

Homework Questionnaire Results

No. of Questionnaires received back:

Foundation	6	13%
Year 1	10	20%
Year 2	12	25%
Year 3	9	20%
Year 4	19	36%
Year 5	8	15%
Year 6	12	23%
	76	22%

1. Has your child completed any of the enrichment tasks?

	Yes		No	
Foundation	6	100%		
Year 1	9	90%	1	10%
Year 2	10	83%	2	17%
Year 3	8	89%	1	11%
Year 4	19	100%		
Year 5	8	100%	1	13%
Year 6	11	92%	1	8%
Overall		93%		7%

2a Why do you think your child did not complete the tasks?

	It was voluntary so there was no motivation		He/she found the tasks boring		I did not encourage him/her		Don't know		Other	
Foundation										
Year 1	1	10%								
Year 2									2	17%
Year 3	1	11%								
Year 4	1	5%			1	5%				
Year 5	1	13%								
Year 6	1	8%								

Comments:

Year 1

- My child only did one piece - which she enjoyed - but as it says above - voluntary - so no motivation - if it was something they had to do then we'd all make sure its done but with everything going on in our own homes etc - its not on the top of the list. It isn't forgotten but gets misplaced and then too late.

- I am a terrible parent as I lost the paper work. However, I did read it and my child already does many of the enrichment tasks

Year 2

- I think that there were too many tasks to complete
- Don't know what this is
- Nothing has been sent home and with not having access to the net we cannot

Year 3

- As Mr Briley had said we don't have to do them, I couldn't convince him that he should do any of them, he didn't have to so he wasn't going to.

Year 4

- My child only did 2 pieces - which she enjoyed but as it says 'voluntary', no motivation and if I'm honest I didn't push it. If it was set homework they were made to do and had to be in a few days later then I'd of made my child do it, but busy home lives etc, it wasn't priority.

Year 5

- "It was voluntary so there was no motivation" why is this?

Year 6

- As much as I encouraged him and spoke to his teacher he felt that he had been told he didn't have to do it if he didn't want to.

2b How do you think we could encourage your child to complete these tasks

	Make them compulsory		Make them more interesting		Go back to old style of homework		Don't Know		Other	
Foundation										
Year 1	1	10%			1	10%				
Year 2	1	8%			1	8%			1	8%
Year 3	2	22%								
Year 4					1	5%				
Year 5					1	13%				
Year 6										

Comments:

Year 1

- As above, children like 'routine' - so do parents. Well I do and so do my children, if its not happening every week same day like before 'old style' then it gets forgotten. It needs to be fixed in their heads, 'Tues - literacy in for Thurs etc (and spellings Mon learn for Fri)

Year 2

- Don't know what they are so can't comment

Year 3

- Given the time scale involved maybe 2 or 3 activities should have been compulsory, any more could have been voluntary. A choice of activities is good as children learn in different ways, but giving them an 'opt out' card just excused him from doing any.

Year 4

- Children like 'routine' it may be boring doing the same thing every week but its fixed in their heads and mine!! Also my child hasn't brought spellings home to learn. This is worrying as I'm not sure how her spellings are coming on (I like to test my child with her spellings).

Year 5

- How do we know how our child is progressing when we can't see what they are doing. Also most of it can be done on the internet and printed off, where is the written work.

Year 6

- Asked to see work in progress so that the year 6 children get used to self discipline and time management. Tell them they have to complete something as this will be the norm when they go to Manor.

3a How many of the tasks did your child complete?

	1		2		3		4		More	
Foundation	1	17%	1	17%	1	17%			3	50%
Year 1	2	20%	3	30%					3	30%
Year 2			3	25%	2	17%	2	17%	3	25%
Year 3			2	22%	1	11%	4	44%	1	11%
Year 4			4	21%	2	11%	3	16%	10	53%
Year 5			1	13%	2	25%	1	13%	4	50%
Year 6	5	42%	2	8%			1	8%	2	17%

3b Did your child enjoy the enrichment tasks?

	More than the old style?		The same as the old style?		Not as much as the old style		Don't know		Other	
Foundation	3	50%							3	50%
Year 1	3	30%	2	20%	1	10%	1	10%	2	20%
Year 2	5	42%	1	8%	1	8%	2	17%	1	8%
Year 3	5	56%	3	33%	1	11%				
Year 4	12	63%	5	26%	2	11%	1	5%		
Year 5	5	63%	2	25%	1	13%				
Year 6	6	50%	4	33%						
Overall		51%		21%		8%		6%		11%

Comments:

Foundation

- My child enjoyed the enrichment task but is only in Reception so knows no different.
- Yes, she enjoyed the enrichment tasks. Can't compare it to the old style, as she never had any homework before.

