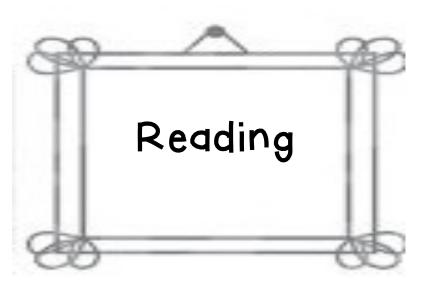




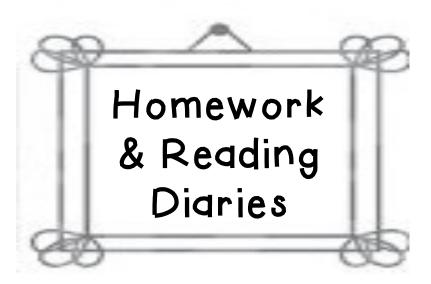
- We are very fortunate at Hamford to work in phase groups. This means that your child has the opportunity to not only belong to their class for two years, but also as part of another team within the Hamford family.
- In Lower Key Stage 2, we plan lessons together, come up with ideas for topics and share our ideas instead of each doing our own thing. This means that the strengths of all of us are used and brought together to provide a well-rounded and exciting curriculum for your child.
- As an Academy, we choose to follow the expectations and objectives of the National Curriculum but we have planned and created our own unique curriculum that we feel is relevant, exciting and creative. We trust that your child will enjoy the topics and themes that we have come up with and truly learn to love learning.
- We are always happy to meet with you and discuss any concerns or worries you may have.
 Please do come to us as more often than not, these things can be solved quickly and easily.



- At Hamford, we use Twitter to communicate key information and celebrate children's work.
- It is really helpful if you follow the Hamford
 Twitter account @HamfordPrimary as we do
 update a lot of information here.
- Each class will have their own Twitter account and will upload photos of work, key information and photos of your children at school.
- We have a Lower Key Stage 2 blog. This will be a platform to share resources with you, for your child to upload and share their work, for us to suggest games and home activities and for us to share our work with the world. Go to: http://lowerkeystagetwo.primaryblogger.co.uk to check it out.
- Showbie: this is an app that we use to store our work. Each child will have a log-in and will save most of their school ICT work here. It can be accessed by tablet or computer and gives you an opportunity to see the ICT and multimedia work that your child creates whilst at home. Please encourage your child to log on at home and show you their work. www.showbie.com



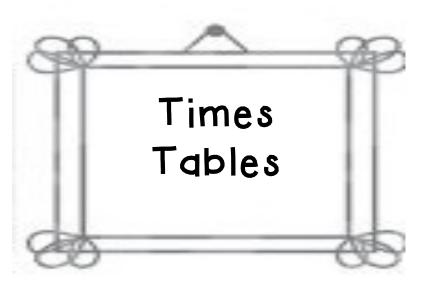
- Reading is an essential skill and one that will help your child in every subject at school. We provide daily opportunities at Hamford for your child to read. They will read independently, as part of a group and to adults.
- Reading not only gives children a chance to learn about new things, it also helps their writing to develop. Children are exposed to new and adventurous words and vocabulary and can see how writing conventions are used effectively by authors.
- We expect that all children read <u>daily</u> with their parents and ask that you record this at least 3 times a week in their reading diary.
- We will make sure that all children are heard regularly by an adult in their class.



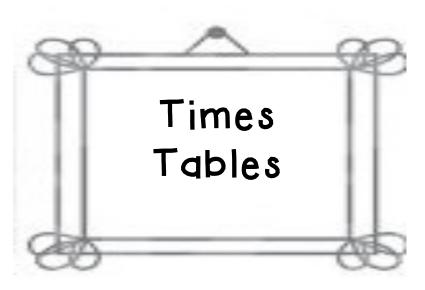
- These will be collected in each week by the class teacher.
- We will check that your child has been reading to you regularly (at least 3 times recorded) and leave a brief comment about their week.
- Please feel free to use these books as communication books to us; leave us a comment about how your child has been all week or about anything you feel we should be aware of.
- Lost diaries will need to be replaced at a cost of £2.50.
- Children need to keep these in their school bags as they will need them at school and at home each day. Please support your child with this.
- Spellings and times tables will be recorded in here as well as any other key dates or information.



