

Parent Forum: Thursday 17th September 2015

Homework discussions: Key points from discussion

- Year 6 transition to Year 7: Could (maybe in the Summer term) Year 6 pupils have different subjects to hand in on different days so that they can get used to the Secondary system and the challenges this can present?
- Spelling test days will be set in stone. Obviously, there are trips or unforeseen circumstances that could prevent the routine but on the whole these need to remain consistent.
- Make clear in the policy that the homework time suggestion is as well as reading and spelling practice.
- Projects: great feedback from pupils. They enjoyed them- for sharing time with adults at home, for the creativity and for the flexibility. Parents felt that once a term- relevant, varied and had a 2/3 week limit. Teachers would also discuss with the children expectations and the children needed to choose an option they could use confidently. The termly project could have a parent feedback form so that independence and effort could be detailed.
- The homework expectations need to be shared with pupils so they understand how this builds over the years. Pupils also need to build ownership and self-organisation and independence is key.
- Year R- homework projects should be open to them and they could be encouraged to participate if they were interested or at the correct developmental stage.
- Oak Class: previously there were a lot of worksheets with little actual markings needed by the child. Could this be balanced by a variety of tasks and include science as it can spark a real interest?
- Maths progression booklets can be offered again as this helps with parental support at home. It would also help if an example was given in homework books so parents could support appropriate method.

Other areas discussed....

Newsletters- a real challenge to get communication channels right

They are not getting through to diaries and calendars as the office has many phone calls and requests for dates. On our last Sharing Assemblies days, we had 12-14 phone calls asking whether it was a Sharing Assembly day.

How can we help support diaries? Hard copies or email?

We agreed that hard copies are not environmentally friendly. We agreed that it was important for individuals to take own responsibility for dates etc. We did agree that we could ensure the website is up-to-date.