HOMEWORK POLICY

The school acknowledges the importance of children participating in a rich and varied family life involving things such as hobbies, interests, recreational/leisure time activities, family interaction and recognises their distinct educational value to the growth and development of children.

As such, homework should be viewed as part of the relationship between parents catering for the needs of their children and the school providing opportunity to integrate school learning with the home for the purpose of enrichment and reinforcement of the school curriculum.

AIMS:

1. To provide the opportunity for parents to interact and participate in their child’s education.
2. To revise, extend or complete work related to activities being done at school.
3. To further develop study habits and skills, organisational and time-management skills.
4. To enhance the motivation for self-improvement and learning.

GUIDELINES:

a. School’s Responsibility:-

- Teachers should ensure that homework is within the child’s capabilities, is relevant and goals are achievable by all students
- Work requirements and time lines should be reasonable and children are expected to meet them
- Teachers will communicate with children and parents regarding the purpose of the homework
- Teachers will provide appropriate feedback on completed homework
- Teachers and/or the school will communicate with parents when set homework requirements are not regularly completed.

b. Parent’s responsibility:

- To notify the teacher if there is a problem with the work or the timeline
- To ensure that children have the opportunity to complete the work within the given time.
- To encourage children to organise themselves to complete work within the given time.
- To promote a positive attitude towards school work and the school.
- To ensure the student has a satisfactory work environment at home with the necessary equipment to carry out the tasks.
c. Student’s Responsibility:

- To accept responsibility for their own homework
- To complete set tasks within the time frame
- To communicate any problems and need for assistance to their parents and teachers
- To present work according to guidelines established by their teachers
- To take responsibility and present work according to guidelines established by their teachers.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

- The amount, how often, and when homework is given, should be sensitive to the child’s age and needs.

- As they progress through the school it is expected children need to plan and complete homework, when allocated, even though they may have other commitments.

- To avoid homework becoming a ‘chore’, it is suggested tasks be varied, not always the same work they are doing at school, and cover a range of subject material.

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK PATTERN

1. The school acknowledges the importance of literacy as a determinant for future success, thus is expected that all children will read regularly at home, preferably every night. This reading may take many forms depending on the age and interests of the student.

2. Reading at home may involve: reading of ‘share’ books, books from the school library and/or public library; research material for assignments, newspapers and magazines, etc.

3. The school acknowledges the importance of numeracy. It is vital all students both practise and continue to learn counting patterns and their ‘tables’.

4. The school acknowledges the controlled use of computers within the home situation where they promote appropriate reading, writing, maths and logical thinking processes.
Homework Outline:

While expectations may vary from teacher to teacher as to the amount and nature of work set, the following is offered as a guide for parents. If homework has not been formally set, it would be appropriate to engage your child in the activities listed below -

**Grades 5/6: Time - approximately half an hour per day**

- Reading
- Maths Tables/maths problems
- Spelling/writing of stories, letters and the like
- Projects/assignments
- Completion of work
- Drawing, making models and other creative activities such as music

**Grades 3 & 4 Time - approximately twenty minutes per day**

- Reading
- Maths Tables/maths problems
- Spelling
- Projects/assignments
- Completion of work
- Drawing, making models and other creative activities such as music

**Prep/1/2 Time - approximately 15 minutes per day**

- Reading/being read to
- Maths number facts
- Spelling/word study activities
- Drawing, making models and other creative activities such as music

The above activities provide an overview of suitable homework if no formal homework has been set. However, there are numerous activities and games, which are able to provide children with wonderful learning opportunities when enjoyed as a family. These include games such as Yahtzee, word games, trivial pursuit etc that can enhance language development, cooperation, maths etc.