

Homework

Year 3 & 4's homework will predominately focus on a weekly spelling task and times tables, with themed projects set relating to their class topic once every half term. **Year 5 & 6's** homework will include a weekly spelling task and times tables, but they will also be set one piece of English and Maths per week. Homework will be **set on Mondays and due on Fridays** so that pupils and parents can have stress-free weekends! Please record all of your child's hard work in their homework diary and sign in regularly.

Spellings

Please note this important change to our spelling curriculum: KS2 will no longer have spelling tests; research has shown these are ineffective in helping children remember spellings long-term and do not help children apply learnt spellings to their written work. Instead, KS2 will have a discrete spelling lesson each Monday, a short weekly spelling task (as part of their homework to be returned each Friday) and a final spelling lesson on Friday to review the 'rule' or letter string studied.

Assessments

Year 6 SATs will take place on **Monday 8th - Thursday 11th May**, inclusive. The Year 4 'Multiplication Tables Check' (MTC) will take place in **June 2023**.

The MTC is to ensure that by Year 4, pupils are secure in their times tables and associated division facts ($3 \times 5 = 15$ therefore $15 \div 5 = 3$). Being fluent in times table knowledge cannot be stressed enough and best prepares your child for the demands of the upper KS2 curriculum and beyond.

All pupils in KS2 will be given a 'Times Table Rock Star' challenge **three times a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**. These will be sent home on the same day so that you can see your child's progress and help them make any necessary corrections. There are many apps, online games and YouTube songs which can make learning times tables lots of fun! Please record all of your child's hard work in their homework diary.

Equipment

All stationery will be provided by the school. There is no need to purchase any stationery for your child. Please can you ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school with them each day, along with a named water bottle and a healthy snack to eat at break. **[A note about screen-time and social media](#)** We encourage parents to check frequently the messages, videos and pictures their children post online. This ensures any friendship issues which may arise on WhatsApp groups, for example, can be prevented or dealt with quickly and effectively. We would also recommend that parents remove screens from children at least one hour before bed.

Reading

It is essential that you read with your child, and they read to you, as frequently as possible but as a minimum requirement, we suggest **10-15 minutes five nights a week**. This should be recorded in your child's homework diary. When you read to your child, you're building their vocabulary, language and literacy skills, while improving concentration, curiosity and memory. Reading builds comprehension and critical-thinking skills and also promotes spelling and grammar acquisition. Not only this, but reading with your child after a busy day allows you to spend some quality time with each other and can help settle your child before bedtime to ensure they have a good night's rest!

Uniform

Please ensure your child has a blue school cardigan or jumper, white shirt or polo shirt and black or grey trousers / skirt / pinafore. Pupils must have appropriate black school shoes – no trainers please. We would also like to remind you that we have a strict no jewellery policy; pupils may wear one set of *plain* stud earrings only. No extravagant hair-bands or hair accessories are permitted. Thank you for your support with this matter.

PE Kit

On the days that your child has PE, please can they come to school dressed in their outdoor PE kit. The kit requirements remain the same: plain white T-shirt, a pair of plain, dark (black, navy or grey) jogging bottoms and either a school hoody or a plain, dark (black, navy or grey) hoody/sweatshirt. They will also require a pair of plain suitably coloured outdoor trainers. As PE kits will be worn for the duration of the school day, they **MUST** be in line with our uniform policy. All KS2 pupils are required to have two sessions of PE per week. For the Autumn term, these will take place on the following days:

Year 3 Tuesday and Friday

Year 4 Tuesday and Thursday

Year 5 Wednesday (Swimming) and Friday

Year 6 Tuesday and Thursday

Attendance

Good attendance in each class is celebrated every week during Celebration Assembly and is shared on the school newsletter and website. The school closely monitors pupil absence and minutes of learning time lost due to lateness; should a pupil's attendance or level of punctuality cause concern, this will be reported to the Education Welfare Officer. Please note that leave is unlikely to be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. If a child is absent from school due to illness, this should be reported to the office by telephone as soon as practicable, this can include outside office hours using the answer-phone facility. Please follow the government guidance if you, your child or a member of your household displays any symptoms of Coronavirus. Please **DO NOT** send your child to school if they feel unwell, have a temperature or a cough.

KS2 Class Teachers

Year 3 – Mrs Abbott & Mrs. March

Year 4 – Mrs. Lowes & Mrs. Bilclough

Year 5 – Mr. Hall

Year 6 – Mr. McDonald

KS2 Support Staff – Mrs. Broadbent & Mrs. Ziolkowski (HLTAs); Mrs. Walker, Ms Lake , Miss Ridley and Mr. Currie.

KS2 Lead / SENDCo – Mrs. O'Reilly

Key Dates for your Diary

**Please note Teacher Training Days - Monday 5th September, Monday 31st October, Friday 2nd December, Monday 27th February & May Day - Monday 1st May.*

<u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u>
Summer 2022	Friday 22 July 2022	Monday 5 September 2022
October Mid-Term 2022	Friday 21 October 2022	Monday 31 October 2022
Christmas/New Year 2022/2023	Friday 23 December 2022	Monday 9 January 2023
Spring Mid-Term 2023	Friday 17 February 2023	Monday 27 February 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31 March 2023	Monday 17 April 2023
Summer Mid-Term 2023	Friday 26 May 2023	Monday 5 June 2023
Summer 2023	Friday 21 July 2023	Monday 4 September 2023

HEDDON ON THE WALL
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C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome

