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HOMEWORK POLICY

2019

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT:

The following policy was drawn up by the staff of St. Edan's National School prior to September 2002.

OVERVIEW:

Each night, Monday to Thursday, children in the Junior Room have

- English – sounds or words
- English Reading
- Spelling Workbook
- Maths Workbook

Each night, Monday to Thursday, children in the Senior Room have:

- English Reading
- English Spellings
- Irish Reading
- Irish Spellings
- Maths
- Poetry (occasionally)
- Tables
- Recorder

These are written in their Homework Journal and you are requested to sign this every evening. Please check that all the homework is attempted and is presented neatly. *Please do not correct. This is the teacher's job!*

ENGLISH READING:

JUNIOR ROOM – Readers – Each evening a reader or pages of a reader will be allocated.

1. If a “Word Bag” or Vocabulary sheet is provided, these should be attempted first. The Parent/Adult immediately provides any words where a pupil is hesitant.
2. The reading allocated is attempted next, again with assistance from the Parent/Adult when required.
3. If child becomes overly distressed, stop and write a note in the homework journal – some vocabulary may need to be revisited in the classroom.

SENIOR ROOM – My Read At Home Book – If you look at the contents page, you will notice that it has a page of reading for each night in weekly units. Following is the method that should be adopted when doing homework reading from this book. I have explained this method to the children.

1. Read the questions at the bottom of the page. (This is to give the reading focus. What am I trying to find out?)
2. Beginning with the title, the pupil reads the page aloud.
3. Parent/Adult immediately provides any words where a pupil is hesitant.
4. Pupil reads the page a second time, attempting previously hesitant words.

Pupils will also be encouraged to read each night. 10 or 15 minutes is very beneficial.

JUNIOR & SENIOR ROOM – ENGLISH SPELLINGS:

1st Class - These are from the book *Spellbound*. Each night children have two sections of workbook and one set of spellings. Spellings should always be written. A copy or jotter at home would be useful in this exercise. Children should use the strategy: **LOOK, SAY, PICTURE, COVER, WRITE, CHECK.**

2nd - 6th class - Spellings come from *My Spelling Book*. Children will get a section of each unit to learn each night. A pre-test will be done every Monday In class to determine the spellings that require particular attention during the week. The spellings should always be written. A copy or jotter at home would be useful In this exercise. They will also get a written task each night based on the spellings e.g. sentences, dictionary work etc.

SENIOR ROOM – IRISH READING (Junior Room do this in class):

Am Don Léamh – The passage for reading should be read aloud and, even if you do not understand what is being read, fluency should be encouraged. If children cannot remember how to pronounce a word, please underline it and remind them to ask for help the following day.

SENIOR ROOM - IRISH SPELLINGS:

These are from a list given by the class teacher. They will be learned over the course of the week. As for English spellings, spellings should always be written and children should use the strategy: LOOK, SAY, PICTURE, COVER, WRITE, CHECK. In addition, they should know the meaning of the word.

SENIOR ROOM- WRITTEN WORK

Each night children have one section of *Am don Léamh* to complete and maybe a written task depending on the week e.g. dictionary work, sentences etc.

JUNIOR ROOM - MATHS:

Junior Infants and Senior Infants do allocated work in *Sum Detective*. First and Second Class do a section of *Mental Maths* as the Senior Room do (see below).

SENIOR ROOM - MATHS:

One section of *Planet Maths Satellite Book* each night. The topic will have been taught in school the previous week.

The important aspect of this section of the homework is the time it takes to complete. If your child has worked consistently for approximately the time suggested below and has not managed to complete the task, please put a note in his/her Homework Journal to that effect. If the child is struggling with homework, it means that they did not understand in class when it was taught, and that the teacher needs to go through it again with them. There is no point in frustrating the matter further by their spending a lot of time trying to complete a task they do not understand.

JUNIOR ROOM - TABLES:

Second Class have a laminated sheet of tables which they practice at home according to the homework allocated by the teacher.

SENIOR ROOM - TABLES:

Tables Champion — each night as per book, one unit per week and one or two groups of tables to learn each week.

SENIOR ROOM - RECORDER:

At intervals during the year: Children should practice recorder tunes at home. Music is given weekly and should be practiced until known off by heart, if possible.

TIME TO BE GIVEN TO HOMEWORK EACH EVENING:

PLEASE NOTE THIS TIME IS FOR WRITTEN WORK ONLY. Time taken with reading and learning work will vary from child to child.

■ Junior Infants & Senior Infants	-	10 minutes
■ 1 ST CLASS	-	15 minutes
■ 2 ND & 3 RD CLASS	-	20 minutes
■ 4 TH CLASS	-	30 minutes
■ 5 TH CLASS	-	30-40 minutes
■ 6 TH CLASS	-	40-50 minutes

Children from 3rd to 6th class are expected to complete four projects throughout the year. The topic and dates will be given by the class teacher with plenty of notice.

Finally, please sign Homework Journals each evening to confirm that all homework has been attempted.

This policy will be reviewed annually, in June, by the teaching staff.

RATIFICATION:

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management.

REVIEWED & REVISED:

June 05, June 06, June 07, June 08, June 09, June 11, June 13, June 15, June 18 and June '19