

PARENT INFORMATION

2010

READING

- Children needs lots of practise reading material that they can read easily
- If the book is too hard, your child won't make progress
- Children who read a lot at home make the most progress
- Reading is just like sport - the more you practise, the better you get.
- Your child can choose the book they want to read. They can take books home from school if they wish.
- Your child has been issued with a Home Reading book. This is a record of the number of nights your child reads. It has lots of ideas to help you too.

HOMEWORK is the time when children do their own research - thinking, planning and creating.

- I expect the children to do about 20 minutes homework per night but I won't be giving the children a homework sheet. Research shows that this kind of homework does nothing to improve learning and latest research even suggests that this might even some damage.

It doesn't have to be school stuff. Kids learn a lot from just working alongside you - Things like:

- Baking a cake
- Planting and caring for a garden
- Making a dog kennel
- Playing a card or board game

Or they might like to

- Build something e.g from Lego
- Make a hut
- Draw
- Dance
- Play an instrument
- Find out about something new
- Play sport

*Or they might **want** to do school stuff like*

- Write a story
- Spelling
- Handwriting
- Maths - practise subtracting, adding, times tables etc

But...

Reading is a **MUST DO** because research shows that children make the most progress when they practise in their own time.

*The reading session should be **fun** for both of you.*

Try

- Reading the hard parts together
- Looking up information together
- Just chatting about the story

Remember to be a friend not a teacher.

Please help your child fill out the Reading Log each night.

PORTFOLIOS are a record of your child's work. Your child will be continually adding to them throughout the year. As well as being for you and your child to look at and use, they form the most important part of my records too. I don't have a secret stash anywhere else. So, please send these back to school as soon as possible after they come home.

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

- I do expect the children to be punctual and ready to start the day at 9 o'clock sharp.
- I expect children to be good role models for others
- The rules and the consequences are clearly displayed so that there is consistency and the children know what to expect.

STAR AWARDS

This year we will be using the STAR award system. Children will be rewarded for their good behaviour. The class to earn the most stars each week earns a reward. The children who earn the most awards in the term will also be rewarded.

The STEP programme and time-out red circle will also be used to manage inappropriate behaviour.

CONCERNS

Please tell me even if it seems petty. I am very busy before and after school so you are most welcome to ring me at home in the evening on Ph 5259130.

Thanks

Marlene