

LEARNING LOGS – Summer Term 2018

20.4.2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays! This term, in response to some of your suggestions in the parent questionnaire last term about homework, we are launching the use of Learning Logs for homework. This letter is to let you know about them and to explain how we will be using them this term.

What is a Learning Log?

- Learning Logs should be a personal reflective journal for the child to record their knowledge and understanding in whichever way they feel is most helpful. Children can use pictures, writing, diagrams, labels, bullet points, mind maps or whatever style they wish to choose to present their work. They can also create models which can be brought in to school.
- They are an opportunity for children to extend and consolidate their learning in the classroom.
- They encourage children to be actively engaged in their own learning and take a pride in their work.
- As Learning Logs are personalised, there is no right or wrong way to approach a task.
- Learning Logs are 'inclusive' and cater for all abilities and learning styles.
- They are child-directed, rather than teacher-directed and so give children 'ownership'.
- Children can be as creative and imaginative as they like.
- Remember your child can choose any medium to produce their work; using photos, colouring, mind maps, cutting & sticking, tables, drawing, labels, creative writing, maps, ink stamps, adding flaps, moving items with split pins, pop up cards, textiles, coloured pens and shapes.

Learning Logs will be given a high profile in school. We will celebrate at the beginning of each term in Achievement Assembly children's level of effort, approach and progress with their previous term's homework projects. Time will be allocated for children to review and discuss their work and for teachers to provide constructive feedback. Learning Logs have been proven to work in other schools with great success.

If you wish to see for yourself how other schools have used Learning Logs to promote independent learning, please take a look at the following website: www.learninglogs.co.uk

Learning Logs will be given out at the beginning of the term. The Learning Logs will have a list of tasks from which they choose **at least two to focus**. It will be up to each child how to present their own work in whatever way they want, to show what they know and understand about a topic. The only stipulation is that the children must fit all the information they would like to present on a double page of the journal for each of the tasks chosen. They can of course creatively extend the page by attaching flaps and folded sections. Class teachers will encourage tasks as they are completed to be returned to school. ALL Learning Logs are to be handed in at the end of each half term.

Your child will receive other set pieces of homework too, such as spellings and times table practice and reading expectations. There will be some variation between year groups as teachers use these in the most effective way for their class.

Experience has shown that Learning Logs benefit pupils in developing independent learning strategies and promote the importance of time management. It is recommended that up to a total of one hour per task is spent completing the learning log work by Year 6. This is a guideline and of course, depends on individual age and needs. Children should only spend longer on their task if they are inspired to do so – experience shows that many are!

Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing some more amazing homework from the children.

Ms Teresa Shrestha
Headteacher