



Homework

Learning or Limiting?

Feedback and Discussion from Consultation

Thursday, 21st November 2024



Homework – What is our ‘why’?

School

- Support the learning in class;
- Consolidate;
- Practice

Home

- Have a better understanding of what's happening in school
- Support appropriately at home
- Reinforce what is happening in school



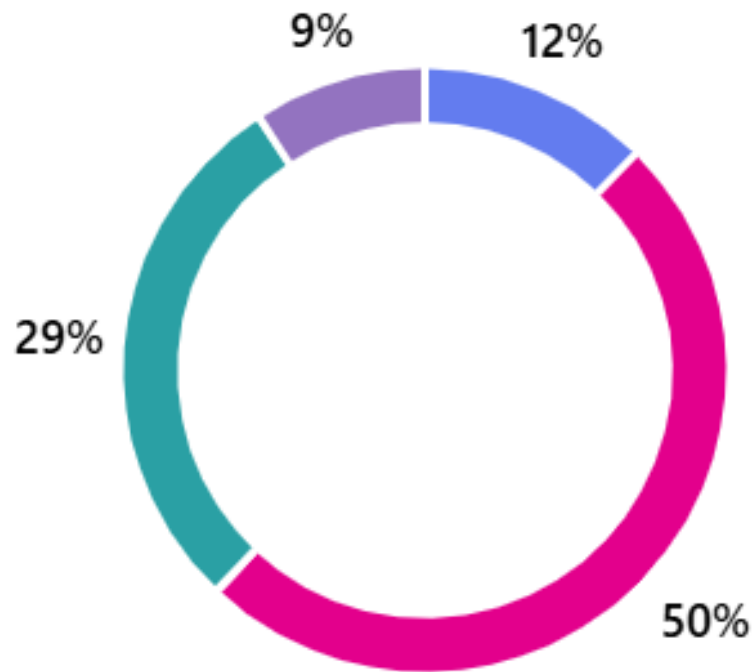
“And the survey said..?” (Feedback – Parents/Carers and Children)

