HOMWORK POLICY

YEAR DRAFTED: 2014
Review: 2016

RATIONALE
Homework is an integral part of children’s education. It helps maintain communication between the school and home on the child’s academic growth and it reinforces basic skills and concepts taught in class.

Homework should be regular, relaxed and non-threatening. Children should be given homework which involves familiar concepts or skills. Parents should not be required to “teach” anything to their child as part of homework set. Homework which creates stress in the child and/or parent should be discontinued and a note of explanation sent to the teacher the next day. Homework should provide a time for parents to positively reinforce and encourage their children’s efforts.

ORGANISATION
Homework will be set for Monday to Thursday evenings only, leaving weekends free.

POLICY STATEMENT
In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise that a positive educational partnership between home and school is important. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. At Mother Teresa we believe;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homework is:</th>
<th>Homework is not</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• A chance to engage parents in their child’s learning journey</td>
<td>• Meaningless worksheets</td>
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<td>• A chance to provide feedback to students and parents</td>
<td>• Unfinished class work</td>
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<td>• An avenue for students and parents to communicate their learning</td>
<td>• Work that will be graded as a stand alone task</td>
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<td>• An opportunity to consolidate and reinforce known skills</td>
<td>• Completing untaught and concepts tasks</td>
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<td>• Reading each night</td>
<td>• Whole projects completed at home</td>
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Types and amounts of homework:

PP – 2 (Learning to read)
Homework in PP-2 may include and should not exceed 10 minutes a night:
  • Reading each night
  • Word Work
  • Maths games
  • Occasional tasks for school eg: interview grandparents, gather materials for Science experiments

Year 3 – 5 (Reading to learn)
Homework tasks in 3-5 may include and should not exceed 20 minutes a night:
  • Reading each night
  • Word Work
  • Maths games
  • Previewing upcoming class material eg: iTuneU teacher developed, Google Classroom
  • Gathering of materials for ERPs
  • Occasional tasks for school eg: interview grandparents, gather materials for Science experiments

Parents can help by discussing:
  • When is it a good time to do any homework?
  • Where is the best place for homework to be done?
  • What helps concentration?
  • How long should my homework take me?
  • Who should I ask for help and how much help should I expect?

It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance. It is also important for parents to recognise that it is the children’s responsibility to complete the work.