

Westfields

JUNIOR SCHOOL

School Lane, Yateley, Hampshire, GU46 6NN

Tel: (01252) 408218 Fax: (01252) 408216

Headteacher: Miss J Redman

www.westfields-jun.hants.sch.uk

@westfields_jun

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Thursday 7th June 2018

Dear Parents,

At Westfields Junior School, we set weekly home learning activities to revisit and consolidate learning in school, to encourage children to develop perseverance, initiative and self-discipline through independent study and to learn study skills and improve personal organisation, time management and presentation skills. We also believe it helps children recognise the link between good study habits and higher standards of achievement and by setting tasks, it allows you to take an active part in your child's education.

Currently, children have two types of home learning; the non-negotiables (reading 5 x weekly, learning spellings and number facts/times tables, using My Maths to practise skills) as well as Maths or English tasks set each week. Through the year, we have also set a couple of topic based home learning tasks in different year groups and have been impressed with the children's enthusiasm, motivation and high standard of work produced; the children have obviously enjoyed the creative approach to home learning!

With this in mind and upon reflection of parent feedback, for this half term, as a trial, we are adopting a more creative approach. Your child will still need to complete the weekly non-negotiable tasks as outlined above but instead of Maths or English tasks, they will be receiving a topic based home learning sheet which they will bring home today and which will be available on the home learning section on the school website. Each year group has chosen a topic they are focusing on during this last half term of this academic year and have created a 'Home Learning Menu'; from this, children can self-select their own tasks in order to achieve 'points'. They will need to complete a minimum of 3 tasks across the half term and any tasks completed should be brought into school on a Monday ready to share during topic time. At the end of the half term, the class will present their home learning to each other, teachers will give feedback and as each task is worth points, during the last week, children will be awarded either a bronze, silver or gold certificate according to their overall total!

We are excited about this approach and know from experience that the children will relish the different tasks on offer to them, will enjoy selecting from the tasks available and we are looking forward to seeing the results as they come in.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Jo Wilson
Deputy Headteacher

ParentalEngagement
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