

October 1st 2021



Dear Bradway families,

As the weather starts to cool and the leaves begin to fall, we hope you and your child are still enjoying your commute to school, excited about the endless possibilities that lie ahead.

Now that we've had a few weeks to settle back into routines, we'd like to share some important reminders of how you can help your child flourish at Bradway Primary.

Reading

This year, we have simplified our approach to homework to increase its value and make it easier for families to support children's learning. Our main homework throughout all year groups is reading and your child's teacher should have communicated their expectations on Seesaw or Tapestry around how long your child should aim to read their book throughout the week (if you are still unsure, please ask). *Your input here is invaluable and by supporting us on our mission to make every child a successful reader, you will help transform their lives.* Time and time again, research has shown the benefits of reading enjoyment and educational success, and the more scientists learn about the brain, the more they are discovering the positive effect reading has. For example, did you know that 'the brain, it seems, does not make much of a distinction between reading about an experience and encountering it in real life? In each case, the same neurological regions are stimulated' (New York Times). We find that fascinating and we are putting considerable effort into applying research into our daily reading practice.

So, should your child come out with the often-heard chestnut, 'I don't have any homework', please gently remind them that they do and help us to promote the wonderful experience of reading.

Maths

Our other regular homework is arithmetic. Each year group will be focusing upon a specific area. This may be number bonds that sum to 10, a times tables focus or answering questions using the main number operations (addition, subtraction, division, multiplication). If you are unsure about how best to support your child's development of arithmetic, you are welcome to drop us a line.

Twitter

Our school uses Twitter as a way of celebrating what is going on in our curriculum, and feeds are also linked to our website. By following your year group's Twitter feed, or other school feeds which may interest you, it will enable you to see snapshots of the sorts of activities which are occurring throughout the year. We would be grateful to any of you who may wish to follow our feeds and give us feedback on our posts. The full list of Twitter accounts is at the end of this letter.

Attendance and punctuality

Following a disruptive 18 months of Covid-19, it is more important than ever that your child comes to school on time and every school day unless they are unwell. Of course, some Covid



challenges still lie ahead but with your help and support, we can ensure all children access our high-quality curriculum.

And finally, a quick reminder about timings of the school day.

Start of the day - our school site officially opens from 8:40am, at which time children are welcome to make their way into the classroom. A school bell rings at 8:45am to signal that all children should be entering their classroom for registration.

End of the day - Our school day ends at 3:05pm. Please call ahead if there is an emergency.

We hope you have a nice weekend, spent enjoying time with your friends and family (while also squeezing in a bit of reading).

The Bradway Team

Bradway's Twitter feeds:

General	Year groups
@bradwaystockley (headteacher posts) @bradwayP4C @BradwaySport @bradwaymusic @bradwayoffice @bradwaybooks	@BradwayFS2 @Y1Bradway @BradwayY2 @Y3Bradway @Y4Bradway @Y5Bradway @Y6Bradway