

20<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

### **MATHS HOMEWORK**

At St Mary's, homework is valued as an opportunity for children, parents and teachers to build a shared responsibility for learning.

Our aim is that Maths homework will:

- Consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding in the subject.
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- Allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- Allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners, encouraging them to develop resilience and self-discipline needed to study on their own.

We know that some children are not getting the most out of their homework which is currently set on *MyMaths* for several reasons including no access to the internet and the technical issues. This means that children are often not able to access or complete the tasks set for them. To address this situation **class teachers will be setting paper-based homework** for all children in years 1 to 6, after the half-term break.

**Homework will be set weekly on Fridays.** Children will need to complete it and **return it to their class teacher (KS1) or maths teacher (KS2) the following Wednesday.** Teachers will make sure that the children will know how to complete their tasks and if necessary, will provide written instructions. Whilst KS2 staff may still set tasks on MyMaths, priority should be given to the paper-based tasks or activities. Please support and encourage your child to complete and return their homework on time – it is an important part of their learning.

A study published by *Ofsted*, the schools watchdog, says pupils without instant recall of multiplication tables struggle in Maths. Each multiplication table has its own pattern and poses a different challenge to learners. The expectation is that children know their times tables up to 12x by the end of Year 4. This means being able to say them in a uniformed way (1 through to 12), then random order before finally being able to reverse the times table into the inverse (division). To help the children, we will provide some ideas for games and activities that you can do with your child alongside their homework.

The change to Maths homework will provide homework that **ALL children** can access. If you have any questions please speak to your child's class/maths teacher. Alternatively please contact me if you think I may be able to help.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs J Woolley (Head teacher)

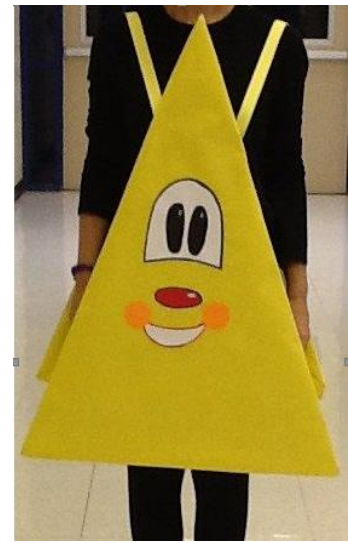
Mrs J Royle (Maths Subject Leader)

PS – Turn over for more Maths!

On **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** we are having a **Whole School Maths Day**. It will give the children the opportunity to learn with others from different year groups and with different teachers. Staff are excited as they plan activities that will be exciting and engaging for all. Children and staff are invited to dress as 'someone or something mathematical.'

For ideas for outfits that are easy to put together go to...

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/no-sew-mathematical-costumes-for-maths-week> and here are a few more ideas...



We are holding a **Maths Workshop** for you with your children, helping you to support them with their mathematical learning.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November**  
**5pm - 6pm.**

Please let us know if you can come by logging onto the St Mary's parents' evening booking system. It will be a great evening and there will even be a goody bag to take home!