- As my children are in reception we completed the activities together and had a lot of fun doing them.
- The first time my daughter did it, as she is in reception. Really enjoyed doing
- Work with Emily everyday on books, letters. She loves to, excellent.

Year 1

- I'm sure in year 1 my other children had spellings to learn at home, this is worrying as my child hasn't had a spelling book to bring home and learn - old style back please!! Then at least I can keep an eye on what she's learning at school and how well she's doing.
- This is the first homework experienced

Year 2

- Because it's not compulsory, its harder to encourage him to do.
- I think it would be more helpful if one task had to be completed per half term. This would be more achievable and give a timescale to work towards.
- Didn't really have homework in Year 1, only spellings. Has been keen to complete activities.
- She enjoyed choosing the activities that she wanted to do, giving her a list of things that she could do is a very good idea as she and her brother do things very differently and learn differently also.
- As much as my child enjoyed some of the tasks, I feel this didn't help with her spelling.
- My son is only in year 2, so hadn't started having full maths and literacy homework, only the spellings, reading, so I cannot compare.

Year 3

- She was not motivated to do any of the tasks as she had been told she didn't have to do them. Also missed the 'maths element' to homework. Previously she completed all her homework in allocated time.
- It was less stressful for her.

Year 4

- My child does not enjoy doing schoolwork at home. I don't think it would matter how enjoyable you tried to make it he still begrudges any time spent on work given by school but will happily read his own books or play educational computer games or do arts and crafts of his own!!
- Felt that any task attempted, my child needed far more supervision to make sure it was completed
- Yes, looking on the computer was good and finding things out also. Did not really understand what was looking for.
- There was repetition between class work and the enrichment tasks making my son uninterested as he had done it before. Despite this we have ensured he did all the work, and he has been recognised for this. A big concern is a lack of arithmetic type tasks - Sats may suffer.
- Reason being that there was no pressure to complete tasks in a couple of days
- I prefer the old style - set on certain days - to be in on certain days - you knew where you were and so did my children, it was 'ROUTINE'. At the moment there is no 'ROUTINE' so its not in their minds to do it, or mine to be honest, so it gets forgotten about.
- The new work sheet seemed exciting in the beginning but soon my daughter lost interest. There was more work on the internet were she was researching for different things.
- He enjoyed some tasks from the sheet but wasn't keen to do certain ones
- Yes more enjoyable as there was no pressure to complete it.

Year 5

- Thought it a brilliant idea - keep up the good work
- After doing the exciting parts, child got bored and would not do the rest. Too much can be done on the computer which she found boring and not work
- My child felt they were the same, I thought he was more excited about the tasks.
- More time to do the work made it more enjoyable. Chloe put in more effort as there was no pressure to return it to school within a couple of days.

Year 6

- It was ok
- She enjoyed it more as she could choose her own task. However once that task was handed in (in the first week) she felt she had done her bit and that's it.
- Didn't have to do it in order to start with

3c What was the affect on the atmosphere at home?

	We enjoyed the work.		My child seemed more interested		We worked on the tasks together		My child worked alone		It was more positive	
Foundation	5	83%			6	100%	1	17%		
Year 1	6	60%	3	30%	6	60%			1	10%
Year 2	2	17%	2	17%	8	67%	1	8%	1	8%
Year 3	2	22%	2	22%	7	78%	3	33%	2	22%
Year 4	6	32%	9	47%	11	58%	1	5%	2	11%
Year 5	3	38%	4	50%	3	38%			3	38%
Year 6	3	25%	4	33%	5	42%	4	33%	1	8%

	There was no change		It was more negative		I don't know		Other	
Foundation	1	17%						
Year 1	2	17%						
Year 2	1	8%	1	8%				
Year 3			1	11%				
Year 4	1	5%	5	26%				
Year 5	1	13%	1	13%				
Year 6	2	17%						

Comments:

Foundation

- They seemed to enjoy it more because it was a family activity and it was a good reason to make some extra time for each other.
- My daughter did most of it herself , we were very proud of her.
- Happy, fun

Year 1

- Again, nothing to compare to.
- I think the tasks could have house points allocated, a record book would be nice and suggestions from the teacher as to which tasks would be most beneficial.
- My child really enjoyed this style of work, she enjoyed every part of it and I think Mr Briley should be congratulated on a brilliant idea.

