

## **Homework Policy**

### **Why give homework?**

- To practice the essential skill of reading. It benefits all aspects of a child's learning.
- To provide a link between teacher and parent.
- To develop a child's concentration skills and develop a work ethic.
- Homework is meant to be achievable by a child and children are expected to do their homework to the best of their individual ability – no more, no less.

### **How is Homework given?**

- Homework will be printed and sent in the child's homework folder/Seesaw on a Monday. This will include any physical sheets that may be needed.
- Sheets should be returned to school for marking in this folder.
- Senior classes use a Homework Copy.

### **How often is homework given?**

- All homework is given on Monday to be returned by Friday. It can however be completed whenever convenient during the week.
- Additional homework may be given during the week in Senior Classes in Maths particularly.
- Homework will begin in October. No homework will be given for the month of June.

### **What is the content of homework?**

- Homework will contain a balance between reading tasks, phonics/spelling tasks, tables, and written tasks.
- Please note that homework time devoted to reading and oral learning is as important as written work.
- Children often feel that reading and "learning by heart" is not real homework. Parents can play an important role in listening to reading and items to be learned ensuring this work is done well.

### **How much help should parents give?**

- Parents should try to help their children with homework by:
  - Providing them with a suitable place and time to do their homework.
  - To prevent interruptions or distractions, like T.V. or other children.
- Children should do written homework themselves and parents should help when the child has difficulty.
- If a child has difficulty with homework, the parents should help the child to overcome the difficulty with further explanation or examples, but not by actually doing the homework for the child. In this case the parent should email the teacher explaining the problem.
- Shared reading is not homework in the regular sense and it is simply meant to be an enjoyable exercise between parent and child. If it's not enjoyable, shared reading should not be done.

**How often should parents monitor homework?**

- Parents should check their child's homework on Monday to establish what is to be completed in the week. It will usually be in a similar format.
- Check that your child has completed the homework including oral/reading tasks. Don't assume that older children are completing the homework.
- Written messages to your child's teacher about homework should be emailed. We will check these messages regularly. Let us know if your child is having any difficulty.

**How often do teachers monitor homework?**

- Teachers will check the homework before the following Monday.
- Teachers may however check homework as it is completed during the week.
- Teachers will use this assessment to give class feedback and monitor learning.

**When should homework be done?**

- Each family situation is different - both parents working, child minders, etc. Homework should be completed at a time that suits you and your family.
- Homework, however, should never be left until morning time before school.
- If for any reason it is difficult to complete all homework focus on reading and spelling.

This policy will be reviewed as necessary. It was ratified by the Board of Management on

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Chairperson, Board of Management

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Principal