



Tui Syndicate Homework

Our school policy states that Year 3 and 4 children are expected to do 20 minutes of homework each night. Our classroom programmes are no longer "one size fits all" and we are endeavouring to cater for individual needs. This is reflected in our approach to setting homework.

This will be predominately daily reading, a weekly spelling list and a set task on Maths Buddy. Lists and tasks are given on **Monday** and are expected to be completed by **Friday**.

NB Maths Buddy tasks will be included as soon as everything has been installed so probably won't start until Week 3 or 4.

We are aware that some children may not have access to the internet at home. If so, the Orewa library has computers they can use and they can also use the school library computers, one day each week.

We will also expect your child to spend some time learning and practicing basic facts. Speed Skills on Maths Buddy are a great tool for doing this.

Some preparation will also be required if they are asked to be a "reporter" (morning talk!) or have a set talk to give. (They will all have brought home a letter asking them to prepare a short presentation about themselves.)

They may also be asked to do research for topic studies.

Please take an interest in what they are doing and support them when necessary.

To establish good homework routines, having a set time when there are minimal distractions, is also helpful.

Here are some additional suggestions that you can implement to enhance your child's learning and become more involved in their education.

Practice:

- Counting to 1000 and beyond (forwards and backwards) - start from any number.
- Writing numerals to 100, to 1000 and beyond
- Odd and even numbers
- Maths problems eg I have 15 ice-blocks. I ate 2 and 3 more melted. How many have I got left?
- Counting by 2s, 5s, 10s. (forwards and backwards), then by 3s, 4s.

- Number patterns eg $3+4=7$, $23+4=27$, etc
- Renaming numbers eg 8 is the same as $4+4$, $3+5$, $10-2$, etc.
- Days of the week, months (sequence and spelling)
- Telling the time ie not just digital!
- Measuring things around the house.
- Memorising/practicing basic addition and subtraction facts, first to 10, then 20. Also multiplication/division facts - ($2x$, $5x$, $10x$, then $3x$, $4x$.)
- Simple money tasks eg If I had \$2 and I spent 40cents, how much change would I get?
- Finding places on maps.
- Playing board games with them.
- Using playing cards to practice instant recall of basic facts.

NB: Some children will be unable to cope with some of the above suggestions so scale down where appropriate! Scale up too if necessary!

You can also go to the library with them and talk with them about what we are studying. Some children may be interested in current events too. You could discuss a news item in depth and ask your child what he/she thinks!

They could also do some research using safe internet sites and find out more about something they are interested in. eg animals, volcanoes, places, famous people.

Please read to your children as well - even very fluent, capable readers love being read to. Choose a chapter book that you will both enjoy, and have some quality time together! It will also help to improve your child's comprehension, extend his/her vocabulary and help with written language.

You can also help your child by giving him/her some regular responsibilities at home eg

- Keeping own room tidy
- Setting table
- Packing/unpacking schoolbag
- Doing dishes/unstacking dishwasher
- Making own lunch!
- Feeding and caring for pets
- Helping you do tasks eg cooking, car cleaning, gardening.

Some children find school routines difficult because school expectations are different from those at home.

We are trying to develop the life skills of independence, problem solving and responsibility.

Anne Roger (syndicate leader), Rhonda Beet, Ngaire Burrell,
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