

Supporting English at home in Year 6

Welcome to the first English bulletin of the new school year. We aim to produce these bulletins on a half-termly basis to ensure you, as parents, are kept informed of curriculum content and that you're given tips which can support your children.

Homework in Y6

As with maths, homework will be set weekly in English. We issue homework on a Friday and usually ask that it be completed for the following Tuesday. English homework may comprise of a reading comprehension activity, a spelling or grammar task, a written piece or an online task. This weekly homework will give you, as parents and carers, a good idea of the types of tasks completed in lessons and the standard at which we expect your child to be working. Tasks will vary each week and misconceptions or errors will then be readdressed in lessons. In addition, your child receives weekly spellings which are tested every Monday and he/she should practise these regularly. A weekly library session (also on a Monday) ensures that your child should always have access to relevant reading material and we therefore expect that pupils in year six are reading for at least 20 minutes every evening.

Should your child ever struggle with concepts covered in homework, we would always want to know. Please keep in touch via your child's planner and let us know how he/she is getting on!

There are 4 skills which we will practise in time for the SATs:

Literal - answer is there in the text (find it and copy.)

Deductive - look for clues

Inferential - read between the lines

Authorial intent - e.g. why does an author use a particular word?

What is the effect on the reader?

How can you support your child in reading?

- Ensure your child reads every night!
- Encourage them to read both fiction and non-fiction.
- Listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text.
- Help them with the different skills to help with reading especially 'skim' reading where they are looking for key words in the text.
- Practise speed reading—set a time limit for a chapter or page then test their knowledge!

SPAG.com

SPAG.com is a website which we use regularly to set homework tasks for our pupils. The website supports pupils in their understanding of spelling, punctuation and grammar objectives covered in lessons and uses 'SATs-style' questions to test knowledge. Teachers can then identify areas of weakness and target children who need extra time or support to understand a key skill.

Your child's SPAG.com login details can be found in his/her planner. If ever you want extra tasks to be set, please ask your child's English teacher.

Struggling to find reading material? There are two reading lists suitable for Key Stage 2 pupils which can be found on our school's website. One is for all KS2 pupils, the other is an extra challenge for more able pupils. At this age, we wouldn't recommend pupils access the literature on the Key Stage 3 reading list due to the more mature content.

