

# St Ann's Heath Junior School

Sandhills Lane, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4DS
T: 01344 842900 F: 01344 845526 E: admin@stannsheath.org W: www.stannsheath.org

Co-Head Teachers: Mrs J King, Mrs P O'Connor

#### Year 4 Homework

Friday 7th October

Dear Parents/carers,

Last year, we made changes to our homework expectations and invested in further online programmes to support with children's homework. These programmes are EdShed (Spelling Shed) and TT Rockstars. These two fundamental areas of learning are key skills for the children to be secure in and we feel that they can be well supported at home.

### **EdShed (Spelling Shed)**

Attached to this letter is a guide for Spelling Shed, which takes you through logging in and then accessing the different games. Teachers will set assignments weekly for the children to practice the spelling rules that they are learning in class. In addition, there may be additional lists here to practise the year group word lists that are set from the National Curriculum.

#### **TTRockstars**

The link below will take you to a Parent and Carers Guide video which outlines how to use TTRockstars. This programme is to support children in learning their times tables. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phxP5 OhOtk

The key to both of these areas of learning is practising little and often, hence our recommendation for homework being 15 minutes, three times a week for both of the programmes.

Your child will have a username and password for each programme and this will be found in their planner.

### **Expectations for homework**

Our expectations for lower school homework are as follows:

	YEAR 3	YEAR 4
Reading	Approx. 15 mins 5x per week	Approx. 15 mins 5x per week
Times table practise using TT Rockstars	Approx. 15 mins 3x per week	Approx. 15 mins 3x per week
Spelling practise using Edshed	Approx. 15 mins 3x per week	Approx. 15 mins 3x per week





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Additional homework

4 optional tasks sent home at the beginning of the half term that your child may choose to complete.

These tasks will cover a range of subjects and will contain instructions of where to complete the work and when to hand the work in.

We do ask for your support with completing reading, TT Rockstars, Spelling Shed and the additional homework tasks at home, as we recognise that parents and schools working together to support children in their studies, is the best way for children to make progress in their learning. Evidence has shown that parent engagement to support with home learning can increase a child's progress by 4 months+. Additionally, we do feel it is important as a Junior school to prepare the children for the expectation of secondary education in terms of homework.

Teachers monitor both of the online programmes weekly to check who has accessed them. Children who have not accessed each programme three times a week, will be kept in for some of their lunchtime on Tuesday to attend homework club to catch up on the missed learning.

We do recognise that due to these programmes being online, children will require a device to use at home. This can be a phone, tablet, laptop or PC. Next week, we will be sending out a short google poll so that we can gather information regarding the devices children have to use at home. Please make sure you complete this.

If you have any questions regarding homework, please direct them in the first instance to the <u>year4@stannsheath.org</u> email address which all year 4 teachers have access to or write a note in your child's planner.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Jackie King Co-Head Teacher Pip O'Connor Co-Head Teacher