- Over 53% response on survey from Parents and Carers



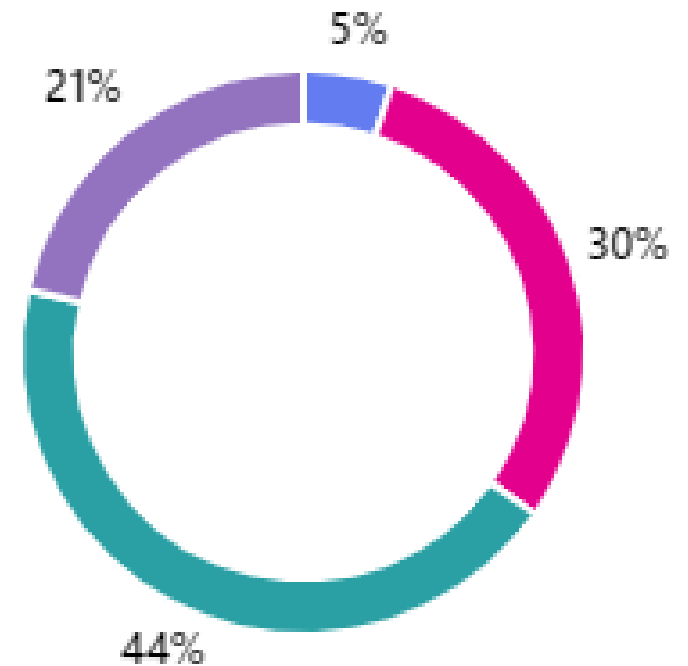
Homework is enjoyable

**Parent/Carer –
62% strongly/agree**



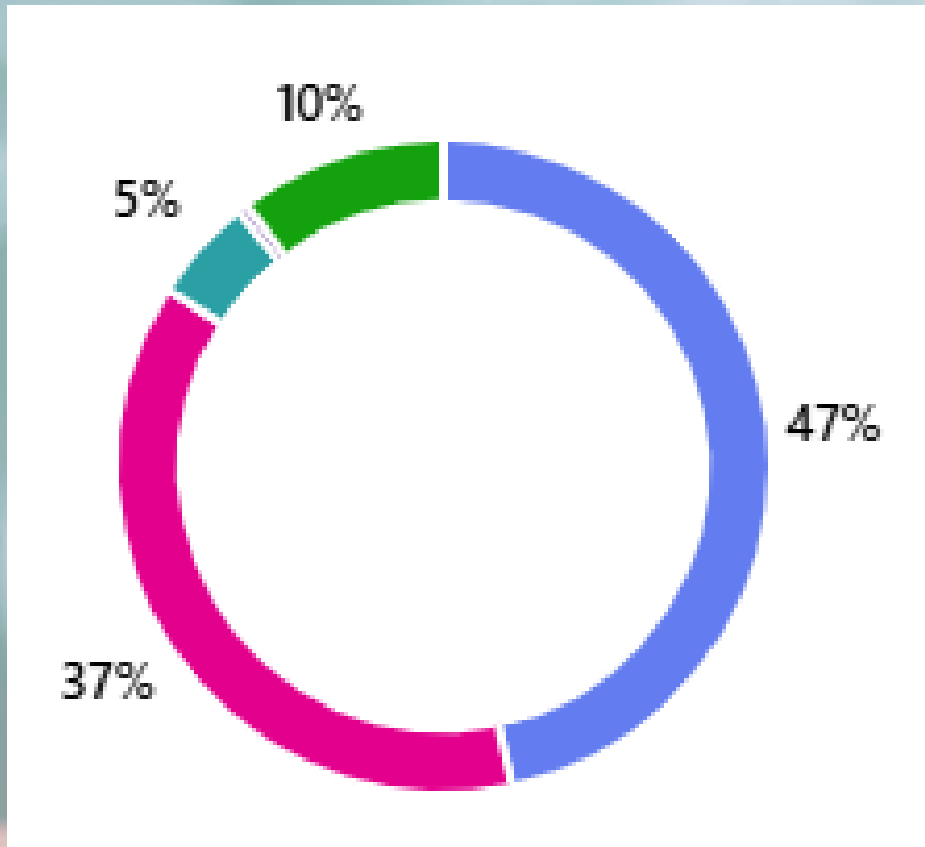
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Pupil –
35% strongly/agree**

