



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School
An Academy within The Catholic Academy Trust in South Hampshire
Primate Road, Titchfield Common, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 4RP
Telephone: 01489579100
Email: office@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk
'Children in our heart, Christ at the centre'
'We love, we learn and we live'



Headteacher: Mrs Katrina Straker BA English (Hons.), PGCE

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Dear Parents,

In the recent parent voice survey, homework was an area raised by some parents so we thought it would be helpful to clarify the school's expectations.

Weekly Homework

At St Anthony's, we value the importance of retrieval practice because the regular revision of concepts helps to commit them to long-term memory. This is something that we do daily in school and is also the basis for the homework that we set. We believe in a 'little and often' approach to homework. The children already work so hard in school and we do not wish to tire them out when they get home, but we also appreciate how beneficial regular revision can be, both to their current academic achievement as well as to prepare them for when they start at secondary school.

All children from Year 1 to Year 6 have a homework folder containing their spellings, an arithmetic book and their reading journal. Our homework expectations include: **daily reading of 15 minutes, practise of 8-10 spellings and 6 arithmetic questions to complete each day.** As homework is daily, to help children improve their future learning and prevent them from making the same mistake on subsequent days, parents are asked to check/mark the children's answers and correct any mistakes as they occur. The class LSA will check homework has been completed when children bring it in on a Monday morning. Children in Year R will begin receiving homework folders in the summer term, but for now must continue with daily reading, sound writing sheets and super six practise.

Homework projects

In addition to daily homework, with the exception of Years R & 1, all children will be set a voluntary holiday homework project in the week before a school holiday/half term break. This gives children a week to complete the project before the break if they wish, particularly if families are going away.

The benefits of completing the voluntary homework project are:

- it teaches children valuable research skills;
- the children pre-learn a bit about their next theme and come to school feeling enthusiastic to share what they have found out;
- by presenting their project to the rest of the class, children are developing confidence in speaking and listening skills that are so important in today's world.

The completion of the holiday projects is positively recognised through the award of house points to children who have submitted a project with bonus house points for those who have clearly put in additional hours of effort. These are recorded on holiday project certificates which are given to children to take home.

We hope that by making the projects voluntary, you can see that we recognise there are times when families may struggle to fit it in alongside other holiday commitments. However, we hope that families will try to find time for the projects wherever possible for the reasons given above.

We would like to thank you for all of the help and support that you give your children at home, particularly at the start of each academic year when the children are adapting to the academic demands of their new year group. If you are struggling to ensure that your child completes their homework each week, please speak to his/her class teacher so that as a school, we are able to help and ensure that your child receives all of the benefits of completing their homework regularly. For children who regularly do not complete their homework, Mr Bint and Mrs Adams will be running a weekly homework club for children. Please see the table below/overleaf for details of our expectations in this regard.

Kind regards,

St Anthony's Leadership Team



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<p>Again, we would like to stress that we want to work in partnership with you on ensuring that your child receives all of the benefits of regularly completing their homework, so if there are any issues that you are encountering with regards to your child and any aspect of their homework, please contact us so that we can help before the following occurs:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly homework not brought in/homework incomplete once	<p>Discussion with class teacher about why this is. We would expect that, barring any extenuating circumstances, the homework would be brought in the next day.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly homework not brought in/incomplete twice	<p>Children will be asked to speak to Mrs Adams or Mr Bint to explain why they have not completed their homework.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly homework not brought in/incomplete three times	<p>Children will need to stay in on a Wednesday lunchtime with either Mr Bint/Mrs Adams to ensure that homework is completed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child has stayed in on two Wednesdays to complete homework	<p>A member of SLT will call the child's parents to discuss issues with homework</p>