

17th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As a school, we are committed to setting home learning that is tailored to support your child's academic progress and development. Whilst there is a great deal of learning that takes place during the school day, it is beneficial to set reinforcement tasks to consolidate learning further in preparation for your child's lessons. In fact, it helps to transfer facts or vocabulary into our long term memory, practising over and over again until they are remembered, or indeed finding out about a world event that links to a topic can broaden the mind. In addition, practising a new skill until it is secure builds confidence and means that learning can then be extended or deepened back in the classroom. As well as supporting learning, children also need to develop the organisational and life skills to complete the home learning and hand it in on time. At West Moors, children are given clear deadlines, with sufficient time to complete the tasks set.

What types of home learning could be set?

Different subjects may focus on a particular style of home learning - e.g. learning key vocabulary in French. Other subjects may vary the type of home learning depending on what will most benefit the learning at that time e.g.

- Preparing for new learning or pre-learning information for the next lesson.
- Reinforcing learning through practice across a range of different activities.
- Revising and memorising skills or learning.
- Research to prepare for a lesson or to extend and enrich learning.
- Applying learning in new contexts and to new problems.
- Investigating a pupil's own interests stemming from the learning in class.
- Longer projects that last for half a term and often link together learning

How much home learning is set in each subject?

Subject	KS2	KS3
English	Set each week: Reading comprehension, vocabulary task, spelling with handwriting in booklet & Reading Log	Set each week: Reading comprehension & linked extension writing task , vocabulary task, spelling with handwriting in booklet & Reading Log
French	Every week	Every week
Maths	Maths and tables task every week	Twice a week
Science	Every week	Twice a week
Humanities	Every week	Twice a week (Geography / History & RE)
Art	Project set for each half-term	
Music	Project set for each half-term	
DT	Bring in own materials/ingredients	

Its Learning Platform

We are also delighted to share that all our pupils will soon be able to log in to our new Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) on the Its Learning Platform, which provides pupils with access to the curriculum resources (e.g. PowerPoint presentations, texts and video clips) and explanations of the learning from all their lessons in one easy-to-access central location, as well as encouraging digital learning, virtual project work, communication and collaboration through the VLE. Furthermore, if a child were to be absent from school, they would be able to access all the day's lessons and submit their work to their teachers via this Learning Platform. All children will be shown how to use this VLE by their year group tutors.

How can I help my child?

Please ensure that your child is checking their planner each day to see which tasks have been set and the deadline for these. These details can also be viewed on Go4Schools, which can be downloaded as an app. Try to create a homework zone that is away from the television and other distractions. Every week, we would be grateful if you could check and sign your child's planner at the bottom of the page. Tutors will read and check their children's planners every Tuesday.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Watkins