HOMEWORK PLAN (YEARS 1 – 6)

RATIONALE:
"Homework" is purposeful out of class learning that consolidates classroom learning and seeks to build good study practices.

PRINCIPLES:
- Teachers communicate with parents at the first parent meeting in Term One to inform of procedures, time commitments and expectations,
- Homework is relevant to the child’s educational needs and is an opportunity for home and school to work co-operatively to enhance student learning,
- Homework needs to be at a level that allows the student to achieve competence independently,
- Homework is a strategy that assists in the development of student’s self-discipline and independent learning skills in an environment outside school,
- Homework should have an appropriate time frame to ensure that it does not impact on the development of personal and social skills and / or impact on ‘family time”,
- If homework is set, it is routinely checked by the teacher,
- To be successful, homework needs parent support.

Homework Plan (K and PP)
In this phase of schooling no formal homework is set. However, children can benefit from the following:-
- Parent / caregiver reading to the child daily,
- Counting objects whenever the opportunity arises,
- Allowing students to assist with cooking and shopping,
- Talking about their day at school,
- Having stationery available for the child to use,
- Encouraging activities that build on both gross motor and fine motor skills.

Homework Plan (Years 1 – 3)
Homework in these early years should be limited to short tasks. Some examples of tasks in this area are:-
- Phonics, spelling and recognition practice,
- Nightly oral reading,
- Identifying pictures of interest in all forms of print,
- Practice and reinforcement of number facts as appropriate.
Homework Plan (Years 4 – 5)
Homework during this phase of schooling is developed around a simple and effective routine that assists children to consolidate the skills taught in class. It also provides a vehicle to introduce children to the process of research and independent investigation.

Examples of homework in this phase of learning are, but not limited to:-
- Reading for pleasure,
- Practice in the reinforcement of number facts and multiplication tables,
- Practice of mathematics taught in class,
- Introducing research and problem solving tasks,
- Journal work,
- Spelling accuracy,
- Writing texts in different genres.

Homework Plan (Year 6)
Effective homework in this year level includes, but goes beyond, practice and reinforcement exercises as in previous years.

Effective homework seeks to:-
- Strengthen independent study skills,
- Motivate children to study.

Examples of tasks to achieve this include:-
- Tasks arising from class work,
- Tasks that require the development of time management skills,
- Reading for pleasure,
- Book reviews,
- Research and investigative skills tasks,
- Thinking challenges.

Stress Free Homework at Home
The following recommendations are included for parent information :-
- Provide your child with a quiet time and place to engage with homework,
- Establish a routine and be aware of homework procedures,
- Ensure that your child has the necessary equipment to complete homework tasks.

Note: Supervised access to the Internet may be beneficial to students when engaging in research tasks.