Year 2

- We enjoyed working on the tasks together but I don't feel they provide any benefit to the areas in which my child struggles (e.g. spelling and handwriting)
- We always help/encourage our children with homework. We did however find this style much more time consuming for us (parents).
- As she had chosen the tasks, she put more effort into them and enjoyed the challenge.
- It was hard work getting my son interested in doing any tasks from the list, other than drawing tasks. It was very stressful and time consuming for me to sit through the work.

Year 3

- Although the experience at home was more positive, because it was less structured it wasn't easy to get motivated to do it - therefore, it happened in fits and starts. It would be good to have a series of 'complete by' dates rather than one end date.
- Lots of encouragement to complete tasks was needed. It has taken us as a family more time to complete tasks than the old style homework.
- My child had her own ideas in what she wanted to do.
- The tasks were carried out more or less together as there was no requirement to do them weekly.

Year 4

- My child enjoyed the practical tasks the most and once he had started them became more enthusiastic.
- My child did some tasks then the novelty wore off. We had no problems doing homework or spellings.
- I felt a lot of the research was done more by myself, and had to put a lot of ideas towards my child as he found the tasks fairly difficult, it wasn't helpful some of the links not working.
- Found it better working with another person than alone, but needed more information and communication from school
- These enrichment activities were not really for someone to do alone ... not only did we require constant patience with our son, but the documentation (or evidence gathering) make it impossible for a child to do alone. It is also interesting to see how much was not done by children but by parents. The reading challenge is equally difficult. How do you show someone acting out a story.
- To begin with he was more interested but as time went on doing the enrichment tasks, it was just like doing the old style homework. It was something that he didn't look forward to especially when he had completed the 'fun' tasks.

- Some of the tasks we enjoyed doing, others were stressful especially trying to research various things whereby internet was unhelpful.
- Waiting to get on the computer at home, as I have 2 others that need the computer for homework for Manor, there were a few heated moments. So although my child enjoyed it, it was a bit stressed for me, especially when they all chose to do it at tea time!!
- More interested in the beginning, but hasn't completed all the tasks. I think these sheets are having a very negative effect and homework needs to be given every week to keep the children's minds interested and active.
- Short term my son was more interested in doing tasks from the sheet, but has now lost interest in it all. It was very stressful for me sitting through 2 lots of homework, time consuming and seemed to repeat what had already been taught in the classroom.
- I found this style of homework suited my child better. Please keep with this style, much nicer homework, much more fun.

Year 5

- More so than having to do set work
- We found that we were unable to see what our child was doing at school and how they were progressing. Motivating them to do the boring bits as they were called has caused endless arguments between us as parents and our child
- There wasn't a problem doing the old style, but the new style gave more variety and scope.
- The tasks were directly related with what our child was learning at school so they reinforced that learning.
- Fantastic
- More relaxed

Year 6

- I found my child only did the tasks she enjoys most, art, collage and some research (internet). She needs to be encouraged to write more, we tried but I didn't feel we had the support of the school.
- Wanted to do it by himself. Only wanted parents to check.
- She has always willingly completed her homework quite quickly. She liked choosing her task but would easily have managed about 7 of them (if they weren't voluntary) in the time given in normal homework terms. It almost encouraged her to be lazy and not bother when she is more than capable.
- Had a struggle to get my child to do the tasks as they were told that they did not have to do them, and that it was not homework.

4 Overall, do you think that the Enrichment Tasks have....

	Improved your child's learning		made no difference		had a negative affect on learning		Don't know		Other	
Foundation	1	17%	1	17%			1	17%	1	17%
Year 1	3	30%	2	20%	3	30%				
Year 2	3	25%	5	42%	1	8%	2	17%	1	8%

Year 3	2	22%	2	22%	2	22%	3	33%		
Year 4	8	42%	5	26%	3	16%	3	16%		
Year 5	5	63%			2	25%	1	13%		
Year 6	4	33%	6	50%	2	17%				

Comments:

Foundation

- Made her being interested and engaged in the subject of the term.
- Hard to comment as this is the only homework experience we have had. I can only say we enjoyed it and it promoted discussion.
- First time
- Good interaction together, loves it.

Year 1

- In year 1 they didn't get much homework in the old style anyway, so it hasn't made any difference.
- Always enjoys any work set
- I think that they are a good idea for parents to interact with their children and can be a learning process for both parents and children
- My child works better with a set structure and deadline for completing homework
- I would prefer my child to have , in addition to the enrichment activities, structured spelling and maths exercises.
- It tends to enrich what my daughter prefers doing, rather than working on her weaker areas.

