



NEWLAND ST JOHN'S C OF E ACADEMY

'With God's help we work together to help each child fulfil their potential'

Home Learning Policy

Reading

Every child in FS, KS1 & KS2 has a home reading book. These can be changed daily, but it is the child's responsibility to request a change. Teaching Assistants will be available to support children in changing these books at 3pm each day. Home reading is to be recorded in the children's Reading Record Books (EYFS and Key Stage 1) or Planners (Key Stage 2.) We would expect a reading session to last 5-10 minutes for a child in KS1 & EYFS and 10mins+ for children in KS2.

In addition to their home reading book, every child has a book from the library which they have chosen.

To encourage the children in developing their reading skills, parents are encouraged to ask the following questions when reading with children.

At Key Stage 1

Do you know any of the characters/people in this story?

What do you do if you get stuck on a word?

What part of the word would you look at first?

Can you show me what you do?

What sound does this letter make? And this one? And this one? [Point from left to right through the word, not randomly, making sure that you are not covering up the letter.]

What word is that when we put those sounds together?

Say the word for me?

Why do you think X [a character] did that?

Why do you think Y [an event] happened?

What do you think will happen next?

At Key Stage 2

Did you know anything about it before you started reading it?

Could you tell me what's happened so far [fiction] or what this book is about [non-fiction]?

What do you do if you don't know a word?

Have you come across this word before?

How did you know how to say it? Are there any clues in the word? Does it look like any other words you know?

Do you know what the word means or can you work out what it means (in this sentence)?

What other word could the author have used that means the same sort of thing?

Why do you think X [a character] did that?

How do you think X is feeling at the moment? Show me what words/phrases tell us that.

Why do you think Y [an event] happened?

What do you think will happen next? What makes you think that?

How do you think the author wants us to feel at this moment? What is she/he trying to do here?

Have you read any other books/poems by this author?

Have you read books like this one by someone else? Which ones?

Rewards

To encourage children to reading, regular readers will be rewarded each term.

Spellings

Weekly spellings will continue to be sent home for learning prior to testing.

Other Homework

From key Stage 1 onwards, children will be set a piece of homework each week, which will relate to class-based learning and be set at the correct level for the child's ability. This homework will be sent home on a Wednesday, to be returned the following Monday.

In addition, each half term, children will carry out an extended piece of homework related to topic based learning. This will be an open-ended task which the child can direct their learning. For example, children may produce a scrapbook detailing their learning of the topic 'Dungeons and Dragons'.

In EYFS homework will link to themes and may overlap several areas of development, such as art and maths. This work may not always involve writing anything down, but may be a task such as collecting or finding particular items.

For each piece of returned home learning the child will be rewarded with a house point. If a child completes all their homework over the course of a term they will be rewarded with a prize.

Homework is marked by teaching assistants, with any issues highlighted reported to teachers.

Although national expectations for Home learning have been removed by the current government, at Newland St John's highly value home learning, recognising parents' shared responsibility for education. Therefore, we would suggest the following approximate timings; Children in EYFS and KS1 should spend up to an hour a week reading & up to an hour carrying out home learning tasks, including learning spellings. Children in KS2 should spend at least an hour each week reading and up to 30 minutes each night on home learning tasks.

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