



**St James' First School**  
**Home Learning Overview**  
 September 2022

**Home Learning Overview**

Research has shown that home learning can make an important contribution to your child's progress at school. The Government believes that there is enormous advantage in children spending regular periods of time on learning activities devised by schools as part of a home learning programme, which supports the work they do in class. However, home learning should not get in the way of other activities that your child may do after school, such as sport, music and clubs of any kind.

At St James', we believe in an approach to home learning that nurtures your child's 'home learning skills' and develops the home/school partnership. In addition, we believe home learning should not be a chore or a 'battleground' and learning is therefore set at a level that allows your child to be successful.

**Reading**

Learning to read is an essential life skill and one that is prioritised at St James'. Your child will bring home a selection of reading and phonics books that have been carefully selected by the class teacher. Ideally, we hope that our children read daily, but we expect every child to **read a minimum of 3 times a week and record this in their reading record**. Reading records will be checked by the teacher on a weekly basis.

'Go WILD for Reading' aims to encourage children to read more frequently at home and then celebrate their efforts in school. A challenge sheet will be stuck inside your child's reading record with four blank letters. The aim of the challenge is to colour in each letter in order to receive a pin badge to put on your child's book bag or jumper. Your child will colour in a letter every time they complete two pages of their reading record. Your child will work towards collecting as many of the animal badges as possible and their achievements will be celebrated in class. (When writing in your child's reading record, please ensure that it fits in one box to make totalling the number of reads easier and only one read is recorded each day).

**Spelling**

Your child will be sent home with a list of words, appropriate for their stage of learning. As a guide, 5 minutes a day, should be spent practising these words. Alternatively, you may prefer to practise on fewer days but for slightly longer. The children will be taught the 'look, cover, say, write, check' method for learning their spellings. The worksheets sent home each week will also encourage this. There will be a weekly spelling test in class. For year 1, this will be done as part of their writing activities and will not be called a test.

	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>Number of Weekly Spellings</b>		3	6	8	8

**Maths**

Home learning in maths is designed to develop and nurture mathematical fluency and automaticity. Whilst it not compulsory, we encourage all children to complete 30 minutes of maths learning across the week using either Numbots or Times Table Rockstars. A login sheet is sent home to allow you to access this online platform.

	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>Home Learning Using</b>	Numbots			Times Table Rock Stars	