learning should a family wish to spend time on them. Once our children are at secondary school they will be inundated with homework. Please help our children to enjoy quality family time at a weekend:) Thanks.
- ◆ I don't think homework is necessary at primary school, weekends are suppose to be fun and full of activity using social skills etc. A small amount of learning could be encouraged such as practising timetables alongside the usual spellings and reading but no more
- ◆ at year 6 stage I expect homework every week as it prepares the children for secondary school when they get slightly more homework and need to start organising themselves more
- ◆ I would like to have some indication of what my child has been learning about that week so we can continue to help reinforce it at home, such as if they have been working on percentages in maths we can help to recap the subject at home and make sure they understand it. It would also be useful to know what methods are taught in the classroom so we are not confusing children with a different method at home. I do think children should be issued with age appropriate homework but maybe project style would be better for older children as it makes busy weekends less stressful, as you can catch up when you have more time. My child generally enjoys the homework set but isn't confident enough to attempt it independently without a bit of direction.
- ◆ I Would prefer to see more focus on basics for homework than big projects -feel they should be given more maths and SPAG as this would make year 6 much easier in preparation - if the basics are right everything is so much easier ... Would also like to see comprehension work for home ... Think these are much easier for parents to assist with and think you may get more support as there tends to be a right and a wrong answer ... so much of the homework at the minute is subjective and difficult to understand exactly what the teachers are looking for
- ◆ Homework should be enjoyable and fun, an interesting extension of what's been learned in school that week and not a 'practise run' to get you prepared for doing homework at secondary school. Work done at home should not be so laborious that it builds a hatred of homework before a child is even 10 but should be fun and different to the way they learn in the classroom.
- ◆ I find that sometimes it is a struggle for my child to complete the amount of homework set. He tries his hardest and there seems very little acknowledgement from school of just a stamp in the book. The games that we can complete as a family are much better instead of a mass of written work, which he sees as a chore.
- ◆ My child always advises she has read with someone in school and there is not the need to read at home. Enforce parental signature in reading record to avoid excuses. Also the homework should be set at a level where they can complete independently.
- ◆ Have a stepped system with optional aspects for those wanting to do more. Have a box for parent comments or something to show how much help has been needed and time spent.

School Response & next Steps:



- ◆ To introduce a consistent approach to home learning, in which balance of tasks set for each half term
- ◆ To re-introduce weekly homework but with choice of tasks/subjects.
- ◆ To devise Home Learning Policy
- ◆ To introduce Home Learning Journals and Planners
- ◆ Review the marking and feedback of Home Learning
- ◆ To set up Home Learning links on Year Group sections of website so all accessible available online