



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery
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Homework & Reading Log update

Thank you for engaging with the new system as I know that any change of this nature can sometimes be tricky to adapt to. I will provide further information as to the rationale for this change at another time, as I know that there are some parents that prefer the previous approach, but I will make a few points for now.

- This approach is consciously more interactive and play-based, involving parents engaging more with their children than when completing worksheets.
- The principle of this approach is very much *not* about being more online and relying on devices; it is about going online in order to learn and play together offline.
- The videos explain the learning in a way that sheets sent home cannot.
- Research around homework has shown that, in Primary settings, conventional approaches have very little impact on pupils getting better.
- Part of the reason for the small impact is that many pupils and parents do not enjoy and engage with 'traditional' homework.
- This new approach reduces workload for staff, freeing them up to focus more on teaching well in school.

A couple of amendments are being made to, hopefully, help parents and children.

- For the sake of consistency, as well as **Reading** notifications always going out on a **Thursday**, any **homework** set will be on a **Friday**. This will mean that parents will know when to expect it and should reduce the number of days when you receive emails.
- We will set **one** homework a week which will be **either Maths or English**. For those struggling to find the time, this will give you a week to cover one subject and select one, two or three activities.
- Teachers may also send home things such as spelling lists. Other homework and challenges may also be supplied by teachers, if thought to be helpful; for example, when Year 6 pupils are closer to the time for exam revision.

This is a new system that is aimed at increasingly parental engagement and supporting a love of learning and progress of pupils. We thank you for any feedback that you may have and will always reflect on how well this approach is meeting those aims. I'll also be talking to the School Council and regularly sampling the views of pupils, in order to see what they think.

Please support your children by regularly reading at home together and let's see how the system goes.

Mr C Beazeley
Headteacher

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