



Wadebridge School

Limited Company Registered UK (Charitable status)
Company No: 07999988

Headteacher: Miss T. Yardley B.A. Hons.
Gonvena Hill, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6BU



Telephone Number: 01208 812881
Fax Number: 01208 814883

E-Mail: enquiries@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk
Website: www.wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk

Ref: DT/djc

9 September 2014

Dear Parents

Those of you who are not new to the school may have heard from your son or daughter that we are no longer using 'planners' or 'learning logs' this year. Those of you who are 'new parents' to Wadebridge School may be wondering about how your son or daughter will be helped to organise themselves, in what is a more complicated set up than they are probably used to at their primary school. Below we will explain the way in which students will now be set tasks such as homework to complete, and the role of the new 'red book'.

This term we are starting a new method for setting homework which is an online system. Several other secondary schools in Cornwall have been using this system over the last year and reports have been very positive. The website is called Show My Homework and it is easily accessed from a quick Google search for 'show my homework wadebridge' or from the Wadebridge School website, or via a downloadable app.

<https://wadebridgeschool.showmyhomework.co.uk>

All students from Years 7 to 11 will be given details next week as to how to log onto the site using their own unique user name and password. Parents of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will also be given their own user name and password so that they can access the site independently of their son or daughter. In order to encourage the development of organisation and self-motivation it is not envisaged that parents of students in Year 10 and 11 will routinely be allocated user names and passwords. However if there is concern about a student not keeping on top of homework then a discussion between the Key Stage 4 Team, student and parent might result in a temporary allocation of a user name.

Once a student logs onto the site then they will be able to see all homework tasks set to them, including relevant attached documents, links to other websites etc. Dates that each task is due to be completed by are clearly seen on the site, along with a suggestion of how long the task might be expected to take to complete. They will then indicate on the site when a task has been finished.

Students have been given a hardback 'red book' in which they can make notes. For example they might choose to write down the name of a subject that they know has set a homework task so that can go home and look up the details for it. They might write down reminders about needing PE kit or food for D&T lessons etc. There will no longer be any need for students to have to try to write down enough details about a homework task in their planner for a) them to be able to do it when they return home and b) for a parent to be able to understand what has been set and help support its completion! Parents have sometimes used the old Learning Log to write a short note to a tutor or teacher and this can still be done via the red book, although the email address

parents@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk with the name of the person to whom you would like the message forwarded is a much more reliable way of making sure that the teacher does get your message; students can sometimes be reluctant to show us notes from home!

The old planners had a student's timetable, now in the red book, and they will be given a school calendar this week on which to be able to record key dates, and in order to check whether it is week 1 or 2.

Just a reminder that students are able to use computers during the day in both the Library and Curriculum Support area so will be able to log on and check homework before school, at break, lunch or after school. We are currently reviewing our policy on the use of mobile phones and other devices in school, so expect an update this term once we have completed our review.

Other local schools at the start of their launches have found that there are a small number of students whose home situation makes it difficult to access the website. Please use the slip below if access to the internet is a problem for your son or daughter so that we can contact you personally and discuss how we can support you with this issue.

Your son/daughter will be shown how the website works once it has been introduced to them next week in school, and will be hopefully be able to share the information with you! However we are running a series of drop-in sessions for any parents who would like more support with familiarising themselves with the website. These will run in the school library on:

Tuesday 16th September at 3.30pm 4.30pm 5.30pm or 6.30pm

Just turn up at whatever time suits you best and we can talk you through how to use the new system to help support your son/daughter with their home learning.

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions but still need further support then let us know on the slip below.

Finally, this is a new system for us and so do please pass on any feedback that might be useful.

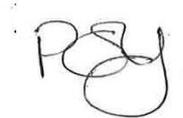
Thank you for your support.



Mrs Talling (Assistant Head)



Mr Petchey (KS3 Leader) &



Mrs Onderdonck-Young (KS4 Leader)

Reply slip to be returned to School Reception

NAME OF CHILD _____ FORM: _____

Circle below and return to Reception if relevant

- My son/daughter will have difficulty accessing the Show My Homework website outside of school hours and I would like someone to contact me in order to discuss this issue please.
- I am unable to attend the meeting on Tuesday 16th September and would like someone to contact me to further support me in using the Show My Homework website please.

PARENT NAME CONTACT NUMBER