

## Homework Forum

Thank you again to those Parents who attended the Homework Forum. Below is our response to your concerns.

<b>Parents said</b>	<b>We will</b>
Many Year 7s and Year 8s still seem to be getting homework in the foundation weekly. Can you stick to the new timetable?	We will make sure teachers are setting homework every week.
In Year 7 and Year 8 teachers are not always sticking to the day it says they will get homework on the timetable.	We will make sure if teachers set homework on Tuesday, it is every other week.
Parents still don't understand the purpose of Pick and Mix; however they recognise the children like it. They asked for a tweak as they are recognising their child keeps choosing the same pick and there is not enough mix. They suggested is it possible to allow students to pick, but have some checking mechanism to ensure they complete all activities by a set point?	The idea is to give students an element of choice and control in their learning, where students are using it well, this is happening regularly and students are making the correct choice to choose something challenging. We monitor their choices and encourage them to choose activities that support them to learn something new.
Higher ability students in Year 7 and Year 8 are not being challenged by their homework.	This message has been passed to staff, please monitor during this half term to see if there is an uplift in challenge.
Can they see a whole Year 6 SAT paper?	Yes, once we have completed the mock tests in March, we will publish examples on our website. Please remember we have only one paper from the new exams.
The amount of books is confusing in maths and English in Year 5 and Year 6. What is the learning journal for? Where does the homework go, in the journal or the home learning book?	The learning journal is the child's personal guide to their learning. It is for them to make notes and place advice about their learning. Homework in years 5 and 6 should be recorded in their home learning books for English and Maths which were issued in January post the first homework Forum,
Please can they see some response to homework? How do they know if they have got it right with their child?	Staff will mark homework as part of a child's learning. Year 7 and Year 8 should be bringing their books home to complete pieces so you can see the marking. Year 5 and Year 6 will have marking in their English and Maths homework books.
Not all library books are getting changed; please can you make sure they are weekly.	We have alerted our librarian Mrs George to this fact and she will be extra vigilant this half term. All students have the opportunity to change their books once a week, as well as at break and lunch times. If you have a concern about the choices or books not being changed, please notify us or email the school on <a href="mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk">admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk</a>

We didn't know they had to read so many different texts, can you encourage us to read not only books with them.

Yes it is really helpful if you don't just read fiction, but you actually encourage your child to read, newspaper articles and magazines based around topics of interest. It is absolutely fine to encourage them to read the Cougars Newsletter. We will publish next week a set of resources and websites/ journals that you can support your child.

Next half term with the Homework Forum Steer, we will be publishing a differentiated Reading booklet as part of Year 5 and Year 6 homework. This will involve each subject providing an appropriate text, with SAT style comprehension questions. There will be one text a week for children to complete. This is to help familiarise children with different texts and contexts and support them to practise the SAT style questions that they are likely to incur in their tests. If successful, we will extend that practice to Year 7 and Year 8 at Easter.