

# Great Milton C of E Primary School

## Home Learning Information for Parents

The family atmosphere of our school is highly valued and we aim to ensure that children, parents and staff feel that they can all make a worthwhile contribution to our team. Our Mission Statement celebrates the fact we aim to create a happy, purposeful and stimulating environment within which each individual will be able to achieve the highest possible standards of educational, personal and spiritual development.

At Great Milton C of E Primary School, we believe that when home and school work together, our children can strive for excellence.

Home learning encompasses a whole variety of activities and provides a rich range of experiences. When home learning is linked to what the children are learning in school, this enhances and supports their development.

Together, we can not only teach children to the highest educational standards but also about God, life, friendships, how to treat others and how to carry themselves through life as kind and thoughtful people.

### **Expectations**

At Great Milton C of E Primary School, we believe that the most important home learning for our children is daily reading and daily practice of counting, number bonds to 10, 20, and 100, mental maths skills (adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing) and times tables. We also encourage support for spelling at home, based on the spelling lists given and on mistakes found in children's own writing. Finally, we hope that, through home learning projects, parents will encourage their children to explore in detail the topics studied in school.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Expectations</b>
Elf	Daily reading and book talk.
Tawny	Daily reading and book talk. Weekly spelling list and activity will be given later in the school year linked to phonics phases.
Barn	Daily reading and book talk. One piece of work linked to English, Topic or Maths to be completed each week. Weekly spelling list and activity linked to spelling rules or phonics phases.
Snowy	Read 4 x a week. Weekly spellings. Times table practice (TT Rock stars). One challenge on the learning grid to be completed each week.
Boreal	Read 4 x a week. Weekly spellings. Times table practice (TT Rock stars). One challenge on the learning grid to be completed each week.
Eagle	Read 4 x a week. Weekly spellings. One piece of Maths work to be completed each week. One challenge on the learning grid to be completed each week.
Hawk	Read 4 x a week. Weekly spellings. One piece of Maths work to be completed each week. One challenge on the learning grid to be completed each week.

Each Key Stage 2 class sends out a termly learning grid linked to all the curriculum subjects. The expectation is for every child to choose one of them to complete each week. Each class will specify how this piece is to be presented.

**Book Talk** is anything related to a book or story that a child has heard or has read. This can include sharing the pictures, looking for rhymes, repeating words or phrases, predicting what may happen next, telling the story in their own words, talking about similarities with other books they have heard or read. Book talk is important at all stages of reading and for all reading ages.

**Times tables** can include other helpful activities to promote learning them such as CDs, games or using websites. Children are expected to know and have quick recall of all of their tables by the end of Year 4.

## How can you support your child to complete home learning tasks?

- Create a working environment that supports your child to sit comfortably and enable them to concentrate; switch off distractions around them and encourage them to sit at a table.
- Be positive with encouraging comments; offer help and support only when it is needed.
- Let the children do the homework with minimum input from you – there's little point in producing work not completed by the child.
- Make sure your child doesn't spend too long on a home learning task.
- Communicate any problems arising out of the home learning task to the class teacher. Encourage your child to bring the homework in on a **Monday** and ask their teacher for support if they are unsure; tears are not helpful to anyone.
- Teach your child the organisational skill needed to hand pieces of work in on time.
- Have basic equipment (paper, pencils, pens, ruler, sharpener, dictionary, atlas, calculator etc.) at home.
- When appropriate, extend their learning by using appropriate websites, talk or visits.

## Other ways to extend your child's knowledge and understanding

- **Incorporate reading and basic maths skills in everyday life**
  - reading signs on a journey
  - calculate the distance between stops on a journey
  - counting steps as you walk, predicting how many between the next two gates/lamp posts/roads ...
  - cooking by reading recipes and weighing ingredients
  - shopping lists – reading, writing, adding cost, calculating the change
- **Teach your child how to tell the time**
  - How long before bedtime? Swimming lesson? ...
  - What's the time Mr Wolf
  - Tell me when it is.... Dinner time, time for school ...
- **Play board games** – these promote turn taking, patience, tolerance, sharing as well as reading and maths skills.
- **Take a trip out**
  - Museum – history, science
  - Park – builds on character, maths, science
  - Gardens/arboretums

Ask questions, look closely at the environment around you whether at home or outside. Encourage conversation and questions will be asked. Talk is one of the most important ways to communicate understanding and develop a love of learning.

## **Online learning**

Great Milton C of E Primary School has subscribed to both Active Learn and TT Rockstars, which can be accessed from home. All children have individual logins for both, which they also use in school. Your child should speak to the class teacher if they need a reminder of their log-in details.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/17190>

## **Other useful sites:**

BBC games

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/learning-area/reading-and-writing>

KS1 BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z3g4d2p>

KS2 BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

Primary Homework Help

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

Maths Playground

<https://www.mathplayground.com/>

## **Online Safety**

With our fast-moving technology, it is extremely important that school and home develop children's understanding of how to protect themselves when online. It is everyone's responsibility to teach our children how to be safe.

### **Newsround Quiz – Internet Safety**

Test your knowledge of internet safety with this quiz from CBBC Newsround. There's also further information if you're not sure about anything.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/14979083>

### **CBBC Stay Safe**

Do you know how to stay safe online?

Lots of ways for you to OWN IT

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit>

## **Common Sense Media**

Reviews for what your children watch (before they watch it).

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

## **Internet Matters**

From age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, you'll find a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>