

## Antonine Primary School

### Homework Guidance – August 2020

#### Our Policy



Homework is an important aspect of education and we are grateful for your part in helping your child understand this and for giving appropriate help in the way it is managed. Homework may involve finishing work that has been started within the classroom or undertaking further work designed to consolidate teaching or extend classroom activities with personal research.

We would strongly encourage that all children are given the opportunity to read with, to, or under the supervision of, an interested and supportive adult as part of their daily homework.

Children will be given two weeks to complete homework tasks in recognition that other outside school activities play important parts in their lives. An extended time for completion helps a child develop skills of time management and responsibility.

If your child is particularly enjoying the task and wishes to spend more time on it, we would, of course, be delighted with any additional personal research they feel stimulated to undertake.

#### Covid-19 Recovery Programme



The staff have been reviewing our homework procedures and we have adapted these to reflect the current circumstances.

Pupils will come home with a paper copy of their homework grid and any photocopied worksheets that they need until the end of September to give you a chance to access the materials online. From Sep 28<sup>th</sup> all homework will be accessible online and there will be no paper copies home. Homework will be a mixture of online tasks through websites, activities set by the teacher at specific websites and further practice in reading, spelling and numeracy. There is no need to print out worksheet. These can be used online to look at and then pupils can record answers into their homework jotter.

There are compulsory homework tasks and optional tasks still available for those families who wish to complete them. Compulsory tasks will be set as assignments on Microsoft Teams and linked to classroom activities and discussions.

All homework grids and worksheets will be posted onto the class page within Microsoft Teams. This will ensure that you can access these at any time. If your child needs to stay home to self-isolate or there is the need to go into a partial lockdown – Teams will be the main source of all schoolwork. Pupils are being sent home with a learning pack to use at home as well as jotters to allow them complete work in.

To minimise the transfer of items from home to school and back again we would ask that no homework is brought back to school. The two compulsory tasks can be photographed and uploaded to Teams. The teacher will then be able to give each pupil feedback on their work in class.

All pupils from P3-P7 have been learning about Microsoft Teams over the past week and most pupils should have a good understanding of how to navigate this although they may need an adult to remind them where to find their class page. Signing onto Microsoft Teams is easy and pupils can access this on a downloaded Microsoft Teams app or through the internet. Guidelines are attached. To sign on pupils, need to use their Glow username and password.

Teams should not be used to ask the teacher questions about the homework or as a communication between yourself and the teacher. Pupils can speak to each other in an appropriate way and share some of their own homework successes however this will be monitored and pupils will be taught to understand the need to use this platform in an appropriate way.

### **Primary 1 & 2**

Primary 1 and 2 pupils will need some help to access the websites and activities we have planned for them. The nature of their learning means that at times a lot of their homework may be practice in writing letters and numbers, practical tasks such as number and phonic hunts around the house and lots and lots of reading stories. Learning through play is very important and therefore the tasks may be more reflective of this.



### **Glow**

Glow is making changes to pupil passwords. They are changing on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August. Staff will support pupils to go into Glow to change their passwords and then we will share this information with you at home.



### **Reading**

We will be using reading books, novels and class stories to develop reading skills with pupils in school. We cannot, at this time, send reading books home. We are looking to purchase a subscription with an online reading programme which will allow the teacher to set reading books for pupils to read on a phone or tablet. These books are fun and interesting and come with comprehension questions which challenge the We are hoping to have this up and running very soon. In the meantime, you can access "Oxford Owl" or "Borrowbox" for free access to books at home online.

### **Families**

We completely understand that for some families it can be difficult to juggle iPad, homework and activities. Please support your child to do something each week but only do what you feel your family can achieve. The compulsory activities and sharing a story regularly would be the very minimum we would be expecting.

There will undoubtedly be some teething problems as we adapt our homework grids and tasks and we are keen to reflect on how this new approach will work. We may need to make some changes as we go but I know you will appreciate that we are all learning how to support our pupils in the best way we can despite the current restrictions. At times Microsoft Teams can become very slow, our experience of using this has taught us that it's best to leave it and return to it later.

Many thanks for your continued support and co-operation.

Mrs McLaughlin, Headteacher