



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to the recent letter about our Mymaths subscription being cancelled we would like to update you on how Maths homework will look moving forwards. Norwood school has purchased individual copies of White Rose Education Maths Practice Journals which will be coming home with your child today (Friday 20th October 2023).

The full colour, write-in practice journals contain home learning activities designed to be an easy-to-implement and meaningful homework provision. The Maths Practice Journals have been written by experts to compliment the White Rose Maths scheme of learning used in every year group in school.

Each week your child will be assigned a task, usually a few pages of the book, that will allow them to practice the skills taught in school that week. The tasks are split into Blocks, Weeks and Small steps and the page numbers they should be completing will be shared weekly on Class Dojo. For further guidance on the tasks, there are short video clips which can be found on the White Rose Education website under the 'Parent and Pupils' tab, 'Home Learning' and these videos also contain the answers.

The homework books do not need to come into school each week as they are not durable enough and are likely to get lost. They are also specifically designed to be used by parents and carers at home. Should the books become damaged or lost, it will be up to parents/carers to replace them and cover the cost.

Over half term and the coming weeks, children may wish to revisit learning that has taken place this half term, but they must not go beyond the learning that has taken place in school – your child's class teacher will advise you via Class Dojo which units and page numbers have already been covered. There is no expectation for children to 'catch up' on units, but moving forwards, they should complete one assigned unit per week at home. The last few questions in each step are designed to be more challenging and should you require further guidance please see the aforementioned videos and/or speak with the teacher.

In addition to this homework task, children in Years 2-6 will have key arithmetic skills to practice for each half term which will have been identified by their teacher and shared with the children. At the end of the first week back after half-term, your child will bring home their arithmetic record (Number and Lightning) which will have been coloured Red, Amber or Green for each question. If it is Green, they know the skill, if it is Amber they are not yet secure, if it is Red they cannot complete it. This will also be shared with you via Class Dojo so that should you choose to further support them at home, you know which areas they are focussing on.

And finally, your child will be expected to practice their number bonds and times tables facts at home until they are secure and automatic in their recall of age related expectations – if you are unsure of these, please speak with your child's class teacher. Links to helpful websites to practice these skills are available on the Norwood School Website.

We cannot emphasise enough how important these key skills are. In the End of Key Stage 2 SATs, 30 out of the 40 arithmetic marks require secure times tables knowledge and this knowledge also features heavily in the Reasoning and Problem Solving assessment papers. This is true of all End of Year assessments.

We hope this makes maths homework more manageable, more accessible and more meaningful moving forwards. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact school regarding this.

Kind regards

Mr B Reynolds
Maths Lead

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

