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Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Homework Survey and Draft Homework Policy

Thank you to the parents who completed the recent homework survey. Although there were not a huge number of responses, some clear points emerged which are as follows:

- The large majority of parents who completed the survey think that their children benefit from completing maths, times tables, spellings, comprehension and reading homework. **This homework will remain in place.**
- A significant proportion of parents do not agree that the homework grids benefit their children and school is inclined to agree that these homeworks can be problematic in their potential to place additional costs and time burdens on parents. From after Christmas (Spring Term) **the grids will no longer be part of the homework schedule.** For children who like to complete additional activities, there will be a grid of generic tasks available on the website to choose from should they want to. This will be completely voluntary. Should children complete extra work or projects at home, of course they are still welcome to bring their work in to school to be recognised and appreciated – we do not want to discourage our pupils extra learning and effort, but there is no expectation of this.
- There is a fairly even split between parents who think their children have too much homework and parents who think they have too little. Slightly more KS1 parents think they have too much and at KS2 the balance is tipped the other way. We are reviewing how much homework pupils are set and whether this steps up appropriately as pupils move towards their transition to secondary school. Should you think that the amount is too much or too little for your child then a conversation with your child's class teacher is usually helpful.
- Unsurprisingly, more parents of older children recognise the part homework plays in developing pupils organisational and study skills.
- Most parents feel that they receive clear instructions regarding their children's homework, however there is still room for improvement in this area so we will look at this more closely.
- A proportion of parents feel that homework is not adapted closely enough to the needs of their child, so again, this is something that we will continue to work on.
- Children appear to enjoy homework more as they get older and we will bear this in mind when setting homework for younger pupils.
- A large majority of parents believe that their child works hard to complete their homework.

The full results of the survey are available to see on the website – please go to the Parent section and scroll down to Homework. The draft Homework Policy, which reflects feedback from this survey as well as work being done in school to improve teaching and learning, can also be found here.

We want homework to be a valuable part of all our pupils' education. Should you have any comments regarding the draft homework policy and the changes being made relating to homework, then please let us know. The policy will be introduced after Christmas and be submitted to the Academy Council for ratification at the next meeting in January 2020. Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully
S. Pennington
Headteacher

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