

## ST PIUS X GNS HOMEWORK POLICY

### AIMS

- To consolidate work being done at school
- To keep parents in touch and involved in their children's work
- To develop and encourage the habit of independent study

### GENERAL

- Homework is given to reinforce that which is taught in school
- In general there should be a balance of learning work, reading and written work.
- Homework is given from Monday to Thursday. Normally there is no homework at weekends; however, children in middle and senior classes may sometimes be required to work independently on projects at weekends.
- Parents are encouraged to read with/to children in junior classes. Shared reading is not homework in the regular sense and is simply meant to be an enjoyable exercise between parent and child.
- Children in Senior Classes are encouraged to read library books.
- Parents and children are encouraged to discuss school activities together. This develops both the children's oral language and school links.
- It is recommended that homework would be completed in so far as is possible and that after school activities realistically should not interfere with it.
- Workbooks are intended mainly as an aid to learning and for reinforcement. They are used at the teachers' discretion and may or may not be filled in or completed during the year.

### GUIDELINES ON HOMEWORK

1. Particular attention should be paid to work with a learning content, as this is easily and most frequently neglected (e.g. tables, spellings, learning facts)
2. Parents are strongly encouraged to take an active interest in their child's homework. If homework causes worry for the pupil, parents are asked to contact the teacher.
3. Try to provide a quiet place free from the distractions of music, television and stereo.
4. Set a daily homework time.
5. Provide praise and support and do not let children avoid homework.
6. Parents are encouraged to show an interest in their children's homework but do not do the work for them. Encourage the child to self-correct.
7. In the event of a parent not wishing that their child would participate in homework activities, a letter must be forwarded to the school expressing this wish and must be kept on school files
8. Reading:
  - Encourage reading by your children even if it means turning off the television.
  - Frequent reading aloud is beneficial especially for younger children.
  - The quality of silent reading can be checked by asking the child a few simple questions.
9. Maths:

- When difficulty is encountered by your child with her maths homework, please refer to the relevant example in the Maths Text Book or Maths Copy.
- Encourage your child to have a positive attitude towards maths.
- It is important to be familiar with the correct terminology and methods being used by the children in maths class.

**TIME.**

- Homework is aimed at the class in general and should be completed in the required time. If a child is struggling parents should be discerning enough to know when to stop, as to continue only causes stress and defeats the purpose of the exercise.
- Homework should take approximately: -
  - 1st – 2nd class – 20/25 minutes
  - 3rd - 4th class – 40/45 minutes
  - 5th - 6th class – 60 minutes

**HOMEWORK JOURNALS**

- Journals should be signed by parents every night, once parents are satisfied that their child has completed her homework to the best of her ability.
- Time spent on homework should be recorded so that the teacher knows how much time is being spent on homework.
- Parents should inform the teacher of any incomplete work, or any difficulty being experienced by child in completing homework.

**CORRECTION OF HOMEWORK**

- Homework should be corrected as soon as possible as children expect and require feedback.
- If children are having difficulties with the homework, the teacher in co-operation with the parents/guardians, should explain and do her utmost to resolve, these difficulties.

Ratified by Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Board of Management