

How can you support your child in Class One?

At Otterham School, we recognise the value of working together to enhance your child's education. We firmly believe that for a child to reach their full potential, a triangulation of parent, child and school is the most successful approach.

Studies suggest that homework not only consolidates the skills that children are learning at school, especially with Year 6 SATs looming for many, but also encourages children to be independent learners, building a sense of responsibility, commitment and developing time management skills. Therefore please find below a list of homework set in Class One and ways in which you can support your child at home.

English Homework

Set every Friday and should be returned on or before the following Wednesday.

There are two pieces of English homework set weekly:

- Comprehension books - children are expected to read and answer questions about one text per week, working their way through their book in order. To complete the task to a good standard, this should take **approx. 30 minutes**.
- Spellings – look, cover, write, check activity, which should take **approx. 10 minutes** to complete, along with additional time to revise them, either verbally or in writing. Parental support here would certainly be beneficial, especially testing children at various intervals during the week, e.g. whilst cooking tea or driving to school. A weekly spelling test will take place every FRIDAY.
- Daily home reading, where possible – **minimum of 10 minutes** each day. Any reading should be recorded in your child's reading record, whether they have read independently or aloud.

Maths Homework

Set every Wednesday and should be returned on or before the following Monday.

- Mental arithmetic books - one page a week. Children should spend no more than **30 minutes** on this task.
- In addition, it would be beneficial for your child to practise their times tables up to 12 x 12, as this is a skill required in all areas of Maths and knowledge that is required throughout life.

Occasionally, additional homework may be set, such as collecting resources for a project or carrying out research. Please note, if necessary a text will be sent to help parents locate any missing homework.

Tips for good homework habits:

- Agree on a quiet place at home where your child can concentrate, which has a flat surface to work and the necessary equipment, i.e. a pencil, sharpener and rubber. Turn off the TV and remove any tempting technologies that could cause a distraction.
- Show an interest in your children's homework and classwork. Discuss any homework tasks with your child and guide them if they get stuck, without giving answers away!
- Encourage your child to get into the habit of completing their homework sooner rather than later, so it doesn't become a last minute chore! It can be a good idea to get into a routine by assigning regular time slots to complete work.
- Break learning tasks into manageable 'chunks' – it would be unrealistic to complete everything in one night!

Useful websites

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools> Age appropriate, subject specific activities, games, worksheets and experiments. It also has revision activities.
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2 Lots of links for KS2 Maths, English and Science.
- <http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk> Has links to the majority of subjects.
- www.mathszone.co.uk Contains numerous fun Maths games and activities.
- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk> Fun and useful interactive activities and games for most subjects.

Should you need any further support or clarification, please do not hesitate to pop in and ask, including if you feel your child is struggling or equally finding the work too easy.

Mrs Humber and Mrs Foley

