

Stanwell Fields CofE

Response to our Parent Homework Survey 2016



90% of parents and carers who responded to the survey feel homework is an important part of primary school life. It is great that so many of you value your children's education in this way!

After looking at the responses to the survey, we feel we are setting just the right amount of homework and will continue to set weekly maths facts and maths homework, daily reading and half termly home learning projects. We will continue to inform you of the spelling rules we are learning in class and are thinking about introducing a short piece of grammar homework each week.

We do have weekly homework clubs that all children are welcome to attend. These run on different days for different year groups during lunchtime. Children can complete the weekly maths homework, use the internet to research for home learning projects to sit quietly to learn maths facts for the weekly rapid recall test. This is supervised by a member of staff. Children do not have to attend each week or be assigned a place – it is open to all as needed. Please speak to your child and your child's class teacher about attending if you need further information.

Year 1: Thursday 12.30-1pm

Year 2: Friday 12.30-1pm

Year 3 and 4: Monday 12-12.30pm

Year 5 and 6: Tuesday 12-12.30pm

Y3-6: Wednesday 12-12.30pm

Over 70% of parents often help their children with homework – thank you! We do encourage parents to get involved in homework and home learning but do set activities we feel the children can complete independently as we appreciate parents are often very busy!

Quite a high percentage of parents who responded reported that homework/home learning was a source of tension at home. We will be speaking to all children about the importance of homework and are introducing some certificates and class rewards for completing homework tasks. Look out for details about this on the summer term year group letter. We hope this will support you at home.

We would like to reassure parents that home learning projects do not need to take up whole weekends. We recommend that approximately 20-30 minutes is spent completing an activity each week. This can be any activity from the suggestions given by teachers or child led as long as it is linked to the topic. Some parents do enjoy getting creative and we love to see these efforts but we equally value work we can see has been done by the child alone and celebrate all home learning in class.

Over half of the parents who responded feel the difficulty of homework set is just right. We would like to assure parents that weekly maths homework is differentiated in each class depending on the ability of each child and that children read on a book band that is appropriate to their reading fluency and comprehension. If you feel the work set for your child is too easy or too hard, please make an appointment to speak to the class teacher who will be happy to talk about your child's needs in more detail.

We have found the online maths homework is popular with children and many parents and will stick with this as our main method of setting homework. However, in response to the survey, we will also send home differentiated paper homework activities or games from time to time.

A small percentage of parents felt they didn't have enough knowledge to help children with homework. The further up the school children get, the trickier the learning and the new expectations set by the government in each year group are now very high! Most parents who responded to the survey have said they would like additional information pages sent home and put on the school website so we will get working on this straight away – your guide to addition has already been published and sent home! If there is something specific you would like additional information on, please let your child's class teacher know!

Around 70% of parents who responded felt their children usually or always knew what the weekly set homework was. Only 7% felt their child never knew what to do. To improve this even further, we will be advertising the weekly homework activity in windows in year 1 and 2 classrooms and will be encouraging children in Y3-6 to record homework in contact books. The success of this depends on your support though so please do make sure your child has their home school contact book in school every day!