

Dear families,

### **Homework Planners**

Tonight, your child will have a new Homework Planner in their book bag. This planner has been developed to support your child's learning whilst at home. They are a fantastic resource, when used to their full potential, and will have a massive impact on your child's progress and attainment.

Children have been introduced to the planners and have been shown how to use them to support their learning at home. As parents, we encourage you to check the diary daily and record any reading that you have done with them at home.

It is important to stress that these are not a means of communication between yourself and the class teacher, as it would be impossible for the teacher to check 30 planners everyday and respond to any comments. Should you need to get a message to the class teacher, please make an appointment at the office as usual.

Could you please read and sign the following ages:

- P6 – acceptable use policy
- P10 – privacy notice
- P11- home school agreement

Homework at OJAB is designed to either support the children with work that they have already done in class or as a way of introducing them to work that they will be looking at the following week. Making sure your children do their homework will greatly support the work that we do in school and will help us to make sure your children reach their full potential during their time at OJAB.

Homework will be checked by the class teacher and feedback will be given to children on how well they have done.

We have / are also introducing:

**Mathletics** is a learning platform used by more than 5,000 schools and 3 million students worldwide.

Children have their own login details (written in their new planners) and can log in to the website here: <http://uk.mathletics.com>.

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In **Mathletics National Curriculum Topics** children tackle curriculum based topics set as homework by the class teacher.

In **Live mathletics** children compete against other students in live, real-time 60 second mental arithmetic showdowns.

If you do not have the username or password or internet access please see your child's class teacher and we can arrange for your child to have some 'Mathletics time' during playtimes or before or after school.

A recent independent study by the University of Oxford found that in schools that use Mathletics regularly, students perform significantly better in Key Stage 2 SATs. Dipping in and out of the sites on a daily basis will really help children with their mathematics knowledge and understanding – and its also fun!

### **Accelerated Reader**

A number of you have been asking about when children will bringing a book home from school and I would like to thank you for your patience on this. We are currently setting up a new online reading resource called Accelerated Reader – some of you may have heard of this if you have children at Outwood Academy Brumby.

AR is a reading program that helps teachers support and monitor children's reading practice. Your child picks a book at their own level and reads it at their own pace. When finished, your child takes a short online quiz to measure how much of the book they understood.

Again, children have their own username and password to access the site which is written in their homework planner and the only difference from Mathletics is that the website can only be accessed in school. We encourage all children to read for at least 15 minutes per day at home and look forward to your support in encouraging this.

We also have **Times Tables Rockstars** ([www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)), which is another great resource for helping children get to grips with their times tables. Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Each week concentrates on a different times table, with a recommended consolidation week for rehearsing the tables that have recently been practiced every third week or so. Again, logins will be recorded in homework diaries once this is fully set up.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With very best regards,

Mr Vickers