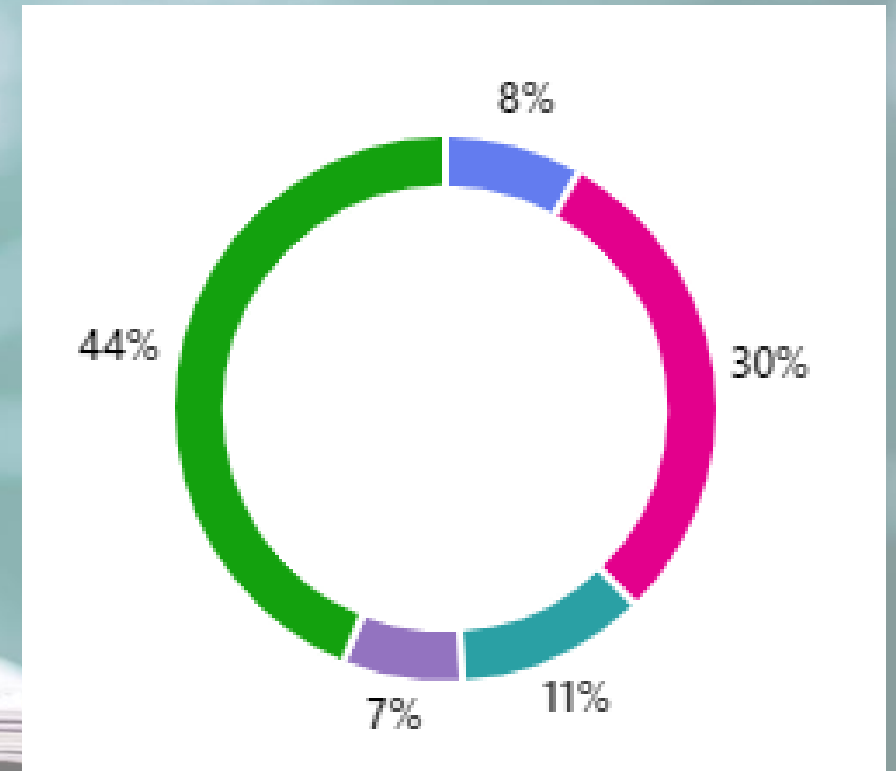


Homework helps class learning

**Parent/Carer –
84% strongly/agree**



**Pupil –
38% strongly/agree**



- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Not sure

Prof Hattie - The effect



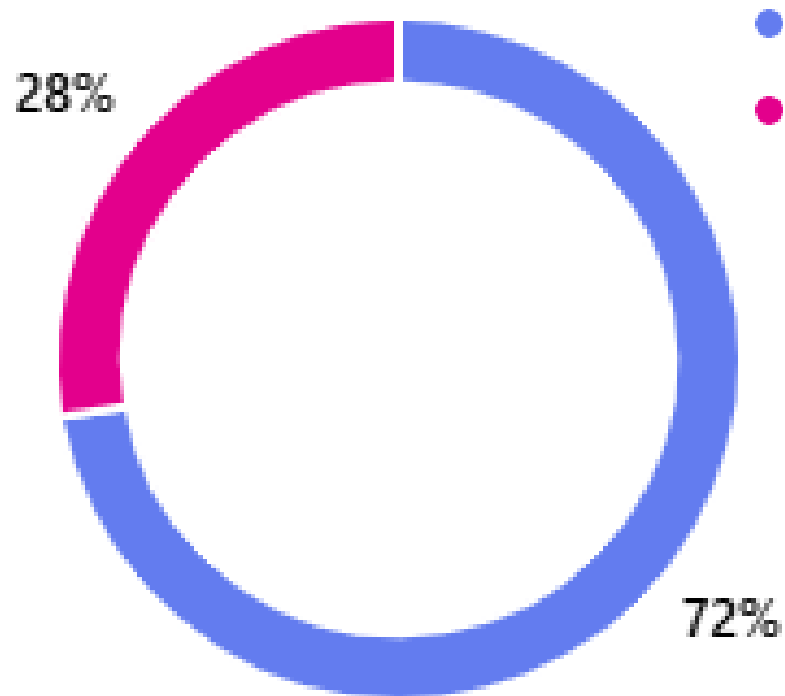
- “Homework in primary school has an effect of around zero. In high school it’s larger ... which is why we need to get it right, not why we need to get rid of it.
- “Certainly I think we get over obsessed with homework. Five to 10 minutes has the same effect as one hour to two hours. The worst thing you can do with homework is give kids projects. The best thing you can do is to reinforce something you have already learnt.”



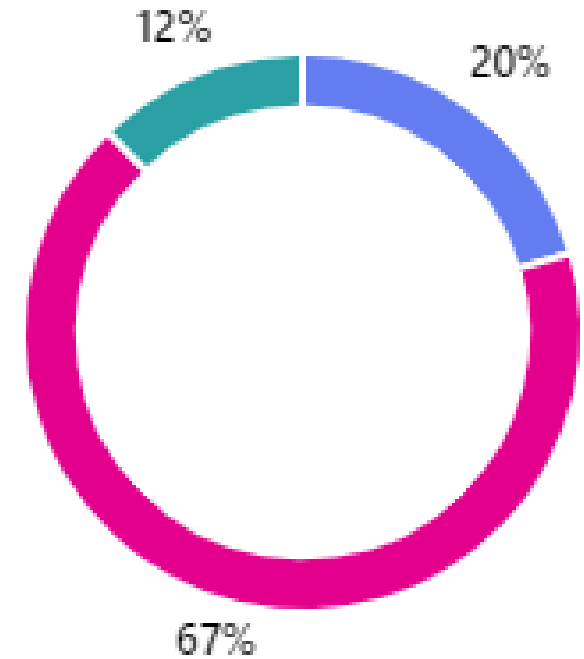
Preferred type of homework

**Parent/Carer –
72% want routine tasks**

**Pupil –
67% want choice and creativity**



- Routinely set tasks (eg, spelling, tables, reading, etc)
- Tasks that have some choice and creativity (eg, make a poster/model/movie/etc)

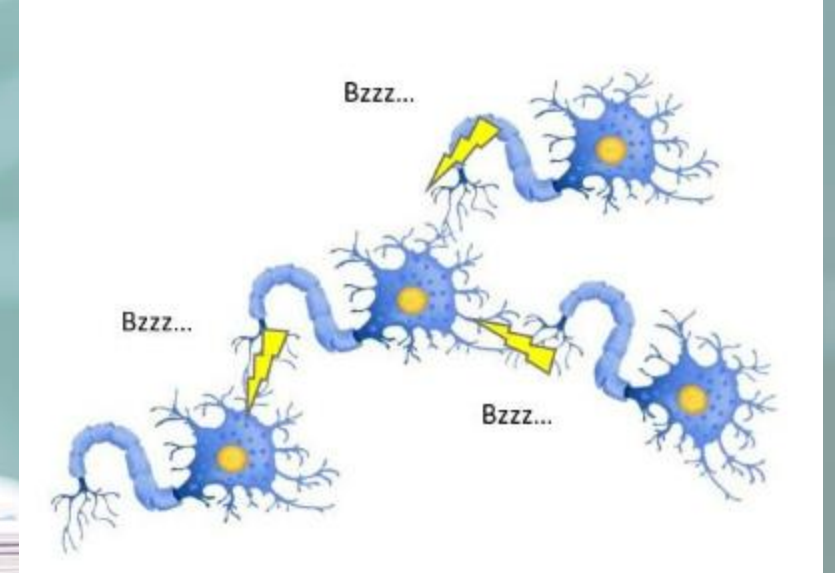


What is the science of Learning?

