

# Burton Leonard C of E Primary School Homework Parent Presentation 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023



## Why are we creating a new homework policy & procedures?



- To ensure clarity of expectation
- To understand the value school places on homework – and the right kind of homework
- To empower parents to support their child in learning at home

# Why have we chosen the homework we have?



- Latest Research
- Parent feedback
- Teacher feedback
- Pupil enjoyment

# Homework - Key Findings from the Education Endowment Foundation



- Homework has a positive impact on average (+ 5 months), particularly with pupils in secondary schools.
- Some pupils may not have a quiet space for home learning – it is important for schools to consider how home learning can be supported
- Homework that is linked to classroom work tends to be more effective.
- It is important to make the purpose of homework clear to pupils (e.g. to increase a specific area of knowledge, or to develop fluency in a particular area).

# Getting the balance right



- School values the support that parents provide their children in learning at home, but also recognises that family life is busy and children have active lives, with varied interests out of school which are equally valuable to a child's development, wellbeing and education.

# Consideration to types of homework



- Our homework expectations have been carefully considered with this in mind. Teachers set homework that is recognised through research as being most effective for reinforcing what has been taught in school and which will have the most impact on their child's learning.

# Research-driven



- The approach we are adopting is research-driven and one of setting small chunks of learning to be delivered little and often, so tasks are manageable in the wider frame of family life whilst also having the most impact on learning.

# Optional Opportunities



- Additional materials are suggested and may be accessed by families who would like further optional homework. Teachers will provide materials for self-marking at home to support progress.



# The thinking behind our homework



- To develop a love of reading
- To support school in helping students retain information they have learned and commit this to the long term memory
- To connect parents with their child's education
- To give pupils a routine and create good habits

# The LOVE of reading... (and talking)



- Reading is the most important thing you can do to help your child be academically successful
- Also allows quality time and relationships
- Research based evidence shows the huge impact this has on children's academic success
- Developing the 'will' and the 'skill'

# Research



- Readers who can and do choose to read regularly and widely, are giving themselves unofficial reading lessons of significant value - cognitively, socially, and emotionally. Reading for pleasure matters. Cremin, Teresa(2023)
- Research also suggests children aged 5 who are never read to will have a vocabulary of 5000 words. Children aged 5 who are read to on a daily basis have a vocabulary of 300,000 words

# To support school in helping students retain information they have learned and commit this to the long term memory

- To retain certain skills, we need to practice little and often – key number facts, x tables, spellings are a clear example of this
- Retrieval practice – going over the same information ensures knowledge is committed to the long term memory and retained.
- This frees up the brain in different situations to apply it easily

# Research



- Research shows that for children to know and remember more and be successful in their learning, they need to practice certain skills on a daily basis - little and often. This ensures that this information is committed to long term memory, enabling children to work more fluently in these areas.

“Five to ten minutes has the same effect of one hour to two hours...The best thing you can do is to reinforce something you’ve already learnt.”

Hattie, John (2014)

# To connect parents with their child's education



- Parental engagement in children's education has a beneficial impact on a child's success in school.
- Homework provides a great way for parents to become involved in supporting their child's learning, offering support where needed and an understanding of their child's progress.

# Research



- Parental involvement with homework and engagement in their child's education are related to higher academic performance, better social skills and behavior, and increased self-confidence.

**Kiser, Selena (2020)**

## To give pupils a routine and create good habits



- Many aspects of a pupil's future life will require, at times, work to be completed outside of working hours as well as independently
- Supports time management skills
- Develops responsibility for learning
- Homework is expected at secondary school



# Homework



1. Reading for pleasure (having the will)
2. Reading aloud for celebration and prosody – Bug Club Phonics & KS2 reading materials (developing the skill)
3. Phonics/spelling/etymology work
4. Maths key facts or x tables
5. Maths calculation linked to learning in class

# Pupils with SEND



- Setting the right type and amount of homework for children with a special educational need will need careful consideration by the class teacher, in discussion with parents/carers.
- Our policy applies equally to pupils with a special educational need and should be applied in accordance with their individual need and adaptations made accordingly.

# What will feedback look like?



- Reading record books will enable 'Book Talk' between teachers and pupils
- Phonics, spellings and etymology homework will be assessed through spelling assessments and the application of daily writing
- Maths interactive programmes give immediate feedback and progress to pupils and parents – teachers can monitor and feedback to pupils and parents

Future steps to develop feedback...

- Investigating the impact and manageability of an interactive learning platform (e.g. Seesaw) – enabling communication between parents and teachers

# What parents say...



## **31 responses**

Majority of responses...

- 42% deem homework 'somewhat important'
- 68% deem amount of homework given by school to be 'about right'
- 83% 'sometimes' feel that homework should be an activity completed with adult support
- 74% deem expectations are clear
- 77% are satisfied with marking
- 61% feel the weekend is the best time to complete homework
- 54% deem reading to be the most important part of English homework
- 61% feel maths calculation homework supports learning
- 80% support homework
- 41% expressed uncertainty about a learning platform for homework

# How we used parent feedback...



- All feedback taken into consideration, alongside current research and homework proven to have the most significant impact
- Looked at feedback from specific key stages/year groups to formulate progression according to age and stage
- Considered family life balance
- Considered opportunities for optional additional homework activities
- Make manageable with manageable feedback systems in place

# Next steps...



- Procedures and additional information shared with parents
- Year group expectations will be sent by class teachers
- Teachers will ensure pupils are familiar with the types of homework
- Homework procedures will begin next week, but we want to give families the time to adjust and get used to the new routines...please keep talking to us