

ST. JUDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL.

HOMEWORK POLICY.

Homework Policy

ST. JUDE'S MISSION STATEMENT

Mission

“At St. Jude’s Catholic School we will support our children to enable them to reach their full potential, thereby empowering them to be caring individuals capable of critical, independent thought.

Aims

1. We aim to help our children to live their lives as good Christians by:

- Developing a sense of right and wrong so that they can make good choices in their lives.
- Building warm and supportive friendships.
- Supporting them as they seek to make Jesus someone special in their lives.
- Enhancing their understanding of the family values passed on to them by their parents and the parish.

2. We aim to help each of our children to achieve their full potential by:

- Providing a broad and interesting curriculum to allow each child to develop his or her abilities in the 6 recognised key skills.
- Encouraging them to work well both as individuals and as members of a team.
- Providing support and challenge for all children regardless of their abilities.
- Providing parents with regular, clear information on their child’s progress behaviour, attitude to work and attainment.

3. We aim to help our children to be useful members of society by:

- Valuing and respecting all members of our school community.
- Encouraging children to realise that they have to think not only of themselves, but also of others who make up our wider world family.
- Understanding that while we depend on other people to do things for us, they also depend on us to do things for them.

Rationale

- Homework is an opportunity for children to practice skills and learn facts in the secure environment of their home.
- It is an opportunity for parents and children to celebrate progress and success and to work towards realistic targets for learning.
- Parents and teachers can work in effective partnership to educate the children in their care.
- For homework to be successful it is necessary for a positive attitude to working at home to be fostered within the family.

Purpose of Homework

1. To develop an effective partnership between school and parents.
2. To provide motivation for learning for children.
3. To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding.
4. To provide opportunities for children to learn with their parents’ support and help.
5. To develop self-confidence and self-discipline in our children.

Homework is not intended to be undertaken by children on their own. Parental support and encouragement is a requirement.

Marking Policy

Marking of homework will be appropriate to the tasks set.

This will include:

- Testing and reporting to parents of attainment and progress.
- Self or Peer assessment.
- Parental assessment - reporting attainment to teacher.
- Parents acting as 'writing buddy' to edit children's writing.

Expectations

Key Stage 1

Reception

Children will bring home work to celebrate with their parents. This is very important to develop a positive attitude to home/school partnership and self-esteem.

Teachers may ask parents to practice specific skills with their child e.g.:

- Holding a pencil correctly.
- Getting dressed and undressed without help.
- Colouring in without going over lines.
- Finger painting.
- Counting.

Years 1 and 2

RE

Parents will be told each half term the RE topic being studied by their child. Parents are encouraged to discuss the topic with their child and to pray with their child each evening before bedtime. Parents are also asked to read or tell their child Bible stories from both the old and New Testament and to take their child to mass on a regular basis.

Reading

All children will regularly bring home a book bag with a library book of their choice. A 'Parents' Comments' book will also be brought home. Parents are encouraged to read the book with their children and then discuss the book e.g.:

- Who is the author?
- What is the title?
- Is it fiction or non-fiction?
- Who are the characters?
- Are you enjoying the book? - Why?

Spelling

Children will bring home a list of spellings throughout the year. Parents are asked to help children to learn these words by the “Look, Cover, Write, Check” method - (As detailed in the appendix of this policy)

Parents are asked to check a child’s spelling attainment. Teachers will check whether the words are spelled correctly in the context of extended writing in school.

Maths

Children in Years 1 and 2 are expected to know their number bonds to 100. Parents are asked to give children opportunities to practice their mathematical knowledge and skills in ‘real life’ situations e.g.:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <u>Shopping</u> | - | Adding amounts to £1. Working out change from £1. |
| <u>Telling the time</u> | | Watching the clock - noting times for meals, bedtimes, going to church, favourite T.V. programmes, days of the week, months of the year. |
| <u>Measuring</u> | - | Baking - weighing and measuring. Comparing sizes and weights. |
| <u>Shapes</u> | | Recognising and naming 2D and 3D shapes around the home. |
| <u>Counting</u> | | Everything in the home. - setting the table, tins in the cupboard, pairs of socks in laundry, smarties in a tube etc. etc. |

No formal Maths homework will be set as practical experience outlined above is much more valuable to your child’s mathematical development.

Special Projects

Occasionally parents will be asked to help their child to complete additional homework for special projects e.g. Technology Week, Book Week, One World Week etc.

Key Stage 2

Year 3 and 4

RE

Parents will be told each half term the RE topic being studied by their child. Parents are encouraged to discuss the topic with their child and to pray with their child each evening before bedtime. Parents are also asked to read or tell their child Bible stories from both the old and New Testament and to take their child to mass on a regular basis.

Reading

Children will continue to bring home library books and 'Parent Comment' books. Parents are asked to discuss the book with their child and encourage them to read with fluency and expression by hearing them read approximately one page per night.

Spelling

Children will bring home a list of spellings each week. Parents are asked to help children to learn these words by the "Look, Cover, Write, Check" method - (As detailed in the appendix of this policy)

Parents are asked to check a child's spelling attainment. Teachers will check whether the words are spelled correctly in the context of extended writing in school.

Maths

Children in Key Stage 2 are expected to learn their multiplication tables - 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 10x. These will be tested on a weekly basis and attainment reported to parents at parents' evenings.

Writing

Parents will be asked to act as 'writing buddy' to help their child to edit a piece of writing. Teachers will give a check list to help parents with this task.

Special Projects

Occasionally parents will be asked to help their child to complete additional homework for special projects e.g. Technology Week, Book Week, One World Week etc.

Year 5 and 6

RE

Parents will be told each half term the RE topic being studied by their child. Parents are encouraged to discuss the topic with their child and to pray with their child each evening before bedtime. Parents are also asked to read or tell their child Bible stories from both the old and New Testament and to take their child to mass on a regular basis.

Reading

Children will continue to bring home library books and 'Parent Comment' books. Parents are asked to discuss the book with their child and encourage them to read with fluency and expression by hearing them read approximately one page per night.

Spelling

Children will bring home a list of spellings each week. Parents are asked to help children to learn these words by the "Look, Cover, Write, Check" method - (As detailed in the appendix of this policy)

Parents are asked to check a child's spelling attainment. Teachers will check whether the words are spelled correctly in the context of extended writing in school.

Maths

In addition to Year 3/4 tables 6x, 7x, 8x, 9x should be learned by heart.

Writing

Parents will be asked to act as 'writing buddy' to help their child to edit a piece of writing. Teachers will give a check list to help parents with this task.

Special Projects

Occasionally parents will be asked to help their child to complete additional homework for special projects e.g. Technology Week, Book Week, One World Week etc.

Revision

Children in year 5/6 are also given specific revision tasks to do at home with their parents, in preparation for Key Stage 2 SATs. Teachers will give guidance notes to parents for these activities.

Read, Cover, Write and Check

1. Read the words to be learned with your child. Check that they understand what the words mean.
2. Read each word - spell out the letter names for each word in turn.
3. Cover the word and write from memory, saying the letters out loud.
4. Check the spelling, correct if necessary.
5. Reward correct spellings with words of support. Do not punish incorrect spellings in any way - encourage your child to try again.

If your child becomes upset leave the homework and try again another time.