

4.2

Homework (Revised Nov. 2022)

- ◆ The results of a Monkey Survey in November 2022 showed that 74% of our parents thought that homework was important in primary school. 82% of pupils surveyed also thought that homework was important. This policy reflects this and other feedback given to us by parents, pupils and teachers and aims to ensure homework is worthwhile and appropriate to all abilities.
- ◆ The school operates a policy of giving appropriate homework to each class with a defined time limit. Homework can be a very useful means of keeping lines of communication with parents open whilst, at the same time, reporting on a child's progress. Homework enhances the pupil's ability to timetable, organize and focus.
- ◆ As a general rule, every child is given homework each weeknight. Parents are asked to ensure that their children complete the homework each night. **In the event of the homework not being attempted or not being completed please forward a note of explanation to the teacher.** There is no requirement to 'catch up' on homework if it has not been completed.
- ◆ Each child should have a school homework notebook (2nd to 6th inclusive) and or homework copies.
- ◆ **Aladdin and See Saw are both used for assigning and correcting homework.**
- ◆ Do not do the child's homework for him/her. Work set for homework will have been prepared in class. Please check your child's homework for neatness and point out mistakes.
- ◆ Changes have taken place in the way in which certain areas of Maths are being taught. In helping your child, please adhere to the methods being used in school as providing alternative methods may lead to confusion.
- ◆ Oral work is as important as written work. Please listen to the child read, and examine spellings and tables.
- ◆ Parents should check homework notebook and/or homework each night.
- ◆ **ORT is assigned every night for homework. The reading record must be signed every night.**

- ◆ As a general rule, homework is not given at the weekends.

HOMEWORK FOR VARIOUS CLASSES

Junior Infants

As part of the reading programme, the pupil is given a word bag in which a number of words are regularly added. These words must be practised each night. The main emphasis of the infant programme is on oral language and it is important to listen to your child as he relates the day's news, and repeats rhymes and songs.

Senior Infants

Preparation of reading, a small amount of Maths, and there may be some writing.

First Class

Reading, a small amount of Maths, some spellings and tables there may be some writing.

Second to Sixth Class

- Reading/Spelling.
- Maths: Sums as a revision of day's work Tables to be learned
- Some writing may be given as a means of revising day's work.

Reading

It is primarily in the home that the habit of reading is fostered. Encourage your child to join the library and help him to appreciate that reading can be fun and not a chore which is confined to school or homework. Encourage reading in free time and during holidays.

Problems with Reading

Children with reading difficulties may be referred to the Learning Support Teacher or Resource Teacher. For a support programme to be successful, it will require the encouragement and active co-operation of parents. Specifically, parents are asked to listen to their child reading on a nightly basis. Use the method which has been outlined above. Don't panic about the child's reading or cause him to panic. Be positive. The road to good reading may not be smooth, but the child will get there in the end.

Tables

Addition/subtraction tables are taught in Second Class, while multiplication tables form a large part of the Third Class programme. This work is then

reinforced in the senior classes.

Spelling

Spelling is taught from Senior Infants onwards. Spellings are taken from the graded spelling programme which is in use in the school.

Handwriting

The children are taught the basic steps of a joined script style. While readiness is a factor, it is to be hoped that most pupils will be using a joined script by the end of Third Class.

Recorder

Pupils in First to Sixth Class inclusive follow a recorder programme at school. The success of this programme depends on pupils practising at home. Please encourage your child to play at home and give them the gift of Music.

How Much Homework Should Your Child Expect?

Junior/Senior infants: Drawing, preliminary reading, sounds/words, matching shapes and pictures or listening to stories read by parents.

First/Second class: 20-30 minutes

Third/Fourth class: 30-40 minutes

Fifth/Sixth class: 40-50 minutes

Once pupils reach the times above they may stop. Parents are requested to write a very brief note of explanation. Parents should contact the class teacher if their child is consistently having difficulties with homework.

No homework is given during the week leading up to the Christmas, Easter and summer holidays.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Principal

Date: _____

