



Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mr G Stanley, Headteacher

Monday 21st October, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

At Bishop Wood C of E Junior School, we have updated our homework policy to reflect the latest research in education. Evidence consistently shows that traditional homework in primary years has little to no impact on academic outcomes. However, one area where the research is clear is the importance of reading with your children. Reading together, exploring the text, asking questions, and modelling aloud helps foster a love of learning and builds critical literacy skills.

Our new homework structure is designed to be purposeful and manageable while encouraging deeper engagement with learning:

1. **Daily Reading:** We encourage you to read with your child as often as possible, sharing the experience by asking questions and modelling how to read aloud. This helps build comprehension and language skills.
2. **Weekly Open-Ended Maths or Writing Challenge:** Each week, your child will receive an open-ended statement or question in their homework book (e.g., "Share your understanding of right angles"). Your child can explore the topic at their level, using concrete, pictorial, and abstract approaches, or linking it to real-world applications. These tasks promote creativity and critical thinking.
3. **Half-Termly Project:** This will be linked to a topic we're studying in class, such as history, geography, or science. Children can create something meaningful, showcasing their learning in a creative way. Teachers will provide clear guidelines for success.

Each of these tasks is designed to be engaging and adaptable to suit individual abilities. Information on each task will be provided by the class teacher to ensure clarity.

We believe this approach supports meaningful learning without overwhelming children or families. If your child is struggling with their homework or spending too much time on it, please reach out to the class teacher. Our aim is to enhance learning while maintaining a healthy balance for everyone involved.

Homework will be set on a Wednesday and will be due in the following Monday. The first homework tasks of the year will be set on Wednesday 6th November.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Gary Stanley

Headteacher

Bishop Wood Church of England Junior School