

Homework.

The more you practise something correctly, the more likely you will remember/ know it. There are some things we need to know before we can move on in our learning. If we practise these, then we are more likely to move on to where we need to go! Knowing your basic facts so there is instant recall, being able to spell the essential spelling words and reading as much as we can, will always help us be better learners.

Homework should not be new learning but practising what has already been taught at school. All tasks given should be able to be completed independently.

Your child may also bring home some unfinished work to complete. It is important that this is done as we will not have the time to complete it in class.

Everyday your child brings their homework book back completed and signed they will earn a tick towards free- time.

Spelling;

Your child has been retested on the essential word lists. The words that are being brought home in the homework book this term are the words they really need to know to be a better reader and writer. They will be tested on these every Friday. If they get their words right in Friday's spelling test they will be rewarded with a tick towards free time!. Each week your child will have an activity sheet that is based on the word list they have been given.

Some further suggestions for practise;

- Copying the words out
- www.spellingcity.com free access and a huge range of activities
- Spellodrome within <http://www.mathletics.co.nz/>
- <http://www.skoolbo.co.nz/>
- Finding the words in the books they are reading
- Creating a word find/ puzzle with the spelling words
- Jumble up the letters and then child has to work out the words
- Typing them out on a computer...different size, colour, how fast?

Reading;

The more we read the more we find out about our world and other peoples ideas about our world. Books can help us be whatever we want to be in life! Reading the writing of other people will also help them with their own writing.

Questions you might ask to support understanding;

- List all the characters and tell me one thing about them.
- Who was your favourite character? Why?
- What was the funniest, saddest part of the story?
- Tell me five new things you learnt about.....
- Would you read another book by the same author? Why?
- When and where does this story take place?
- Why do you think the author wrote this story?

Websites your child has access to at home:

www.readingeggs.co.nz

www.sunshineonline.com.au (check your child's reading level with the classroom teacher).

Everone has the username; rereschool and password: rererunga (flying high in Māori)

<http://www.pearsonplaces.co.nz/secure/bugclublogin/login.aspx>. Wonderful

factual books with activities that meet the learning intentions for your child.

<http://sunshineclassics.co.nz/> books and activities that fit the learning intentions.

Basic Facts;

Your child has been tested to find out which basic facts they need to be working on so that they can successfully work on the strategies they are being taught at school. They need to have instant recall of the basic facts they are working on. We are also practising these at school every day, but the more they practise the faster they will learn them. The masteries are put into their homework books each week so you can see how they are going and what they need to practise. If you need any ideas about how to do this then please ring and make a time to see me. (It is amazing what you can do with a few dice!)

Some further suggestions for practise;

- Hand jive –requires two people. On go put out the fingers on 2/3/4 hands and +, can be very competitive/great for speed!
- Dice throw – throw the dice +,- the dots – also very competitive/great for speed!
- www.mathletics.co.nz your child will have been told what level they are to be practising in. If they are thumping the keyboard at 100mph then they are not doing the right level!
- <http://www.prototec.co.nz/maths.html> is a fantastic site for basic facts practice- no frills
- <http://www.skoolbo.co.nz/>

These web sites have programmes specifically set for your child.

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| + | 5 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 9 | etc. |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | |

- Calling them out while peeling the potatoes together
- There are a huge range of maths activity books available at bookshops. Please check with me for the appropriate stage...if it's too hard it won't be helping at all!
- There are a number of basic facts drill sites on the web. Type in basic facts practice in GOOGLE.

Your child also has access to www.studyladder.co.nz which is another great site and covers all curriculum areas.

I thank you for your support. Please contact me if you need any more ideas. 😊