

# Harvills Hawthorn Primary School



## Home Learning Policy 2024-2025

Reviewed September 2024  
Mrs. H. Marsden



# Harvills Hawthorn Home Learning Expectations

At Harvills Hawthorn Primary School, we recognise and value the contribution that learning in the home environment can make to children's education. This policy sets out the purpose and benefits of home learning as well as the guidelines we follow when setting home learning activities for our children.

## What are the aims of this policy?

- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills.
- To extend school learning.
- To provide opportunities for parents, children and school to work in partnership.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences.

## What is the purpose of home learning?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.
- To prepare Year 6 children for secondary transfer.

## What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about home learning.
- To provide support for children.

## What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set home learning tasks that are appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the home learning they have been given.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about home learning.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding home learning.

## What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing home learning
- To ensure the child completes home learning to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the home learning.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the home learning.

## What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete home learning each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the home learning in on time.

## What type of home learning will be set?

At Harvills Hawthorn, we place great emphasis on the basics of maths and English, whilst also allowing children to showcase their creativity. Below, you will find a page dedicated to the home learning that will be set in each year group.

# **Nursery and Reception**

## **Reading**

- Children should 'read' their Bug Club phonics book with an adult at least three times per week. Children will begin on 'lilac' books, which do not contain words so 'reading' should begin by telling a story using the storytelling words provided. Once letter sounds are introduced in school, children will be given books with words in, which they can practise blending with an adult.
- Children will be given a weekly 'story-time book' that we encourage an adult to read to them before asking questions to check the child's understanding.

## **Phonics**

- Weekly phonics learning will be set in a phonics home learning book. The book will be sent home on a Friday and will contain letter sounds that have been taught that week.

## **Half-termly creative task (optional)**

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.

# **Home learning in Year 1**

## **Reading**

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to support your child's phonics learning as it provides more opportunities for them to revise and apply the blending skills taught in school.

Furthermore, by questioning them on their reading, their reading comprehension skills are being developed. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.

## **Spelling**

- Starting in the spring term, children will bring home a list of common exception words each week. Common exception words are words where the usual spelling rule does not apply. As children come across unfamiliar spelling and sound patterns in these words, their phonics knowledge will not always help them to decode the word. Common exception words are those words that children need to be able to recognise so that they can read the word by sight.

## **Numbots (optional)**

- Each child has login details for Numbots. Numbots is an online learning platform that will support your child's understanding of number bonds and help improve their addition and subtraction skills. These are the essential building blocks for higher-level maths concepts. By the end of Year 1, children should be able to count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10.

## **Belt test facts (optional)**

- Age-related basic mathematical facts are practised in school via our 'belt test' system. Children are given a set of facts to learn and these are tested weekly. When a child has achieved all of the facts for a test, they receive a mini-belt and a certificate. This system helps the children with their rapid recall of facts and removed potential barriers to solving more complex mathematical problems. At home, children could spend time learning a section of facts to help to prepare them for their weekly test.

## **Half-termly creative task (optional)**

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.

## Home learning in Year 2

### Reading

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's reading comprehension as you can question them on their reading. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.

### Spelling

- Each week, children will bring home a list of spellings to learn. The words on the list are a mixture of previously taught spelling patterns, newly taught patterns and words from the spelling lists assigned to year groups. The spelling list will be tested the following week (the day may vary but the children will be informed as to when it will be) and a new list will be given. The spelling list will be stuck into your child's yellow spelling book. The book also contains your child's spelling score from the previous list so that you can see how well they performed. We ask that you do not allow children to practise their spellings in this book. In addition to the printed word list, each child has an individual login for Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed is an online learning platform that provides further opportunities for practising spellings through interactive games.

### Times tables (optional)

- Each child has login details for Times Tables Rock Stars. This is an online programme where children can practise their times tables and compete with themselves and others. By the end of Year 2, children should be able to recall  $\times$  and  $\div$  facts for 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

### Belt test facts (optional)

- Age-related basic mathematical facts are practised in school via our 'belt test' system. Children are given a set of facts to learn and these are tested weekly. When a child has achieved all of the facts for a test, they receive a mini-belt and a certificate. This system helps the children with their rapid recall of facts and removed potential barriers to solving more complex mathematical problems. At home, children could spend time learning a section of facts to help to prepare them for their weekly test.

### Half-termly creative task (optional)

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.

