

# Nursery, Reception and Year 1

## Homework Expectations

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope everybody is now feeling settled in Cat Bells Class. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some information about our homework and reading expectations.

### Reading

*Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September - Pupils will bring home their home/school reading books.*

Nursery - We encourage early reading and recognise the significance it has on communication, concentration, and speech. Therefore, we have a variety of books available within the classroom which can be borrowed each weekend and returned the following week on your child's first session back. Due to COVID restrictions, we will support your child in choosing a book each week and we will also ensure all books are cleaned on their return. In the future, it is hoped that you will be able to come into the classroom and choose a book with your child to share at home.

Reception - Children have been issued with a picture book which includes no words. At this early stage we are trying to instil a love for reading, so please encourage your child to talk about the pictures, events and characters in the story. When they progress, it will be beneficial to help them to break up words into smaller parts and sound them out before blending to read the words.

Year 1 - Each child has been assessed this week and new reading books, which may well be a different stage to last year have been issued. As we listen to your child read throughout the week we will reassess whether the book they are reading is at a suitable level for your child. Please let me know if your child is finding their new books too easy/hard.

Children will read individually in class with either a member of staff or volunteer. Towards the end of the academic year they may also begin to take part in guided reading group sessions. Home/School reading journals will be checked, and new books will be issued on a **Monday. Please note that due to COVID restrictions books will be collected in on a Friday for cleaning purposes.** Normally, we would expect that all pupils in Reception and Year 1 would be encouraged to read a minimum of four times a week, to an adult, for at least 10 minutes. However, given the new cleaning and collection arrangement it is expected that pupils in Reception and Year 1 read a minimum of three times a week between Monday and Friday. Please ensure your child's reading book and record are in school each day. Also, please sign the reading record each time, indicating any difficulties that your child may have experienced.

### Homework

*Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September - Homework will be set via Class Seesaw*

Children in the Cat Bells Class will be asked to complete weekly activities which are appropriately pitched for their age and ability. Your child will have one week to complete their homework which will be set on a **Wednesday** and due in the following **Wednesday**.

This year, all homework will be set via Class Seesaw. Class Seesaw is a learning platform that allows pupils to access learning materials from the home environment. The school utilised Class Seesaw during the pandemic and we will continue to do so in school, for homework and in the event of a local lockdown. Your child's login details can be found in this book. Can I please ask that you download the application and login to Class Seesaw at the first available opportunity. This book can be used to record any work but this is not essential.

Nursery - Each week a new challenge will be added to Class Seesaw. Challenges are aimed at supporting your child's development in the home environment. We ask that you complete the weekly challenge and upload a photograph or video to Class Seesaw for us to view.

Reception - Each Wednesday your child will receive homework via Class Seesaw which is linked to their weekly phonic sessions. Later in the year, your child may also be sent key words to learn in preparation for Year 1. Occasionally, I may also set holiday activities or games.

Year 1 - Each Wednesday your child will be set a list of spellings/words to learn via Class Seesaw. They will be tested on these the following Wednesday. These spellings are based on our assessment of where your child is within the phonic phases, please note that the number of spellings set will vary depending on each child. Once spellings have been marked your child's result will be added to their homework book. If there are any spellings your child is unsure of then they may be sent home again to relearn. Occasionally, I may also send home holiday activities or consolidation games.

We work hard to do the best for your child. If, at any time, you have any concerns or questions, please do come to see me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Lawson