Year 2

- Having an older son, now 16, he has been at a school that has used this system and also at a school that uses more traditional methods, it is my opinion that the traditional method of homework set and then completed are better, having had previous experience of both.
- No real visibility of what this is
- I feel the tasks switch the onus from school to home. Trying to fit in the enrichment tasks, daily reading book and the reading challenge tasks has been too much, especially as I also have a daily speech therapy session to perform with my son.
- Unsure. Can you tell us the answer? Were the children assessed when entering year 2, and then assessed again at the end of this term. Has there been an improvement, particularly in spelling?
- My child never had a problem doing homework in the first place, however all the tasks she did were in the first 2 weeks of term and none since, because she had done enough to keep me quiet. If normal homework had been set she would also have completed that.
- I don't believe this new style of homework has helped my youngest son in year 2. He finds it hard work to write full sentences and has a little extra reading help. I've no idea if he knows the spellings that he should for his age and ability as we never see a list anymore. There was also no numeracy homework included on the new style homework sheet to do.

Year 3

- This question is difficult to answer as a parent. I would hope that the teachers would be able to assess whether there has been a positive or negative affect on learning as a result of the change in homework style. I haven't noticed any negative affect.
- Please can you let us know if her levels in assessment tests completed at start of the term are better now at the end of term.
- Stopped him from doing the homework amount that he had previously had no problem doing, because he had to do it, he just got on with it. This whole term he did none.
- I have no idea as I feel it is for her teacher to say if her work as improved.
- I don't believe this approach is suitable for all levels. Some prefer a more structured, regular homework and some like the idea of 'no pressure' and no real structure.

Year 4

- I think teachers should still set work based on what the individual child is struggling on in class i.e. maths.
- I like the flexibility of the enrichment tasks because the tasks can be fitted into our schedule, more time is given to the task instead of rushing it to meet a deadline. It would have been easier and caused less arguments if the tasks were compulsory or if you stipulated a minimum number of tasks to be completed.
- When homework was done we could see in the books teacher comments/how hard he worked. We learnt spellings every night for the test at end of week. Our concern is that we can't see if spellings etc slip down or not - or indeed if spellings are done every week.
- Was a struggle to get my child to do any, as the work is not compulsory.
- My child felt pressurised to keep up with the amount of work his peers were doing
- Does not help as homework needs to be done on a regular basis i.e. spellings/ maths/writing.
- Until the Sats, I feel we have to reserve initial judgement,. I am equally concerned that children going up to Senior School will suffer greatly having not been used to doing 'homework' before. I feel that feedback you get from them will be the most telling of all.
- My son prefers the enrichment tasks to the old style homework. However, he was only happy to do the tasks that he wanted to do, there are a number of tasks he wouldn't do because they were 'boring or hard'. Also because it was voluntary there wasn't any motivation to complete the tasks. It also seemed like the tasks were more like projects - as though alot more time and effort needed to go into them. We also feel that his spelling has gone downhill now that he isn't doing regular tests.
- It was good in some ways, but, I felt there should have been more ways to help with things that were being struggled on in class (re. maths, spellings and writing).
- My children and myself like 'ROUTINE' - if its not happening same day every week like before 'old style' then its forgotten! It needs to be fixed in their heads i.e. Tues - literacy in for Thurs, Thurs - numeracy in for Mon, like before
- I hope homework that is given every week returns to the classes as I feel you cannot keep track of any work which is being completed. Also need to reinstate spellings to learn at home. BRING BACK HOMEWORK.

- I don't believe the homework has made a difference to my child's learning. There was no mathematical homework on the sheet and I have no idea if my son knows the spellings he should for his age and ability and I was told at parents evening that there is no spelling testing done in the classroom at all anymore.

Year 5

- For once they enjoyed doing homework
- Because there was no tight deadline my child decided there was no rush to do it. Also because there was a choice to complete it or not we as parents found it very hard to motivate our child. Please bring back homework and weekly spellings. My child has now gone into class and asked for proper old style homework, her choice , her decision.
- The only problem being that the children were given a long time to complete the tasks and I confess, we forget about them for a while.
- My child has never had a problem completing homework, but showed very little motivation for completing these activities. All you have achieved is fierce competition between parents over who can make the best model for their child. You have taken away the childs need to understand the importance of completing work to a set timetable. Again you have given the choice to the child.
- Please carry this on

Year 6

- She was much more involved with the task she chose and enjoyed it, however she could have learnt a lot more in the 6 weeks since then.
- Learnt more by doing this.
- I feel that year 6 children should have the discipline of homework to prepare them for secondary education.
- This approach to homework is not helping with what will be expected of him at Manor and is therefore not supporting his transition from primary to secondary education. I can however see how it is good for younger years and would have supported this in year 4 and below. Definitely not in Year 6. I hope to see a change and would be happy to attend another meeting for change.