

Top Homework Tips

- Please help your child with their homework but don't do it for them.
- Help your child take responsibility for organising and doing their homework . Praise them for their hard work , improved concentration or presentation.
- Some children prefer to do homework straight after school, whereas others prefer to 'unwind' first, or have their meal then do homework later. Find out what works for your family.
- Find a place where your child can do their homework without interruptions. It's worth remembering that some children like to work with music on to keep them company.
- Use resources such as the local library and the internet.
- Ask questions that break a problem down into small steps instead of providing answers.
- Read together, particularly when your child first starts school. Even as children get older they still love to be read to - and remember to share the stories between both parents, as Dads are powerful role models and have a strong influence on their children's attitude to reading. Let them see you and older children read.
- Make homework rewarding by setting up some treats like staying up 10 minutes later; spending 10 minutes extra on the computer, or having a friend round. It can help to keep your child motivated if they need that little "extra" encouragement from time to time.
- Look at the topic webs (sent home each term and on the class web page). Think about places you could visit that would tie in with what your child is learning. If they're learning about the sea, for example, you could visit an aquarium. Dig out any books or videos you may have on the subject at home, too.
- Make sure that they don't spend too much time on the task set.
- If you feel you are having to reteach a particular concept or method, the homework is not appropriate and the class teacher needs to know.
- If your child is having problems with the activity set please seek advice from the class teacher or return the homework with a brief note
- Remember there are lots of other learning opportunities at home - going for a walk in the park, cooking together, reading to your child, even just having a chat are all valuable experiences.



St Philips

A Parent's Guide
to ...
Homework

Homework in Foundation Stage

Learning together is the emphasis for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The activities are Literacy based with a strong emphasis on reading together. Maths Challenges are also set every two weeks to support children's Mathematical development and to contribute to the EYFS 'Parents as Partners' requirement.



Literacy

Parents will be informed of the phonemes and high frequency words that the children are learning in school as they are learnt in lessons or at the child's pace. **Reading to children** - Parents are encouraged to share books - discussion about both the pictures and the text in a book is important. **Tricky Words** After the children have learned the tricky words in each phase, parents will be sent a list of the words the children have learned. **Letter formation** - teachers will provide parents with a sheet to support children with letter formation. The important thing is to watch them and correct any mistakes sensitively so they don't fall into bad habits.

Maths Challenges

Maths Challenges are set every two weeks to support children's mathematical development and to contribute to the EYFS 'Parents as Partners' requirement.



Learning together project

Each term we set a 'learning together project', where the children and parents are set a task.

Homework in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

10 minutes reading daily - Regular spelling and number fact practice.

Reading.

Children will have a reading record which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read with the child.

High Frequency Words.

Children will bring home some words each week for them to read, write and learn.

Numeracy.

All children will bring home their 'Magic Maths' to practise at home

Homework in Key Stage 2 (Juniors or Years 3 - 6)

<u>How much time should be spent on homework each week?</u>		
3 and 4	Reading (at least 15 minutes a day) Practise Spellings Practise Mental Maths (eg times tables, number bonds)	Complete a task (eg English, Maths or Topic based)
5	Reading (at least 15 minutes a day) Practise Spellings Practise Mental Maths (eg convert units of measure) Practise a Grammar or Punctuation Topic (eg using commas, tenses)	Complete a task (eg English, Maths or Topic based)
6	Reading (at least 15 minutes a day) Practise Spellings Practise Mental Maths (eg convert units of measure) Practise Grammar or Punctuation (eg using commas)	Complete a task (eg English, Maths or Topic based) Further tasks may be given in the run up to SATs to help children prepare for those tests.

What type of work will my child get?

Reading Children may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves in the presence of an adult. Children in juniors are responsible for filling in their reading record or travel log and making sure that it comes to school everyday.



Spelling Children will be issued with spelling lists to learn during the week. They will be expected to learn the words in the list as well as use some of them to form sentences.

Mental Maths For children in years 3 & 4, the task will often be a times table or a series of number bonds. For older children, the topic might be connected to units of measure or finding fractions of a number.

Grammar and Punctuation Children in years 5 & 6 will be asked to learn a grammar or punctuation topic.

Task A weekly task for your child to complete might be based on English or Maths work. It might be a piece of writing, a reading comprehension or a series of maths exercises linked to the work your child has been doing in maths lessons. Occasionally, the task might be based in another curriculum area such as Science, Geography or History. It could take many forms: preparing a talk, completing a piece of research or conducting an interview. The children may take part in a creative challenge linked to the topic. The nature of this work may be more open ended than in other areas.

Homework tasks will be set on **Fridays** and will be due in on **Wednesdays**.