

# Benhurst Primary School

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Head teacher: Mr D. Denchfield BA (Hons) NPQH

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents/ Carers,

From Thursday this week, the children in Y1 will receive home learning related to Spellings and Maths Facts. Maths Facts and Spellings will be set on a Thursday. These will be in the children's learning books and can be found in the Year 1 section of the school website. Please find below some information which we hope will be useful.

## Spellings

The children will be set spelling homework each week. This will be a list of words for the children to learn 'off by heart'. Each week, the words to be learnt will follow a pattern. This could be a certain letter or diagraph (two letters) which will be found in each word. This is to help children to follow patterns in words and to help children to improve their spelling ability. The words children learn will be words that all Year 1 children are expected to be able to spell as part of the Government and curriculum expectations. In addition, there will be two or three 'tricky' words that children will need to learn also. These words are words that do not follow the pattern or that you can not use your knowledge of sounds to spell. An example of this type of word is 'the'. New spellings will be set on Thursdays and tested on Wednesday. Please help your child to learn these spellings. To be able to spell with speed and fluency is a very important skill that will help the children to be confidence, able writers.

Ways to support your child to learn these spellings include:

- **Look, cover, Write and Check.**  
So, they **look** at the word...**Cover** the word...**Write** the word...and finally **check** it.
- Look for patterns in spellings to help remember words
- Little and often practice opportunities - spell words on the way to school, in the car, in the bath, whilst making dinner.....
- Use coloured pencils to make practising words fun!
- Use plastic letters to form words
- Say the word with the tricky part emphasised such as **was** with the **a** said as an **a** not an **o**
- Ask them to write each letter of the word into the palm of their hand or onto their leg with their finger. With enough repetitions, they'll remember how the word felt to write (this is known as muscle memory).
- Use a rhyme, an acrostic or mnemonic to help remember spellings such as **because** - **big elephants can always understand small elephants**
- If you can conjure up a visual image, what you're trying to remember may come more readily. Encourage your child to invent their own ways of remembering words; if they have thought up the image themselves, it will be a more powerful tool.



### Maths Facts

The children will be set Maths facts homework each week. This will be elements of Mathematical knowledge for the children to learn 'off by heart'. Each week, these facts will follow a pattern. This could be a certain fact such as recording numbers as numerals (digits) or words or a specific skill such as adding one or subtracting one from a number. New Maths Facts will be set on Thursdays and tested weekly. Please help your child to practice and learn these facts. To be able to recall with speed and fluency is a very important skill that will help the children to be confidence, able mathematicians.

### Topic Home learning

Our creative, topic-based curriculum is inspired by the Cornerstones for Education curriculum. All of our topics focus on developing knowledge and skills through a series of creative ideas.

To support our curriculum, children and parents are invited to choose from the range of options regarding fun, interesting and engaging project ideas. Children may choose to complete as many of the suggested homework ideas as they would like! This is not compulsory homework. However, completing some of the tasks set will support your child's learning and we encourage you as a family to do what you can.

Please send into class any home learning completed so that we can celebrate the ways the children have continued their learning journey outside of school. Children will be awarded a certificate upon the completion of their projects.

Please see below for the link to the homework section on the school website:

<https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/year-1-homework-2/>

If you have any questions, please speak with your child's teacher.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Garratty and Miss Pattison