

# Barnes Farm Junior School

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Dear Parents and carers,

Our home learning expectations were revised for last year and we are retaining the approach for this year. This consists of the following elements:

## Weekly

- ✓ Reading
- ✓ Maths
- ✓ Spelling

## Over the Half Term

- ✓ Single project related to the theme/topic in class

Our aim is to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of key skills within the curriculum as well as encouraging their creativity. We also recognise that pupils need time to relax and pursue outside interests as well as spending quality time with their families.

In order to be effective, the homework set will be meaningful and reflective of learning taking place in school. Similarly, we want the pupils to take pride in their learning and get a sense of satisfaction from completing their homework. We will be guiding pupils through our expectations for home learning but here is a summary below for you.

## Half-termly Project



Pupils will be asked to complete a **project each half term**, the aim of which is to encourage development of skills such as independent learning and organisation. Projects will be linked to the class topics. Teachers will provide suggestions for how the project might be carried out and support where pupils need it. We want the pupils to be as creative as they can. Although the teachers will provide ideas, the pupils are free to explore the project however they wish.

The projects will be set at the beginning of the half term and should be handed in by the first Friday back after a school holiday. Pupils will therefore have approximately six weeks in which to complete them.

## Year 6

Homework for Year 6 between November and May will consist primarily of tasks in SATS revision workbooks and the half-termly projects will discontinue during that time.





## Reading

Pupils should take home their reading book and Pupil Passport each day. We ask that parents initial the pupil passport to show that reading has been completed. We monitor this closely and reward classes who read regularly each week. There is an expectation that pupils should **read at home for a minimum of 10 minutes each day**. Please refer to p149-150 of the Pupil Passport and leaflet entitled 'Reading Comprehension.'

## Spelling

Words of the week will be recorded in Pupil Passports along with other words the children are learning. We adopted the 'No Nonsense' scheme for teaching spelling last year and will provide pupils with strategies (stuck in green Learning Journal) to help them practise their weekly spelling in their Learning Journals, if they wish.

No Nonsense  
**Spelling**

## Maths



Pupils should record the times table they are currently working on (if applicable) in their Pupil Passport. The expectation is for all pupils to **practise these times tables at home** and record this in their Learning Journal. We will provide a set of ideas for practising times tables (stuck in green Learning Journal) and some useful websites are listed on p5 of the Pupil Passport.



Pupils also have access to Times Tables Rockstars to further practise fluency and speed.

All year groups will be set maths games using our online Abacus resource, though this may not be weekly. Login details can be found in the Pupil Passport.

**Year 5 and 6** will be provided with a **homework sheet linked to class work**. This will usually be set from Abacus and pupils will be able to self-mark by checking answers online. Pupils will be asked to stick the sheet into their Learning Journals

Pupils will bring home a green A4 Learning Journal soon (if not already). This will contain ideas for practising times tables and spellings as mentioned above. Year 5 and 6 should stick their weekly maths worksheet in there too. Pupils can cover/decorate the Learning Journal if they wish.

On occasions, there may be extra tasks set by teachers which will be noted on the weekly pages in the Pupils Passports.

Pupils may be awarded House Points and/or Secrets of Success rewards for all types of homework completed, including reading.

Yours sincerely,

The Teaching staff at BFJS