## **Home learning in Year 3**

### **Reading**

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's reading comprehension as you can question them on their reading. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.

### **Spelling**

- Each week, children will bring home a list of spellings to learn. The words on the list are a mixture of previously taught spelling patterns, newly taught patterns and words from the spelling lists assigned to year groups. The spelling list will be tested the following week (the day may vary but the children will be informed as to when it will be) and a new list will be given. The spelling list will be stuck into your child's yellow spelling book. The book also contains your child's spelling score from the previous list so that you can see how well they performed. We ask that you do not allow children to practise their spellings in this book. In addition to the printed word list, each child has an individual login for Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed is an online learning platform that provides further opportunities for practising spellings through interactive games.

### **Times tables (optional)**

- Each child has login details for Times Tables Rock Stars. This is an online programme where children can practise their times tables and compete with themselves and others. By the end of Year 3, children should be able to recall  $\times$  and  $\div$  facts for 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

### **Belt test facts (optional)**

- Age-related basic mathematical facts are practised in school via our 'belt test' system. Children are given a set of facts to learn and these are tested weekly. When a child has achieved all of the facts for a test, they receive a mini-belt and a certificate. This system helps the children with their rapid recall of facts and removed potential barriers to solving more complex mathematical problems. At home, children could spend time learning a section of facts to help to prepare them for their weekly test.

### **Half-termly creative task (optional)**

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.

# Home learning in Year 4

## Reading

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's reading comprehension as you can question them on their reading. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.

## Spelling

- Each week, children will bring home a list of spellings to learn. The words on the list are a mixture of previously taught spelling patterns, newly taught patterns and words from the spelling lists assigned to year groups. The spelling list will be tested the following week (the day may vary but the children will be informed as to when it will be) and a new list will be given. The spelling list will be stuck into your child's yellow spelling book. The book also contains your child's spelling score from the previous list so that you can see how well they performed. We ask that you do not allow children to practise their spellings in this book. In addition to the printed word list, each child has an individual login for Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed is an online learning platform that provides further opportunities for practising spellings through interactive games.

## Times tables (optional)

- Each child has login details for Times Tables Rock Stars. This is an online programme where children can practise their times tables and compete with themselves and others. By the end of Year 4, children should be able to recall  $\times$  and  $\div$  facts for all times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . In the summer term of Year 4, the children will sit a national Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). In preparation for this test, your child could access the URBrainy multiplication check page (<https://urbrainy.com/mtc>). This site is free of charge so you do not have to register or pay.

## Belt test facts (optional)

- Age-related basic mathematical facts are practised in school via our 'belt test' system. Children are given a set of facts to learn and these are tested weekly. When a child has achieved all of the facts for a test, they receive a mini-belt and a certificate. This system helps the children with their rapid recall of facts and removed potential barriers to solving more complex mathematical problems. At home, children could spend time learning a section of facts to help to prepare them for their weekly test.

## Half-termly creative task (optional)

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.



## **Home learning in Year 5**

### **Reading**

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's reading comprehension as you can question them on their reading. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.

### **Spelling**

- Each week, children will bring home a list of spellings to learn. The words on the list are a mixture of previously taught spelling patterns, newly taught patterns and words from the spelling lists assigned to year groups. The spelling list will be tested the following week (the day may vary but the children will be informed as to when it will be) and a new list will be given. The spelling list will be stuck into your child's yellow spelling book. The book also contains your child's spelling score from the previous list so that you can see how well they performed. We ask that you do not allow children to practise their spellings in this book. In addition to the printed word list, each child has an individual login for Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed is an online learning platform that provides further opportunities for practising spellings through interactive games.

### **Times tables (optional)**

- Each child has login details for Times Tables Rock Stars. This is an online programme where children can practise their times tables and compete with themselves and others. By Year 5, children should be able to recall  $\times$  and  $\div$  facts for all times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . It is important that they continue to recall these facts rapidly on a regular basis.

### **Belt test facts (optional)**

- Age-related basic mathematical facts are practised in school via our 'belt test' system. Children are given a set of facts to learn and these are tested weekly. When a child has achieved all of the facts for a test, they receive a mini-belt and a certificate. This system helps the children with their rapid recall of facts and removed potential barriers to solving more complex mathematical problems. At home, children could spend time learning a section of facts to help to prepare them for their weekly test.

