



Widmer End Community Combined School and Pre-School

7th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you have all had a restful break and that your children are ready for another busy term. We have some exciting new topics and a visit to the Ashmolean Museum as part of our Ancient Egypt studies to look forward to in February. It is Year 3's turn for Forest School which starts next week and details will be sent separately. So that we have a smooth transition into the new term, please read the reminders about home learning, equipment, uniform and snacks.

HOME LEARNING REMINDERS

Hopefully by now you have settled into a good home learning routine with your child. Remember children should be spending a minimum of 30 minutes per week on homework plus a minimum of 3 times a week reading. If you have any concerns about the completion of homework please just come and talk to us and we will find a solution together. Please can you make sure you have checked and signed your child's planner before it is handed in every Monday.

Home learning timetable:

Monday - ALL homework and planners handed in for checking. Spelling test. Library books in. Reading books changed.

Tuesday - New spellings will be on Spelling Shed (all spellings for the year are on the class pages of the school website).

Wednesday - Spellings and home learning tasks given out and purple books taken home.

Friday - Cracking times tables quiz in class.

Times Tables:

Your child should rehearse their times tables at least 3 times per week. They can do this in any way they feel will help them but it MUST be evidenced weekly, in their home learning books. Times Tables Rockstars is highly recommended to support this practice and your child's login details are in their planner. This will support your child with ALL numeracy work undertaken in class.

Spellings:

The home learning task should be completed with neatly joined handwritten spelling sentences. They will then be tested through a handwritten spelling test every week. Every spelling must be written out a minimum of 3 times and then used in a written sentence (underlining the spelling word with a ruler and pencil) eg:

Spelling word is 'because'

because

because

because

'The little girl ran to her Mummy because the dog was there.'

Maths/English/Other:

Maths home learning is designed to support current learning and is in addition to times tables practice. Occasionally there may be English or Science/Topic homework. This will be set on a Wednesday and due on the following Monday.



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Both Spelling sentences and Maths homework should be completed in their purple homework books.

Reading:

Reading books and planners should be brought into school daily. Please make sure you have completed the previous week's entries AND signed it for when home learning is handed in on a Monday.

Children should read to you aloud from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts and can include school books, as well as those from home. Every time your child reads aloud to you, make sure this is signed for in the home learning book. Take time to discuss the texts, addressing style, language, and punctuation and ensure they are confident in their understanding of words and passages throughout. Year 3 children are required to read a minimum of 3 times a week (15 to 20 minutes each time), to an adult, as part of their home learning. Please ensure this is the minimum number of times you read together, as this skill underpins learning across the entire curriculum.

Our day to visit the Library is a Monday, so please ensure that if your child has finished their library book, they bring it into school to return on a Monday.

Equipment needed for every day in class:

Please check out the school website for links to equipment needed in class. Please note, we do not require the children to have highlighters in Year 3:

<https://www.widmerend.bucks.sch.uk/stationery-requirements/>

Pencil cases come home every Friday and must be checked, pencils sharpened and equipment restocked. It is essential this happens so children are readily equipped for their learning in the week ahead. Glue sticks and whiteboard pens get used surprisingly quickly so please can you make sure your child always has a good stock of these. It is essential they have a purple pen for editing, redrafting and self-marking/correcting.

PE / Games clothing:

Children are to come in dressed in PE kit on their nominated days, which are **Monday** (indoors) and **Tuesday** (our Forest School afternoon - please see the separate letter for details).

Earrings: Children need to provide their own tape to cover earrings (ideally put on before school) or a small container to put them in. If they wish to remove them for PE they must be able to do so independently.

See the school uniform policy for further details: [Widmer End CC School Uniform Policy](#)

Water and snacks:

A named water bottle and fruit or salad snack must be provided daily. This is really important as it will help your child remain focused throughout the day. Please could all fruit come in a named container or bag.

I hope this letter has answered any questions you might have. Please let me know if you have any further queries.

I look forward to meeting with you all again at parents evening later in the term.

Kind regards

Ms Atkins