Godstone Primary and Nursery School

Homework Policy

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Aims and Intent

Homework at Godstone Primary and Nursery School aims to ensure a consistent approach where home learning benefits and provides extended learning opportunities. The homework policy has taken into account feedback from the Parent Survey and parent representative meetings. It incorporates a half-termly 'grid' of homework which is more flexible for parents to access with their children alongside weekly activities such as reading and spelling.

The homework will consolidate and reinforce learning from school to ensure that all children maximise their academic and social development. This will encourage the children to develop organisational skills, self-discipline and good work habits for the future. There is an emphasis on creativity and developing learning skills.

The aims above will promote a strong partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning.

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents and carers with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents and carers with information about homework.
- To provide support for children with their homework.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To be available to talk to parents, carers and children about homework.
- To inform parents and carers if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Reward children for completing homework.

What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes at least two pieces of homework to a high standard (in years one to six) alongside reading regularly and practising their spellings and times tables (age appropriate).
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete their homework.

- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of classwork.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

The Process and Implementation

Half-termly homework

Homework grids

The homework will be set out in a grid format (Appendix One) which covers all aspects of the curriculum not already covered through the weekly tasks i.e. English and maths. There are a range of tasks that are categorised by the main subject area that they cover, however, they will be cross-curricular and include elements of English and maths. By covering all aspects of the curriculum it gives the children the choice to engage with activities that they enjoy and are interested in. This will give each child the opportunity to complete a maximum of eight or nine pieces of homework over a half-term period.

The nature of how the tasks are presented ensures a level of choice for the child and their parents. The decision as to which home learning tasks are completed, and when, encourages the child to take increased responsibility for their learning. The children do not have to do a set number of tasks in any one category and there isn't a time limit for doing each one. The homework is designed to create independent learning opportunities where possible and there isn't a time limit for doing each one.

Children are encouraged to complete at least two pieces of homework and parents are asked to upload them to their child's Class Dojo portfolio. All homework will be acknowledged and rewarded with a house point and sticker. House points are then rewarded when milestones are reached e.g. certificate, wristbands and cake with the headteacher.

Weekly Homework

Reading (Reception to Year Six)

Children are expected to read every night and must ensure their reading record is signed by their parents/carers each time they have read; however, children are encouraged to read a minimum of three times a week. The reading record will be checked daily by the class teacher or a teaching assistant.

Spellings (Years One and Two)

Spelling sheets are sent home weekly for children to practise the week's spellings. These spellings are also available on Spelling Shed for children to play the corresponding games.

Spellings (Years Three to Six)

Activities are set on Spelling Shed for children to complete. It is expected that children complete at least three games each week. Parents may choose to practise spellings using paper and pencil instead of a screen.

Maths (Years One to Six)
Children are encouraged to complete the relevant pages of their White Rose Maths Journal (supplied by the school) or demonstrate an alternative way that they have practised these skills.

Children have access to Numbots which they may complete at home to support their maths learning.

Maths (Year Two)
Children have access to appropriate activities on Times Tables Rock Stars if they would like to complete them.

Maths (Years Three to Six)
Children are expected to access the activities set on Times Tables Rock Stars daily, however they are encouraged to engage with them a minimum of three times a week to develop their fluency and recall.

Additional Year Group Specific Homework

Reception
Weekly activities are shared on Tapestry each week for children and parents to engage with that follow on from the week's learning.

When the children have learned a new phoneme (sound) and the corresponding grapheme (letter or group of letters), a sheet will be sent home for parents to practise saying the sound and recognising the grapheme with their child. They can also practise writing the letter or group of letters again at home.

Once a phase of tricky words has been taught at school, two sets of cards are sent home with these words on for children to practise reading at home.

Year Four
Children are expected to complete the "soundcheck" practice test on Times Table Rock Stars weekly.

Year Five
A weekly grammar quiz is set on Spelling Shed for children to complete where possible.

Year Six
A Spelling Shed grammar quiz must be completed weekly.

Maths is set using the White Rose Maths Practice Journal (supplied by the school) and must be completed weekly.

If children in Year Six do not complete their grammar quiz, spelling activities or maths practice journal then they are expected to complete these tasks at a lunchtime homework club.

Rewards

When children have read for a minimum of three times in a week; have engaged with Numbots three times a week; Times Tables Rock Stars three times a week; completed the relevant pages of their maths journal; completed their spelling sheet (years one and two) or at least three Spelling Shed games; or completed their grammar quiz (years five and six) they are rewarded with a sticker and house point.

Half-termly homework is also rewarded with a sticker and house point.

Children are rewarded for achieving 10, 50, 10, 200, 300 and 500 house points through certificates, badges and cake with the headteacher.

Complaints

For details on the full complaints procedure see the complaints policy. The complaints policy is available on the school website and in the school office. Parents are encouraged to take any complaint or concern to a staff member in line with this policy. The school will work towards resolving complaints and concerns as fairly and as quickly as possible.

Appendix One

Year Two Home Learning: 9th September – 25th October 2024

Every piece of homework that is completed will earn you a house point and sticker, that includes weekly reading, spellings and maths!

Weekly Homework			
Reading	Spellings	Maths	
We expect you to read every day. If you read at least three times a week then you will earn a house point and a raffle ticket which could lead to a prize.	We expect you to practise your spellings every week. If you complete your spelling grid, or at least three games on Spelling Shed, you will receive a house point.	We would like you to complete the pages that your teacher tells you to in your Maths Journal each week. This will help you to remember the maths learning you have done at school all week. If you complete it, upload a photo to your portfolio on Class Dojo and you will get a house point.	We would like you to log on to Times Tables Rock Stars and practise your 2, 5, and 10 times tables. As an extra challenge, you could try your 3s, too. If you complete at least three games, you will receive a house point.

The home learning tasks below are pick and mix! You're encouraged to complete a minimum of two. When you have completed a task, please upload a photo or a video to your child's portfolio on Class Dojo. Every piece of homework completed will receive a house point and a sticker.

Half-termly Homework		
Science	History	Art
Draw three things made of plastic, three things made of metal, three things made of wood and three things made of glass.	Can you research Florence Nightingale, Rosa Parks or Christopher Columbus? Write five interesting facts about your chosen individual.	Produce a portrait of a famous history maker. You could use pens, paint, glitter, sequins, tissue paper etc. Be creative!
RE	Music	PE
Revise the 99 beautiful names that Muslims call Allah. Can you think of 10 names that you could use to describe someone you love?	Listen to your favourite song and find the pulse. Can you clap the pulse? Can you stamp to the pulse? Make up a dance to your favourite song and film it.	Practise your football skills. Can you dribble a ball along the ground? Can you dribble in and out of some cones or markers on the ground e.g. stones? Practise shooting and count how many goals you score.
Computing	PSHE	French (KS2)
Make a list of items from home that are information technology and items that are not information technology.	How do you stay safe at home? Make a poster to show people how to stay safe. It could be specific e.g. not touching sockets, or general.	N/A