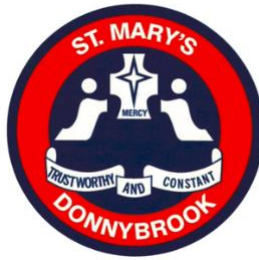


St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Donnybrook



Homework Guidelines

Current educational research indicates that completing homework in primary school has very little impact on student achievement. However, parental encouragement has a profound impact on students' achievements. To reflect current educational thinking, our emphasis has shifted from homework to home learning where students share what they know with their parents. We believe our home learning tasks should provide parents with opportunities to be involved in their children's education in engaging and meaningful ways.

1. Home learning must reflect what is happening in the classroom.
2. Home learning should be individualised and based on the students' current academic needs.
3. Children become better readers by reading material at their developmental level.
4. Projects have very little educative value for primary school students.
5. Home learning consists of reading and consolidation of mathematic concepts using either Xtra-Maths or Mathletics.
6. Children who do not have access to the internet at home, will be able to use class iPads before school to access Xtra-Maths or Mathletics.
7. From the school perspective, home learning should occur Monday to Thursday only.
8. Should a child repeatedly not engage in home learning tasks, a meeting
9. Home learning tasks may be given at the discretion of the teacher and given to students to accommodate the varying needs of the students.

Recommended time allocation for home learning:

Year Suggested Time Schedule

1. PP Reading/Counting (15 minutes)

2. Year 1 Reading/Mathletics (15 minutes)
3. Year 2 Reading/Mathletics (20 minutes)
4. Year 3 Reading/Mathletics or Xtra Maths (20 minutes)
5. Year 4 Reading/Mathletics or Xtra Maths (30 minutes)
6. Year 5 Reading/Mathletics or Xtra Maths (30 minutes)
7. Year 6 Reading/Mathletics or Xtra Maths (30 minutes)



When parents read to their children every day, they:

- increase their vocabulary,
- they model fluent and expressive reading,
- they increase their general knowledge,

And this supports them in developing comprehension and extracting meaning from what they read and hear.