John Ruskin Primary School and Language Classes

Homework Policy

Coordinator: Ericka Driver

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"Be responsible, be fair, stay positive and care"

Reception

PACT [Parents and Children Together] is the homework for this level. All children will be given a PACT book to record the books they take home and read. Information about PACT is contained in the English policy. When parents ask about homework the importance of PACT should be emphasised. This is the extension of the main focus of language work in the classroom. PACT books should be kept in book bags, brought in every day and kept in a specified place within the classroom.

Teachers should check PACT books at least once a fortnight to ensure that children are reading and changing their books and give advice to parents if required. Books should be changed a minimum of once a week in Nursery and Years 5 and 6. From Reception to Year 4, books should be changed twice a week if they have been read and the PACT book has been signed.

In both Key stages, every other English homework task will be a reading focused activity.

Year 1

In addition to PACT, homework may be given which is related to the topic work and appropriate to the needs of the child. English and Maths homework is set by the appropriate teachers once a week. Children will need to complete a minimum number of homework assignments per term.

Year 2

In addition to PACT, homework may be given which is related to the topic work and appropriate to the needs of the child. English and Maths homework is set by the appropriate teachers. Children will need to complete a minimum number of homework assignments per term.

Closer to SATs Reading, English and Maths from SATS books once a week are given.

Key Stage 2

PACT is still a significant part of the homework for this level. Children in upper KS2 classes are allowed to write comments/ questions themselves in their PACT books linked to agreed question type.

In addition to PACT, homework may be given which is related to the topic work and appropriate to the needs of the child. English and Maths homework is set by the appropriate teachers.

Years 3 and 4 have 1 hour of homework per week including reading.

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Years 5 and 6 have 2 hours of homework per week including reading. This homework may be given in the form of work in exercise books or on worksheets.

The purpose of this homework is to involve the parents in their children's learning and to create an autonomous attitude to work through learning skills. It is also to generate encouragement, interest and ideas related to class topics in general. It is also to consolidate and extend learning that has been taking place at school. It must always be suited to the needs and levels of the individual child.

There is consistent practice throughout the school in setting, managing and marking homework (as appropriate to the year group).

Expectations for children's homework to be discussed with parents / carers at Parent's Evening.

Individual needs

If parents ask for advice of how to help their child (in addition to PACT) the teacher will willingly suggest appropriate activities. These activities should be an extension of classroom activities and give the child the extra practice that is needed. The teacher will discuss these activities with the parent / carer / child at appropriate times.

Homework Club

This takes place for each year group lasting 5 or 6 weeks and takes place at lunch time and after school. Year 1 children must be accompanied by a parent / carer for the after school homework club. The lunch time homework club is designed to help children with things they are struggling with. Emails are sent to parents to inform when each year group homework club starts and it is also published in the news letter and in the annual calendar. Pupil premium children are encouraged to join this school-funded club so that they can get support with their homework and consolidate their learning.