- At Hamford we follow the Letters and Sounds approach to phonics. By the end of Key Stage One, most children have completed the phases of Letters and Sounds and move onto learning key spelling patterns.
- The spellings that your child is given to learn will be appropriate to their level. They will be given support in class daily and some children will work in small groups to help to fill any gaps they may have in their understanding.
- Please make sure you help your child to practise their spellings at home. A good way to do this is to play games and have fun with them, such as:
 - speedwrite: see who can write the word correctly the most times in a minute
 - backwords: write the spellings words forwards then backwards 5 times
 - bubble words: write out the spellings words in bubble writing
 - pyramid words: write the first letter, then on the line below the first 2 letters, then underneath the first 3 letters etc.
 - acrostics: make up a poem where each letter of the spelling word starts each line



- Times tables are the building blocks of mathematics and are crucial in enabling children to calculate efficiently.
- At Hamford, we have a Times Tables Policy to help teachers know the expectations for each year group. See the next page for this.
- By the end of Lower Key Stage 2 (year 4), all children should know all their times tables up to 12x12.
- At the start of year 3, they should know their 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s and be able to double and halve numbers to 20.
- Each week, children will learn and practise a times table in their class. This may be a new times table or going over ones they already know.
- Your child will have a times table focus each week and we ask that you help them practise these at home.
- Fun games, rhymes, songs and colouring activities are available online and we will put our suggested resources on the Lower Key Stage 2 blog.
- Chanting times tables also helps but make sure you do this in lots of different ways e.g. for 2 x 3 = 6, it is important to also do 3 x 2 = 6, 6 ÷ 3 = 2, 6 ÷ 2 = 3 and use vocabulary such as times, lots of, multiplied by and divided by.



The expectations for the end of each year group are:

End of year 1: counting on and back in 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s

End of year 2: know 2, 5, 10 time tables and doubles and halves to 20

End of year 3: know 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 times tables

End of year 4: know all tables to 12x12

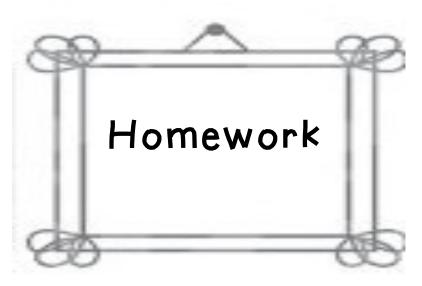
End of year 5: know all tables to 12x12 and corresponding division facts

End of year 6: consolidation of all tables, square numbers, prime numbers, using and applying times tables and division facts

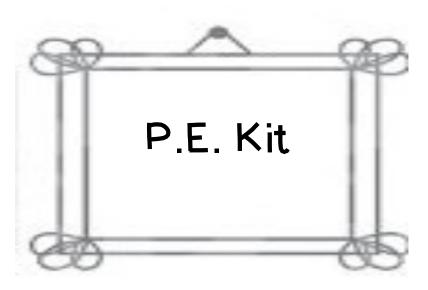
In Key Stage 2 (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) it is also expected that children begin to use multiples of 10 in their times tables and division facts

e.g. if $2 \times 3 = 6$, then $20 \times 3 = 60$

and if $20 \div 5 = 4$, then $200 \div 5 = 40$



- Every half term there will be a short project that is based on the topic we are learning about in class. This could be making something, researching something or creating a fact file.
- Each week, there will be spellings and times tables to practise and learn (see separate page)
- Homework for literacy will be reading (see separate page)
- Maths homework will be set every other week and should take around 30 minutes to complete. It will be something that your child has either been learning about in class or will be learning about, but will be something that your child should be able to complete independently.
- If your child does ask for help with their homework, please do get involved. Don't worry if you are not sure of the methods they have been using in class, just help them in any way that you can.
- There will be a homework club set up twice a week after school. This is to provide an environment where your child can access a computer and a quiet place to do their homework.
- It is expected that your child completes their homework and hands it in on time



- Indoor and outdoor P.E. kits need to be in school every day.
- Please see the front of your child's homework diary for the Academy P.E. kit requirements.
- Children are not allowed to wear earrings for P.E.

lessons and we are not permitted to remove them or cover them in tape. Therefore, your child either needs to be able to remove their earrings themselves or not wear them to school on P.E. days.



- We advise that each child has a snack and a water bottle every day. Snacks must be healthy snacks (i.e. fruit or cereal bars).
- Snacks should be packed in children's school bags so they can get to them, rather than their lunch boxes.
- It is helpful for lunch money to come in weekly, in a named envelope. The cost for lunches is now £2 a day, or £10 a week.