

MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY SCHOOL – HOME-LEARNING - GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

2014

The Purpose of Home-learning

Regular home-learning helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Homelearning also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.

Though not compulsory, home-learning is a valued part of supporting children through their education and we ask that parents commit to encouraging their child to complete home-learning tasks as part of the home-school agreement.

Effective Home-learning

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular Home-learning is important as it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks taught in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important basic skills. It also helps children and young people to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help develop good attitudes to learning throughout their time at school and in adult life.

At Mount Pleasant, we believe that the focus of home-learning should be on the important skills of English and Maths. Regular reading at home, especially reading with parents, or members of the family, is essential to children accessing learning across the curriculum:

CHILDREN WHO READ WELL, DO WELL

Children with Special Educational Needs

Children who have special educational needs should be encouraged to complete home-learning that is appropriate for them i.e personalised home-learning. Individual targets and learning steps/objectives are shared with parents and these should be used as a guide to inform parents of areas that need the most practice.

It is important that parents attend review meetings for their child as this is where information can be shared, targets can be explained and help and support can be given.

Opportunities for Home-learning

Monthly class newsletters direct parents in ways to support their children with:

- English work
- Maths work
- Project/cross – curriculum work

Parents will often need to encourage their child(ren) to value home-learning.

On occasions, children will be sent home with a specific home-learning task to complete, such as:

- Phonics (mainly early years)
- Spelling to learn
- Maths challenges to complete or practice
- Family learning project
- An area to research
- Revision (mainly Year 6 approaching SATs)
- On-line supporting learning eg Education City, My Maths

Children will always be expected to read regularly. We ask that parents complete the Reading Journal after hearing their child read. (Please note that the home-reading book is a practice book which is used to develop basic reading skills at an appropriate level. Children are taught further reading skills during guided reading lessons in school using more challenging books.)

Available Resources

The following are examples of support and ideas for parents to use at home. There are many free resources:

- Monthly newsletters
- School website –(‘web links’ here you will find the Spelling Bee and maths interactive websites which are free for you to use)
- There are lots of free interactive websites eg *bbc bitsize primary*

Support is available through workshops that are offered throughout the year:

- Phonics for Early Years parents
- Reading
- Writing
- Maths
- E-Safety