“It takes 400 repetitions of an act or a learning skill (400 times!) to get one new synapse.

OR 12 repetitions with joy and laughter and you get a synapse because there's a release of a chemical dopamine.”

(Dr Karyn Purvis 2015)



What is, “the right kind of homework”?

- Consolidation – NO NEW LEARNING and NO ‘PROJECTS’.
- Practice – Get those neurons forming
- Short Bursts - Avoid satiation; a tired or overloaded brain doesn't work.



King of them all....



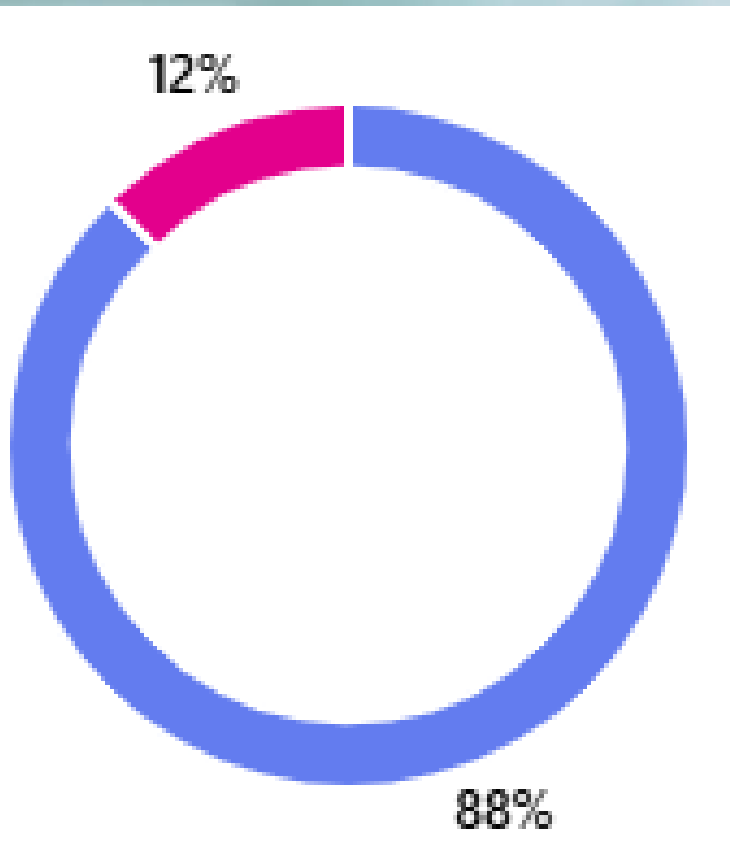
- **Reading. Every Day.**
- Children should read with an adult or be read to every day.
- “Reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.”
(Pearson Education, UK)



