Homework Policy

Rationale: Homework is the part of school life that affects home life most directly. In a Catholic school, it is desirable for homework to have a positively enriching effect. It is often the daily link between school and home. Some of these benefits are

- the opportunity for children to consolidate what they have learnt at school,
- encouragement of self discipline,
- the development of good long term work and study habits as a preparation for further study,
- increased and regular parental awareness of the child’s progress, strengths and weaknesses.

Policy

Homework will be set regularly and may consist of both written tasks and study assignments which a teacher asks a child to perform apart from work completed in the classroom.

Method

Reading is an important activity that should continue throughout the primary years. In the early years the reading material will be set school readers but by the middle school the children should be encouraged to widen their reading to newspapers, magazines, library books or reference materials.

The supervision of homework by parents should not lead to stressful situations.

Implementation: Regulations and Procedures

1. All teachers will set some form of homework on a regular basis.
2. Each teacher will communicate to parents the homework requirements for their class at the beginning of the school year.
3. Set homework may include both written and/or study assignments and detailed guides for homework, especially projects and assignments, will be given. Homework will cover work already introduced in class.
4. The maximum time to be spent on set homework for each year level per week will be:
   - Years 1, Junior Years 1 hour per week
   - Middle Years 2 hours per week
   - Senior Years 2¾ hours per week
   This includes reading, project work, spelling and number facts.
5. While it is appreciated that some children may complete set homework in less than the maximum time, no child who has worked diligently will be expected to work beyond that time.
6. All homework will be checked regularly and thoroughly assessed at the teacher’s discretion.
7. From this assessment teachers will give to children and parents appropriate feedback where required.
8. Parents should assist by providing a reasonable environment eg. a time and place for homework to be done free of interruption.
9. Parents should consult with their children to organise a realistic timetable for homework so that the child has a predictable routine.
10. Parents will inform teachers with a note when unforeseen circumstances prevent the children from completing their set homework.
11. Children will maintain homework routines established in consultation with parents.
12. Children will enter fully into the partnership by accepting responsibility for the completion and presentation of homework, given that they have worked diligently for the set time.