



Church Road, Bexleyheath DA7 4DG

Tel: **020 8303 2175**

Fax: 020 8301 1635

Email: admin@upland.bexley.sch.uk

www.upland.bexley.sch.uk

Head Teacher: **Ms V Sengupta**

BA Hons, PGCE, NPQH

Friday 6th January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Homework

Today your child will be receiving their homework grid for this term. Last term the calibre of homework received was phenomenal and it was evident how much the children had engaged with these tasks. However, we do understand that all families are different and that homework can sometimes become overwhelming. It was with this in mind in September, that we decided that these tasks would be optional. They are not designed to be a burden on family life but more to give you the opportunity to support and share your child's learning at home. These tasks will not be chased by staff. Having said that, reading, spelling and maths tasks are expected as they are an essential element of your child's learning. Each class has the option to hand out team points for these tasks if they are completed regularly and on time. Spellings won't necessarily be tested every week in KS2 but will be looked for in children's work; however they will be tested on a selection of the words at the end of the half term. This is to ensure that the children are able to apply and remember the spelling rules outside of their weekly test. KS1 will continue to be tested weekly. If you have any trouble completing the reading, spelling and maths homework please see your class teacher.

After reading the feedback from the recent survey and the UPP meeting last term, we have made a few changes to the type and number of tasks we send out.

This term there will only be 16 tasks to choose from. Giving all the tasks at once is designed to help you and your child plan the homework around your existing plans. As with the previous grid, the tasks will be organized into 4 areas of learning: communication, knowledge and understanding, creative and personal/social. The reason for this is so that there are tasks to appeal to every child. It would be beneficial for your child to complete up to, but not limited to, 10 tasks. Some of the tasks require no obvious piece of 'recorded learning'. In these cases, it is entirely up to you and your child how you choose to represent the homework you have completed that week. For example, you may take a picture of your child completing the task or attach a guide book into their homework book to show a place you have visited. All homework will be celebrated and acknowledged equally but some pieces, which show exceptional effort from the child, may be awarded with a Head Teacher's award.

Big creative tasks, such as building models, have been reduced to 1 or 2 per term, and the time to complete them extended.

More tasks have been introduced with a speaking and listening focus to encourage the children to talk about their learning more outside of the classroom.

The tasks have been written to encourage independent learning. This is not to say that they may not need a little help in completing some of the tasks, in fact having discussions about each task is encouraged, however the work produced should be led by the child.

If you have any further questions about the homework please ask your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Miss Smiles