

Melsonby Methodist Primary School

Homework policy



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At Melsonby Methodist Primary School Pupils are given homework for the following reasons:

- To reinforce work that has been taught in school and to give extra practice
- To prepare pupils for secondary school where homework is always expected
- To encourage pupils to organise their time and resources at home
- To encourage pupils to work independently

It must however be borne in mind that some pupils will not have facilities at home in which to do their homework quietly and without interruption; neither will they have parental or other support to help them with any difficulties they may encounter.

All pupils will be given some homework to complete each week in addition to the reading practice which is expected of them. Homework does not always have to be written work. It will generally be connected to work that the pupils have been doing in lessons although sometimes it may be in preparation for lessons to come.

Homework will be given to pupils at a regular time each week with clear instruction about how it is to be completed and when it is to be returned in the case of written work.

Care must be taken when setting work that it is a relevant reinforcement, extension or consequence of the work done in class and that success is achievable for the pupil working alone with very little or no support. Homework should be a stimulating experience and not used as a punitive measure (unless it has been given to the pupil because they failed to complete a task in the allocated time through their own negligence).

Written homework should be marked by the member of staff who set the work as soon as is practically possible and feedback given to pupils about the work they have completed.

Pupils are expected to complete homework carefully and independently. Parents are encouraged to support their child and to check work on completion, making appropriate comments to enable the child to correct careless errors but they should not complete work for the child. Parents should also be encouraged to make regular comments about the homework which is set in order to help staff gauge the amount, type and level of homework which is appropriate for individual pupils' circumstances.

Pupils who are unable to complete the homework for whatever reason should tell the member of staff responsible for setting the work as soon as possible.

Pupils will also be expected to read regularly at home. Ideally this should be about fifteen to twenty minutes daily but will vary according to pupils' ability and interest and home circumstances. Pupils who read in excess of this time should be encouraged to continue to do so.

Class 2 will organise homework as follows:

Homework will be set on a Friday with an expected hand-in day of Wednesday the following week. If homework is not completed by the Wednesday then time will be given to the children to complete their homework during break time. There will also be whole class spelling tests on Friday. The homework will comprise of the following:

- * Spelling – weekly. We will be following the North Yorkshire Spelling Programme, which focusses on spelling high frequency words, spelling patterns and investigations.
- * Reading – daily (15 to 20 minutes). It is very important that you share your child's reading book including reading together and talking about the text and then complete the reading diary with information including the date / pages read and comments made. At the same time we would actively encourage any other reading at home also.
- * Maths / literacy weekly but given on alternate weeks
- * Big talk (in preparation for the Big Write) every two weeks

Time will be taken to explain the homework tasks to all children and where necessary there will be an accompanying explanation for you.

All homework will be completed and / or recorded in a dedicated homework book so that you can clearly see teacher's marking and feedback of homework and also what is to be completed next.

Class 1 will organise homework as follows:

- * Reading – Year 1's will have a reading book to read and talk about. Please make a note in their reading diary when you have shared the book with your child. Reception children may bring home a book to share with you.

- * Spelling – Year 1 the children will bring home words to practise each week.

- * Phonics – All children will work on phonics in class and will have a 'sound book' to practice their sounds at home