

# Alloway Primary School 2023-2024



## Primary 1 Homework Guide for parents and carers



## Homework

Homework is provided in Alloway Primary for a number of reasons:

- To encourage children to become independent learners.
- To provide practise and consolidation of work done in the classroom.
- To make parents aware of their child's work in school.
- To provide parents with an opportunity to participate in their children's learning.

Your child has already been given a homework folder containing a grid and a "Have a Go" jotter. The grid will indicate the homework tasks and ideas for activities that you could do at home. It used to be the case that the grid was weekly and would be handed out on a Monday and returned to school every Friday. We have moved away from this as we understand how busy schedules can be and how tired little ones can get! Therefore, we now send out a grid fortnightly. This is where it gets a wee bit confusing so bear with us...

We will soon be sending the children home with reading books, blending books and common words books. Probably not until closer to the October break but we will keep you fully informed on the homework grid. When these books are sent out, we need the whole homework folder handed back in every Thursday. This will allow teachers to spend 1:1 time with all children and to assess their sounds, blending, common words and reading. New words will be set and a new reading book taught and put in ready for issue again the next Monday.

In summary...

**The grid will only change every second week but the homework folder should be handed in every Thursday!**

In P1, we don't expect families to be sitting for long periods of time doing written tasks. However, some children enjoy mark making and using their jotter. There really is no right or wrong. The main idea is that parents and carers are able to see what the children have been learning at school with some ideas to consolidate and support this learning at home. Be as creative as you like and just do what suits you and your child. You know them best!

Your child will need basic materials to carry out their homework tasks. We hope that you could provide a pencil, rubber, ruler and felt pens, coloured pencils, calculator etc. The school will provide any specialised materials needed. Please contact the school if you have any concerns relating to homework.

Mrs Gibson, Miss McGahon and Mrs Haymarch will use the "Have a Go" jotter to note any ideas or targets for your individual child. It is lovely to use the jotter as a communication tool. If you want to note anything, ask or tell, print a photo - anything at all! Feel free to do so.

## Homework Handy Hints

**H**elp your child find a suitable and quiet area where he or she can concentrate on the homework tasks.

**O**rganise a suitable time to do homework so that it is not rushed or interrupted.

**M**ake sure you praise your child for effort and good work and discuss any mistakes they may have made.

**E**ncourage your child to take responsibility for his or her own work.

**W**ait until your child has tried to solve any problems they have before you make suggestions. Do not do any work for them.

**O**rganise a trip to the library if necessary.

**R**eview your child's work once it has been completed showing interest and support.

**K**eep the school informed of any concerns you have about your child's work.

### Literacy

In Primary 1 Literacy homework will vary each 2 weeks depending on the work being covered in class. Children will be issued with homework on a Monday and this should be returned on a Thursday. Please don't worry if you haven't had much time. Still just pop the folders in the box on a Thursday so that we can catch up with all children on Thursday/Friday.



### Reading

Reading will always be prepared and taught in class first and then reinforced at home. The homework grid will outline the reading that is to be covered and any other associated activities.

### Phonics

Phonics will always be prepared and taught in class first and then reinforced at home. Children will learn individual sounds which will be consolidated at home through different activities.

Each week the children will be given sounds to learn along with blending lists which can be found in 'My Blending Book'. See the 'Guide to Parents' inside the Blending Book. This will be given out once the first phases of phonics have been taught.

A variety of interactive tasks will be given to support your child weekly e.g. Have a go jotter, internet games and engaging activities.

### Listening and Talking

Throughout the year the children will be given 'Talk about it Homework' which may be linked to any curriculum area. E.g. can you think of words to describe the sky? What would you like to know about class topics? What do you know about time?

### Numeracy & Maths



- Children will be given different tasks to consolidate their learning within the classroom.
- Little Big Maths. The class teacher will share our weekly CLIC session "I can" statements.
- A variety of Write, Say, Make and Do activities will be given throughout the year e.g. find 3D objects in your home, look for different patterns etc.
- Links to different websites and apps which will allow for reinforcement of these areas in a fun and active way. 😊



## Health and Wellbeing

Children will be encouraged to discuss all aspects of their learning and celebrate the achievements that they make out with school. Your child will be asked to bring in photos, medals, certificates or anything of interest for the 'Magic Moments' wall, to share their success with the rest of the class 😊.

The children are encouraged to follow the school values: respect, honesty, co-operation, responsibility and equality. You can share evidence of this with your child's class teacher via Seesaw e.g. a photo of them tidying their bedroom, helping granny, doing the dishes etc.



## RME, Expressive Arts, Science, Technologies, Social Studies

Most weeks one of these curricular areas may be chosen and a relevant task suggested in the homework grid. This will be given as and when appropriate, to support class work and could take the form of oral discussion, questioning, researching or an art and craft activity.

**Top Tip - Little and often with P1 children works best - we know they are still so little and are learning such a lot whilst they are in school!**