Preferred 'length' of homework

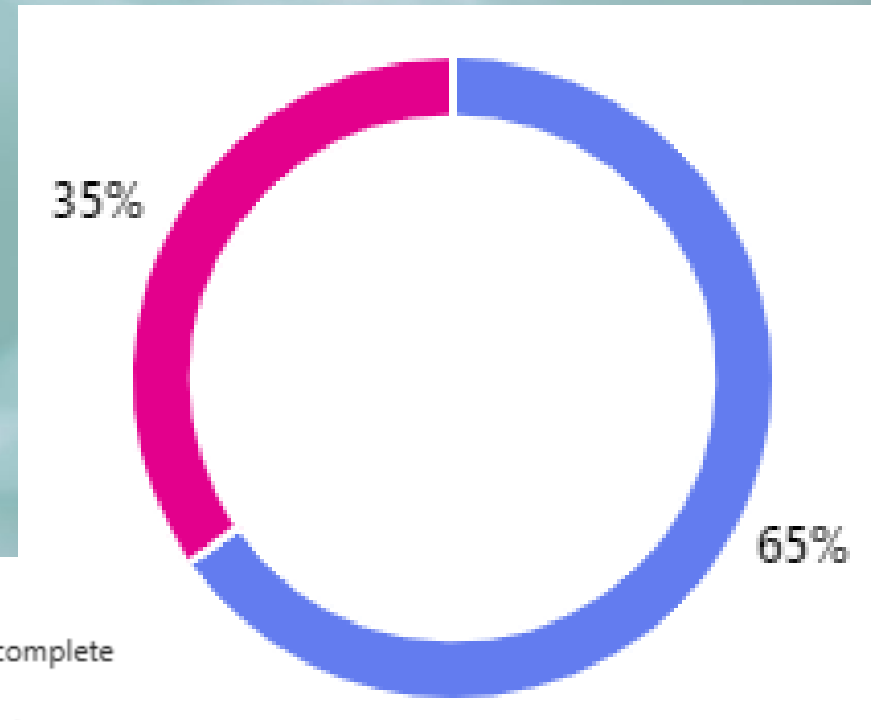
Parent/Carer

88% - weekly tasks



Pupil

65% - longer to complete



- My child has smaller homework tasks to complete within a few days
- My child has bigger/more tasks to complete over a few weeks, eg in the form of a "choice" grid.

Flexibility is key.

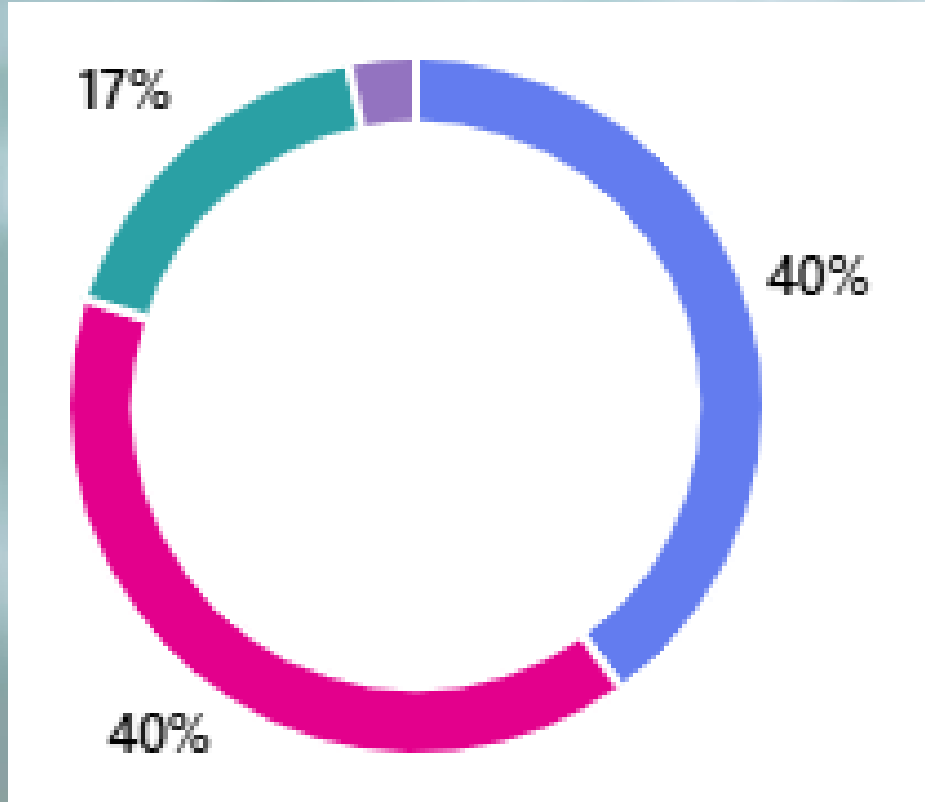


- You know your child and you know your family's schedule.
- Homework over a weekend is most definitely not encouraged but, if that is your choice, that's fine.
- Homework is not compulsory. If your child is too busy to do homework, they are learning lots of other things.

