

In terms of reading, we want children to be able to:

Enjoy reading and see it as a pleasurable leisure activity, as well as a means of following instructions and finding things out. Have the reading skills necessary to read a range of text types for pleasure and for information. To be confident and competent readers, children need to have access to a range of reading experiences

Guided Reading

Each class, Year 1-2 to Year 6, engages in a Guided Reading session daily. The class teacher focuses with one small group each day, and tailors the teaching to their needs. This is an opportunity for the teacher to hear readers, and teach reading skills (either decoding or comprehension as appropriate). The other children within the class will engage in other independent learning activities, which may be reading based or linked to learning in other areas of the curriculum. Guided reading allows the teacher an opportunity to teach reading skills in a small group situation, allowing greater focus on developing skills, rather than just 'hearing readers'.

Reading at Home

We know how important it is for teachers and parents to work together to give your child the best start. Reading together at home is one of the easiest but most important ways in which you can help your child. As you share books you are helping improve your child's reading skills and also showing them how important and enjoyable reading is. This booklet is a short guide to help you.

Supporting Reading at Home

1. Find a place to sit together that suits you both
2. Try to read for at least 5 to 10 minutes a day and once over the weekend. Encourage it as a pleasurable experience.
3. Find some time to talk about the book as well as reading it. Start with the title, look at the cover and briefly chat about what you might find inside. At the bottom of each page, encourage your child to predict what might happen next.



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Parent Pocket Guides

Homework Guide

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How will staff support our homework policy ?

Our homework programme aims to help our children develop skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning, as well as reinforcing the learning they are doing within the class setting. It supports the development of independent learning skills and will provide parents with an opportunity to take part in their child's education. This should be an enjoyable experience for parent and child !

Here at English Martyrs CVA homework will encompass a variety of activities across the curriculum and these will be a part of the home / school partnership. More detailed information concerning the content of the homework will be provided by the class teacher but below is a recommended time guide for each year group which includes reading time, formal homework tasks and learning of times tables where appropriate.

Foundation Stage : 10 mins daily

Yr 1 / 2 : 1 hour spread throughout the week

Yr 3 / 4 : 1 hour 15 mins spread throughout the week.

Yr 5 / 6 : 1 hour 30 mins spread throughout the week.

Topic homework is sometimes set during the longer holidays for children to start some research on a new topic but we do not give homework when pupils are ill or absent unless specially requested.

- By ensuring the appropriate homework tasks are set and that children have a clear understanding of the tasks.
- By marking written homework and giving appropriate feedback to pupils.
- By celebrating completion of homework to a high standard using school reward systems.
- By liaising with parents when necessary.
- By providing curriculum workshops for parents where they will be able to learn more about the skills and strategies used in school.

How can parents support their children with homework.

- By providing encouragement and support to their children and ensuring that homework is done on time and handed to the class teacher.
- By displaying a positive attitude towards homework and valuing its importance.
- By providing somewhere peaceful for their children to work discussing when would be the best time to do their homework and how long it should take.
- By signing and dating the homework diary and giving any useful feedback to the class teacher.

We very much hope that a partnership between home and school can be promoted in support of each child's learning and that homework will provide a context for pupil / parent interaction and the enjoyment of learning experiences together.

Have fun ! If you have any concerns come and see us !