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Learning, growing, achieving, TOGETHER

Tuesday 16th September 2025

Dear parents/ carers,

Homework at St Meryl

At St Meryl we place great value on reading, both as a key skill for learning and as a lifelong source of enjoyment. As you know, during the second half of last term we shifted our approach to homework so that it is now centred on reading. This reflects our belief that regular reading everywhere (including at home) makes the greatest difference to children's progress, confidence and love of learning.

There have been a few questions from parents about our approach towards homework this term, and as a starting point, teachers recorded the numbers of pupils who completed the expected amount of reading last week for homework. The results were as follows.

Class	Number reading the expected number of times	Percentage reading the expected number of times
Year 1	12	43%
Year 2	13	54%
Year 3	12	41%
Year 4	9	31%
Year 5	8	27%
Year 6	19	66%

These figures show us that while many pupils are reading regularly at home, there is still work to do in order to make sure every child is building this essential habit. We absolutely acknowledge that life is busy, but setting aside a short amount of time each day to read with or alongside your child will have a powerful impact. Our aim is that all pupils meet the expectation each week, so that reading becomes a consistent part of their routine.

Our decision is to monitor the numbers for this week before making a decision of our next steps. As a reminder – Early Years and **Key Stage 1** pupils are expected to read **at least 3** times a week, and **Key Stage 2** are expected to read **at least 4** times a week. Your child will also be receiving their spellings this week, and on Friday we will be launching something very special for Maths for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils. More will follow about this on Friday.

We look forward to seeing improved reading numbers, and hearing all about the adventures our children have been on in their reading this week.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Craig Davies, Head Teacher