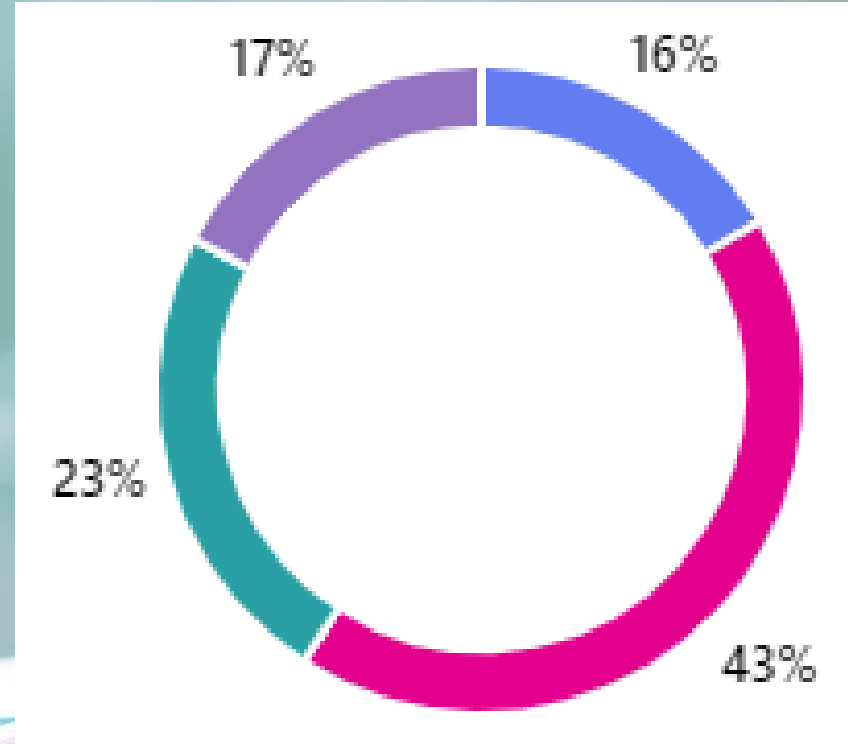


Helpful to get feedback on homework

Parents/Carers
80% strongly/agree



Pupils –
59% strongly/agree



- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Feedback v Feedforward

- Because we are consolidating learning, the feedback is happening constantly in class.
- It is very important to let the children know why we are asking them to do homework.
- Practice and Consolidation.



What is it going to look like?

- “Here’s what we were learning in class last week.”
- **READING** (Preferably, own choice and for enjoyment.)
- **Spelling/Grammar/Literacy** task (not for a test)
- **Numeracy** – practice of what was learned last week.
- **Oracy** – This is a focus for us as a learning community. Encourage your child to share/question/discuss class learning at home.



LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING

Keep Learning

READING TAKES
YOU EVERYWHERE
SO READ MORE
BOOKS!

BE PASSIONATE
BE CURIOUS
BE INQUISITIVE
TRY NEW THINGS
AND IDEAS

COLLABORATE
BE ACTIVE
ASK QUESTIONS
NETWORK

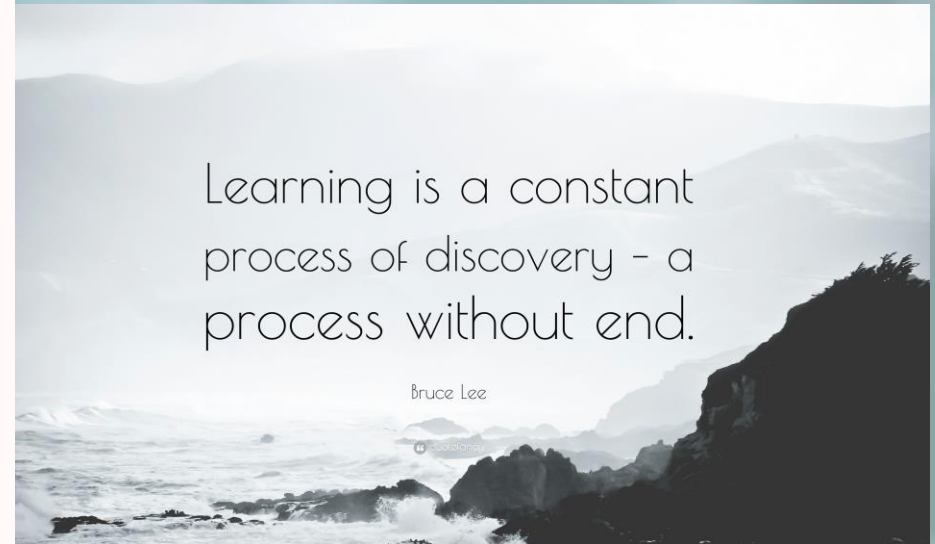
USE YOUR
IMAGINATION
CREATIVITY
TAKE RISKS

HAVE A
GROWTH
MINDSET



Learning is a constant
process of discovery - a
process without end.

Bruce Lee



Questions?

