

HOMWORK POLICY

AIMS OF HOMEWORK:

- (i) To practice and reinforce work done in school.
- (ii) To develop good work habits and independent work.
- (iii) To provide a link between parent and teacher

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- (i) all classes usually have homework from Monday to Thursday. In general Junior Infants do not get homework until second term.
- (ii) if a child neglects homework on a regular basis it may be necessary to assign that homework at weekends.
- (iii) if a child neglects schoolwork it may be assigned as homework at an appropriate time..
- (iv) the homework is usually based on school work already done in class.
- (v) however, sometimes in senior classes, some homework is designed to challenge children's ability and creativity.

SUBJECT MATTER:

Homework may contain a mixture of any of the following:-

- Learning e.g. tables, spelling, poetry, songs, etc.
- Reading (formal/pleasure)
- Writing (functional/creative)
- Research
- Maths

TIME:

The following are guidelines for time spent at homework. Different children will complete the same homework in different lengths of time. Time spent will vary from day to day and also from the beginning to the end of the school year. It is important to remember that it is the quality and not the quantity of homework that matters. The following are general guidelines only:

- Infants up to 15 mins.
- 1st & 2nd Class up to 25 mins.
- 3rd & 4th Class up to 40 mins.
- 5th & 6th up to 1 hr.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT:

Parents can give valuable support to the work of the school and help the child greatly by showing positive interest and encouragement with homework.

Parents should

- check their children's homework journal every evening, ensure correct homework is done and then sign it.
- provide children with a suitable place and time to do their homework.
- prevent interruptions or distractions.

Children should do written homework themselves and parents should only 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 explanations or examples but not by actually doing the homework for the child. If difficulties persist the parent should write a note to the teacher explaining the problem.

COMMUNICATION:

Parents should communicate with the class teacher when:-

- their child cannot do homework due to family circumstances
- their child cannot do homework because she/he cannot understand some aspect.
- if the time being spent is often longer than the recommended amount of time.

Teachers should communicate with parents if homework is not done regularly.

This Policy was drafted by Staff, B.O.M. and Parents in 2010. The suggestions of Rang V & VI were also taken on board. It was ratified by the B.O.M. on the 22nd of June, 2011.