



Lavant

C.E. Primary School

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Homework Update

Dear Pheasant Parents,

I hope you are enjoying the first few weeks of the school term just as much as we are in Pheasant Class. It has been a great start to the year, despite the difficult circumstances, and the whole class has responded and readjusted very well to school life.

Our weekly homework schedule is taking a little longer than usual to get started this year, and I know lots of children are keen to be continuing their learning at home as well as in school. We are currently in the process of setting up a new homework system on Seesaw, a digital portfolio and parent communication tool, which will mean we won't require any unnecessary transfer of books between school and home for homework tasks. This will also serve as an addition to our current provision, should the need arise for children to be learning from home again at any point. Seesaw will be set up and logins provided as soon as possible, at which point homework will be set and completed online with a weekly task set on a Friday, to be completed by the following Thursday.

In the meantime, our other online learning accounts are all set up and ready to access for children to continue their learning at home, and new logins (or reminders) have been provided to all children. Please find a summary of these below:



- Prodigy Maths is a maths learning platform aligned with the KS2 maths curriculum. The children's homework this week is to complete the "placement test" which should automatically start when they first log in this year.



- Times Tables Rockstars is a fabulous app, with a competitive edge, designed to help children learn and retain key timestables facts. A (lighthearted) Year 5 vs Year 6 challenge has been set up for the children to take part in from Monday to Friday next week.



- Numbots is a learning platform designed for those children who want to build on their quick recall and retention of key number bonds, one of the first building blocks in good maths understanding. (Logins for numbots are the same as TT Rockstars)



- The latest addition to our online tools is the “Spelling Shed”, an online game which is a great foil for our class-based spelling pattern study. Each week a new spelling pattern will be set, which we will study regularly in class, and discuss and use during English lessons. Alongside regular practice on this website (or the user-friendly app which can be bought for a small fee) at home, the children will really start to get to grips with the tricky Y5/6 spelling patterns from the National Curriculum. Once the weekly set spellings are practised enough, or mastered, this will open the full spelling list on the game so children can then work on other spelling patterns as much as they’d like to. Two to three short sessions per week practising their spellings will be an important part of each child’s homework schedule this year.

It is worth a reminder at this point that the expectations of homework in Pheasant Class are greater than in other year groups as we begin to get the children prepared for the heavier home workload of secondary school. Regular short periods of using the online learning tools above are part of that expectation. Setting a weekly schedule of when homework will be completed and challenging children to stick to it, is a great way to get children in the habit of organising their own learning at home.

I’ll be in touch soon with more information about the Seesaw learning tool, at which point our full schedule of homework will be up and running. In the meantime, I hope your children enjoy the various online learning tools available to them.

As always do pop in at the end of the day if you have any questions, or drop me an email on PheasantClass@lavant.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Kindest regards,

Daniel Taylor