### **Half-termly creative task (optional)**

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.



## **Home learning in Year 6**

In Year 6, our key focus is preparing children for secondary school. At secondary school, children will receive numerous pieces of home learning each week and they must be able to manage their time effectively to ensure that they are completed and returned on time. In Year 6, we take a number of different approaches to home learning at different points in the year.

### **Autumn 1 and Summer term**

#### **Reading**

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's reading comprehension as you can question them on their reading. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.

#### **Spelling**

- Each week, children will bring home a list of spellings to learn. The words on the list are a mixture of previously taught spelling patterns, newly taught patterns and words from the spelling lists assigned to year groups. The spelling list will be tested the following week (the day may vary but the children will be informed as to when it will be) and a new list will be given. The spelling list will be stuck into your child's yellow spelling book. The book also contains your child's spelling score from the previous list so that you can see how well they performed. We ask that you do not allow children to practise their spellings in this book. In addition to the printed word list, each child has an individual login for Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed is an online learning platform that provides further opportunities for practising spellings through interactive games.

#### **Times tables (optional)**

- Each child has login details for Times Tables Rock Stars. This is an online programme where children can practise their times tables and compete with themselves and others. By Year 6, children should be able to recall  $\times$  and  $\div$  facts for all times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . It is important that they continue to recall these facts rapidly on a regular basis.

#### **Belt test facts (optional)**

- Age-related basic mathematical facts are practised in school via our 'belt test' system. Children are given a set of facts to learn and these are tested weekly. When a child has achieved all of the facts for a test, they receive a mini-belt and a certificate. This system helps the children with their rapid recall of facts and removed potential barriers to solving more complex mathematical problems. At home, children could spend time learning a section of facts to help to prepare them for their weekly test.

#### **Half-termly creative task (optional)**

- Each half term, a whole school creative task will be set. This task will be based around key calendar dates, religious festivals or national awareness weeks. These tasks are optional. However, if you choose to complete them with your child, we would most definitely like to see the end product. This may be a piece of learning that can be brought into school or a photograph that can be emailed to your child's class teacher. Each half-term, information about the creative task will be emailed to you and will be uploaded to the school website. A return date will be added so that your child knows when they should bring their creative learning into school to share with their peers.

## Autumn 2

### Reading

- In order to help them become confident, fluent readers, we encourage our children to read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's reading comprehension as you can question them on their reading. When an adult has listened to the child, we ask that they write in the child's 'monkey book.' Each child also has login details for Active Learn (Bug Club) online if they prefer to read online.
- Each child will receive a reading CGP booklet. Each Monday, a reading task will be set. This must be completed and returned to school on the Friday.

### Spelling

- Please see Autumn 1 and Summer term expectations.

### Maths

- Each child will receive a maths CGP booklet. Each Monday, a maths task will be set. This must be completed and returned to school on the Friday.

### Times tables, belt test facts and half-termly creative task (optional)

- Please see Autumn 1 and Summer term expectations.

## Spring 1 and Spring 2

### Harvills' Way to Fly

In the Spring term, Year 6 children begin Harvills' Way to Fly. This programme is devised to help your child achieve their best possible results in their SATs. Each week, the children will be given pre-learning for maths and spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). This learning will be knowledge organisers or revision sheets that the children must read and understand as it will be the focus for in-school learning the following week. Early in the Spring term, there will be a parent meeting so that Harvills' Way to Fly can be introduced.

### Reading

- Please see Autumn 2 expectations.

### Maths

- Please see Autumn 2 expectations.

### Spelling

- Please see Autumn 1 and Summer term expectations.

### Times tables, belt test facts and half-termly creative task (optional)

- Please see Autumn 1 and Summer term expectations.

## Half-termly Creative Task 2024-2025 focuses

<u>Term</u>	<u>Focus</u>
Autumn 1	<b>Mental Health</b> Mental Health Day (10/10/24)
Autumn 2	<b>Winter</b> Winter solstice (21/12/24)
Spring 1	<b>China</b> Chinese New Year (10/02/25)
Spring 2	<b>England</b> St. George's Day (10/02/25)
Summer 1	<b>Oceans and Seas</b> World Oceans Day (08/06/25)
Summer 2	<b>Sport</b> Tour de France (29/06/25) Wimbledon (01/07/25)

More information about these areas of focus will be sent out via email at the start of each half term.