



BROWN CLEE C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Miss Sue Relph

Homework

As you may be aware, homework for KS2 is practising times tables and spellings – alongside regular reading. The reasons for this are outlined in the school’s homework policy. As a general rule, completing these activities for a small amount of time (e.g. 10 minutes), but regularly (e.g. every day), will have the biggest impact.

All pupils in the school have a Times Tables Rockstars and Spelling Shed account. Both accounts can be accessed using a number of different devices:

- Time Tables Rockstars - <https://play.ttrockstars.com/> OR accessible on the free app
- Spelling Shed - <https://play.edshed.com/login> OR on the £2.99 app

Using these interactive activities is likely to help children to learn their spellings and times tables much quicker than any paper-based strategy. We have seen that those who use these apps regularly have made a huge amounts of progress with their spellings and times tables. They are also useful for teachers to help identify any gaps, misconceptions or areas where support may be needed – as well as allowing us to celebrate successes as a class or whole school.

We are finding that a large number of pupils are not reading, practising spellings or times tables as regularly as they should be. Being accurate and efficient with spellings and times tables makes a large amount of learning much easier – whilst regular reading has some of the most wide-spread positive impacts on a child’s overall understanding.

The current National Curriculum expectations are that children should leave Year 4 knowing all of their times tables up to 12x12 – and, as of this year, an external KS2 times tables test will be administered to all year 4s across the country.

We completely appreciate the busy demands of home life and understand that, on certain days, children may not be able to complete these tasks due to other commitments. We have tried to take this into account with what our expectations are. Below is a table illustrating what would be a minimum expectation a week (obviously more can be completed if wanted – and some already do) and, as stated earlier, little and often has more impact that lots all at once.

	Minimum expectation:		
	Times Tables Rockstars	Spelling Shed	Reading
Class 3	10 games per week	7 games per week	10-20mins – 5x a week
Class 4	20 games per week	14 games per week	15-30mins per day

We would also realise that there is the small chance that some children may not have access to an appropriate electronic device (i.e. laptop, desktop, tablet) to benefit from these. If this is the case for anyone, please do not hesitate to discuss this with your child’s class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

D Harley
Danny Harley
Class 4 Teacher

A Heath
Ally Heath
Class 3 Teacher



KS2 Homework Sessions

In our discussions around homework, we did feel that there could be a need for support for parents or guardians from school in how these web-based activities (TimesTables Rockstars and Spelling Shed) work - and how to get the best out of them in supporting your child. We would also be open to the possibility of a session for parents about strategies to help increase your child's engagement and improve their comprehension skills in reading whilst at home.

To gain an indication on the number of parents/guardian who would be interested in these kind of sessions, could you please tick any sessions which you would be interested in the school running for parents of KS2 pupils. We will try to run any sessions which have sufficient interest.

Tick any sessions you would think would be useful for school to run.

Name of child(ren): _____

- How to get the best from TimeTables Rockstars at home**
- How to get the best from Spelling Shed at home**
- How to get the best from reading at home**
- I am not interested in any of these sessions as I am confident with supporting my child with times tables, spellings and reading at home**
- Other (please specify):**

Please indicate below which time would be most suitable for you if you would like to attend these sessions:

- Between 1:00pm – 3:00pm**
- Between 3:30pm – 5:30pm**
- Between 5:30pm – 7:30pm**

Name: _____

