



# Mill Lane Community Primary School & Windmill Community Nursery

Head Teacher: Miss T van der Ploeg  
Mill Lane Chinnor Oxfordshire OX39 4RF  
Telephone: 01844 352106 Email: [office.2465@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2465@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)  
[www.mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

## Homework Policy 2023-24

### **Introduction**

Homework can be a specific piece of work to be completed by a given date, or on-going tasks which can greatly benefit the child if done a little and often. Homework should always have a clear purpose.

### **Our Beliefs:**

At Mill Lane Community Primary School we value the benefits to be gained from extra-curricular activities. We believe that children should be encouraged to take part in, and experience, a wide range of activities outside school and learn to make choices about how to use their own leisure time. Our children are encouraged to find out things and follow up school work at home. However, we feel strongly that they should not be overburdened with extra work after school hours and therefore only set small assignments of educational benefit. The older pupils need to be given a flavour of what will be required of them in their secondary schools and are therefore given more regular homework.

### **Parental Involvement:**

As in all other areas of school work, children need the interest, encouragement and support of their parents. Certain tasks can only be done with help. For other tasks, children may need prompting to organise themselves and then carry on alone. Parents should not need to sit with their child through every task. If an adult has had to significantly help a child with their homework, it would help if they let the class teacher know by writing a short note at the end of the piece of work. It would also help teachers very much if parents would try to ensure that school books are returned to school. Tasks done at home only represent a small proportion of the work done in class and are not on their own safe indicators of a child's progress. If parents/carers do have any worries, they should consult their child's class teacher. In some instances, if children do not complete their work in class time, we would appreciate parental support to ensure that it is completed at home.

### **Time taken:**

We have a flexible homework timetable with particular tasks and subjects to be studied on particular evenings. Homework is set as and when it is considered necessary and some aspects of the curriculum will require more regular practice than others. There is not an ideal period of time for each child to work on their tasks at home; this will vary with the individual. The amount of homework given will increase throughout the school.

### **Marking and Feedback**

Feedback to children about homework may be oral or written.

**Reviewed:** October 2023

**Next Review:** October 2024

**Signed on behalf of the school Governors.**

### **Nursery – Mrs Payne and Mrs Hardstaff**

Parents / carers to read stories frequently with their child.

Families can borrow books from the classroom.

### **Reception Class – Miss Pocock**

Each child in Reception will have a 'Home Challenge' book. Each week, staff will add phonics or maths information to the child's book to share what they have been learning that week in school. Parents are encouraged to sign to say that they have read this information and will reinforce learning in an age-appropriate way at home. This might be through an active game or discussion with their child. Children will also have reading books sent home to practise on a regular basis.

### **Class 1 – Mrs Palmer**

Reading to an adult 5-10 mins daily, using a phonics reading book.

Shared reading 10 minutes daily with your child at home, using a favourite book or one from our library.

Reading books are sent home on Wednesday and must be returned to school on Monday.

Later in the year, as the children build up skills in Year 1, there will be one additional piece of homework each week; this might be topic, phonics, writing or maths.

### **Class 2 – Mrs Jones**

Reading books are changed on Mondays.

Children should read with an adult 10-15 minutes daily.

A maths sheet will be sent home on a Tuesday to be handed in on the following Tuesday.

Tricky words should be practiced (2-3 words daily).

### **Class 3 – Miss Sheppard**

Shared 15 minutes reading daily with your child at home.

An alternating maths or literacy task will be set on Purple Mash on Friday, to be handed in the following Thursday.

Topic menu activities will be given out for the term and will need to be handed in on a fortnightly basis.

### **Class 4 – Mrs Kershaw/ Mr Thompson**

15 minutes reading every night.

Alternating maths or literacy task will be set on Purple Mash or Education City on Friday, to be handed in the following Friday.

Tables practice 5 minutes nightly.

Topic menu activities will be given out for the term and will need to be handed in on a fortnightly basis.

### **Class 5 – Miss Rea**

Maths or literacy is set on a Friday, to be handed in the following Thursday.

Pupils are expected to read for 20 minutes a day at home, and are expected to fill in their reading records.

A topic menu of activities will be given out at the start of the topic with a range of homework ideas linked to English, Maths, Topics, Art/Design and Science. Children should aim to complete at least four activities to a high standard within the term.

There will be rewards in school for exemplary pieces of homework. Where possible, homework tasks should be done in the children's homework books.

## **Class 6 – Miss Moseley**

Maths and English tasks are set on a Friday and need to be handed in the following Thursday.

Pupils are expected to read for 20 minutes a day at home and are expected to fill in their reading records. A topic menu of activities will be given out at the start of a topic with a range of activities linked to Design Technology, Art and Sciences. The children should aim to complete at least four activities to a high standard each term. There will be rewards in school for exemplary pieces of homework.

Children are also expected to complete five reading lessons and three vocabulary lessons on Reading Plus (online), 5-10 minutes daily multiplication tables practice on Hit the Button (online), and an additional 15-20 minutes SATs revision per day in the Spring term.

### **Whole School Occasional Homework Activities:**

Children should practice weekly mental maths recall skills.

Children can improve their ICT skills by accessing the Purple Mash or Education City websites at home.