

**MORTIMER ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**HOMEWORK POLICY**

Author:  
Date:  
Review date:  
Date approved:

Teaching staff  
September 2018  
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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a capital 'N' followed by a cursive flourish and a horizontal line extending to the right.

## **ETHOS STATEMENT**

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all.

## **AIMS OF THE SCHOOL**

The school aims to develop the pupils as rounded individuals by:-

- Providing a learning environment which enables all children to develop their knowledge, understanding and capability of subjects included within the National Curriculum and to achieve the highest possible academic standard for them personally
- Providing a happy, secure environment based on mutual respect and the pursuit of personal development.
- Fostering the qualities of both independence and cooperation with others.
- Helping them to develop as mature adults who demonstrate and value a caring, tolerant and thoughtful attitude to all members of society.
- Developing self confident, enquiring individuals who see education as a continual and enriching life-long process.
- Emphasising the qualities of honesty, courtesy, integrity, perseverance and self-control with a love of life and the world in which they live.
- Assisting them to develop their appreciation and understanding of religious practices and insights in order that they may explore their own spirituality, beliefs and judgement in search of truth.
- Preparing them for a meaningful role in the local and wider community.

## **Mortimer St Mary's CE Junior School**

### **Homework Policy**

#### **Homework should:**

- promote positive links between school and home in the education of our pupils and to encourage children, teachers and parents to work in partnership;
- teach children the ability to learn independently and develop organisational skills;
- enable teachers to check that lessons in school have been understood by their pupils;
- encourage children to develop interests in their work beyond the classroom environment.
- reinforce basic skills
- engage children and their families in home learning

#### **Parents should support their children and assist the teacher by:**

- showing a positive and supportive attitude to homework and help their children develop the homework habit;
- ensuring that a suitable environment is available for homework;
- encouraging and helping with reading on a regular basis, commenting in the reading record;
- helping children to learn spellings and tables on a regular basis;
- discussing the children's homework with them before it returns to school;
- signing the reading records and homework books to show support for their child

#### **Teachers should:**

- set appropriate homework for the age and the ability of their pupils, as set out below;
- help children to understand the importance of completing homework on time and to take pride in its completion;
- set a suitable sanction if homework is not handed in on time or completed satisfactorily.
- ensure that homework is recorded in the Homework book or reading record

#### **Children should:**

- complete homework to the best of their ability;
- realise that homework is set for their benefit and to support what happens in school;
- take responsibility for the completion of homework on time;

Homework Overview grid					
	Reading	Literacy	Mental maths	Maths	IPC
Y3	At least 3 reads a week with children's comments recorded and a parent signature	Fortnightly follow up grammar and punctuation work linked to the grammar and punctuation work being covered in class within a unit of work. Occasional support for the literacy topic e.g. bringing in a poem to share with the class or dressing up as a book character	Children are expected to learn and practice strategies, times tables and key addition/subtraction facts as well as related division facts to support them with their mental recall skills.	Fortnightly follow up maths work which is linked to what is being covered in class. This can include a link to games on the learning platform or a suggested quickfire game to play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A termly research task linked to the current IPC topic</li> <li>• IPC topic sack once a term</li> </ul>
Y4	At least 3 reads a week with children's comments recorded and a parent signature				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A termly research task linked to the current IPC topic</li> <li>• IPC topic sack once a term</li> </ul>
Y5	At least 3 entries in the reading record per week, including full comments from the child and a parent signature.	Written grammar homework every week and occasional support for the literacy topic e.g. bringing in a newspaper article or relevant research	Children are expected to learn and practice all times tables and corresponding related division facts	Written maths homework every week which is linked to what is being covered in class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A termly research task linked to the current IPC topic</li> <li>• IPC topic sack once a term</li> </ul>
Y6	At least 3 entries in the reading record per week, including full comments from the child and a parent signature.	Written grammar homework every week and occasional support for the literacy topic e.g. bringing in a newspaper article or relevant research	Children are expected to learn and practice the times table of the week and related division facts	Written maths homework every week which is linked to what is being covered in class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A termly research task linked to the current IPC topic</li> <li>• IPC topic sack once a term</li> </ul>
Additional literacy and maths homework will be set in the spring and summer term to support booster work, basic skills and transition to secondary school					
<b><i>Help your child by signing their homework. Parents are encouraged to record their comments where appropriate.</i></b>					

### **Reading records/diaries**

The aim of the reading record/diary is to promote reading of depth and quality. Children are encouraged to read daily but are only asked to fill in the diary three times a week with a significant response and some reflection. Comments on the child's understanding and engagement with text are more useful than just a record of the number of times they have read. Teacher or TA checks reading diary weekly and responds to any comments or queries and exceptionally good examples. Children are given opportunities throughout the week to change their reading books. We aim to encourage them to develop their independence and take responsibility for this. Teacher follows up any lack of reading and where books are not changed frequently enough. Children will be kept in at break time (yellow card) to catch up on independent reading if it has not been completed at home. Children are also given time in the library every fortnight to take out library books/Audio CDs.

### **IPC topic sacks**

All children have the opportunity to take home an IPC topic sack each term. The sacks contain activities for the children to undertake and enjoy with their families at home. The sacks are designed to encourage the children to develop their own learning through fun and interesting activities outside of the classroom. Children are encouraged to make a record of their learning in the journal provided in the topic sack. IPC research tasks are opportunities for your children to work at their own level. They can develop their own ways of presenting their research and showing what they have found out and learnt. These tasks are opportunities for the children to be creative.

### **Additional homework activities available**

Virtual Curiosity sacks on Learning Platform – this is the IPC topic sack in electronic form to enable children greater access to additional activities. Learning Platform activities with links to useful websites such as [www.multiplication.com](http://www.multiplication.com)

99 club practice activities on leaning platform

Spelling practice – spelling banks are stuck in homework diaries