

Ghyllside Primary School

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Year 5 – Key Information for Parents

Dear Parent/Carer

May we start by saying how pleased we are with the positive start to the year. It's great to see children applying themselves and working hard in lessons. Many children are also demonstrating excellent organisational skills and have the things they need when they need them. This letter is to outline some of the expectations in year 5 linked to key areas of learning.

Homework

Homework will be given out on a Thursday to be handed in the following Wednesday. There will usually be one piece of mathematics and one piece of English homework a week and they will nearly always be stuck in the homework book. We always spend some time going over the homework in class to make sure everyone understands what they have to do. If your child gets home and does not know what to do or finds it too difficult and you are unable to support them, they should bring it back into school and one of us will help them – the last thing we want is for difficulties with homework to cause upsets at home! The national expectation at this age is to be doing around 20-30 minutes of home activities each evening – including reading, spellings and learning times tables. If homework is completed and in school on a Wednesday, the children will receive a Smiley for each piece. We are hoping to start a lunchtime homework club in school to support those children who struggle to complete work at home. More information about this will follow in the coming weeks.

Swimming and PE

Swimming is on a Friday (for 5 weeks this term and 5 weeks after Christmas) and PE is on a Wednesday. Children will need appropriate kit for each. The first swimming session this term is on 15th September and a letter with more details will follow shortly. Your child should have their PE kit and suitable trainers in school every day. For having the correct equipment for swimming/PE, your child will get a Smiley.

Reading and Times Tables

Your child will have a reading book and reading record which they should bring to and from school each day. Children should read, preferably to an adult, most days at home, although we know from experience that many children of this age will quite happily disappear on their own with a book for hours on end! There is a direct and well proven correlation between the amount a child reads at home and their acquisition of language and broader chances of success at school.

As part of the Smiley system, reading records will be collected in with homework on a Monday. Children who have read to an adult at home and had their reading record signed and dated by an adult 3 times since the previous Monday will receive a Smiley and a stamp/sticker on their reading chart. A full half term of these stickers will result in a reward (stationery, sweet treat etc.)



Fast recall of times tables is another skill that we expect children to spend time practising at home. There are many games online to help with this, including Mathletics, or good old-fashioned copying out and quickfire questions will work. Consistency is key – the more often you can do it, the more effective it will be.

Being Organised and Independent- Ghyllside Reward Points

Children in year 5 are expected to have a named pencil case with two pencils in as a minimum. Other equipment such as erasers, sharpeners and rulers will also be useful. Your child should have their pencil case, reading book and reading record in school and in the classroom at the start of every day. Your child will sometimes achieve a Smiley if they are organised and have these things with them in the classroom in the morning.

Spellings

Children will have spellings to learn at home linked to learning in class. New spellings will be given out on a Monday and need to be handed in on the following Monday when the children will be tested on the words. Children will receive a Smiley for handing in a completed spelling sheet on a Monday morning.

Plea for help!

The main area where parents can help is with **reading**. It is of huge benefit to children to read to and be read to by different adults, so if you are able to spend any time coming into school to help with this, it would be greatly appreciated. Any time at all you have available will be a help to us.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding your child's education or anything mentioned in this letter, please do not hesitate to come into school and speak with us at the end of the school day. It is best to avoid Tuesdays after school as staff meetings are expected to start at 3.30pm prompt. If you require longer than 10 minutes, please call the office for an appointment.

Many thanks for your help getting the year off to a great start,

Jane Reedy

Dan Duxbury

Paul Giblin

Jill Bell

Julie Robb

A handy guide to cut out and stick on your fridge!....

<i>What day is it?</i>	
<i>Mon - Fri</i>	<i>Have PE kits, reading books, reading records and pencil cases in school</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Hand in spelling sheets and Reading Records to be checked. New spellings given out</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	
<i>Wed</i>	<i>Homework to be handed in</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Homework given out</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Swimming kit required (starts 15th Sept)</i>

