

Hilltop Infant School

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SS11 8LT



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Headteacher: Mrs. K. Mackenzie

22nd February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful response we have had to the Home Learning Challenge. I know that some families have not been happy with the current arrangements but a large number of people have told us at parent consultations and via email that they have found it a helpful way of encouraging their children to read and work on other learning at home. Well over half of our children successfully completed the challenge that finished last week. What amazing progress some of our children have made with their number bonds, reading, spelling and handwriting. Thank you to all the adults and older siblings who have supported the children. When home and school work together children really do make the best possible progress.

Because many families have found the challenge helpful, we have decided to continue this half term but are changing arrangements slightly so that families who do not find it helpful or supportive do not need to be involved. One parent has spoken to me today to request that we do continue with the Home Learning Challenges even though some families are not happy about it. The new challenge can be collected from the school office so that those families who wish to participate can do so. If you do not come up to the school then please email or phone the school office and they will arrange for one to be put into your child's school bag. If your child has Special Educational Needs that mean they are unable to access the usual homework challenge then please contact our SENCo, Mrs Bouwer, who will be happy to arrange a modified version for them if it is appropriate.

The new homework challenge sheets will be available at the school office from Tuesday next week and the challenge will start on Friday 3rd March lasting 4 weeks. The final sheets will need to be handed in on the last day of term. There will be stickers for each fully completed sheet handed in to class on a Friday morning and the Challenge Reward will take place at 4.15pm on Wednesday 19th April (The first Wednesday back after the Easter break).

For families who do not wish to be involved in the new Home Learning Challenge, we still have the expectation that you read five times a week for short periods with your child at home. This is the same level of reading commitment expected by our Junior School.

Many thanks for all the support you give to your children's learning.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Mackenzie

