

**Homework / Home – School Communication**

**The purpose of Homework is to:**

* Provide an important link between home and school
* Consolidate, revisit and revise daily schoolwork
* Encourage and develop the habit of independent study
* Encourage daily reading practice

In our school pupils are assigned homework appropriate to their age and class level. Children with Special Educational Needs may be provided with differentiated homework if appropriate. Usually, homework contains a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written tasks.

However, homework time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work. Children are encouraged to read for pleasure every day and parents are asked to read often to younger children.

Sometimes children are given a night off homework as a treat or as an acknowledgement of some special occasion.

Homework is usually assigned Monday – Thursday, leaving the weekend free for family activities. In senior classes some project work may be undertaken at weekends and the return of some homework may be over a period of days.

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| Class | Recommended times |
| Junior Infants | 10 minutes |
| Senior Infants | 10 minutes |
| First/Second Class | 15/20 minutes |
| Third/Fourth Class | 25 minutes |
| Fifth/Sixth Class | 30 minutes |

These times are guidelines. Some children may complete the work in less time.

However, if your child is regularly taking more than the guidelines time, please stop at that time and confer with the teacher.

\*please note – during the month of June only active homework or reading homework is given to the children.

**Parents are asked to:**

* Encourage your child/children to work independently as far as possible. Resist over-helping.
* Establish a set routine and time for homework. A quiet place, free from distractions is preferable.
* Regularly check memory work (tables and spellings)
* Encourage good presentation of written work.
* Check your child’s homework each night.
* Write a note in journal when/if homework is unfinished.
* Inform teachers of problems when they arise.

**Pupils are asked to:**

* Ensure they write down their homework in their journals each day and take home relevant books and copies.
* Complete homework assignments to the best of their ability.
* Present written work neatly.

**What happens when Homework is not done?**

When homework is not done regularly the teacher contacts parents with a view to resolving the situation. If the situation continues, then the matter is brought to the attention of the Principal who will contact the parent(s) and arrange a meeting to discuss how the matter can be resolved.

**Home-School Communication**

**School to Home:**

* School newsletters
* School journals (from 1st class – 6th class)
* Notes to parents on specific issues
* Text/emails from school/class teacher
* Parent-Teacher Meetings
* Phone calls
* School reports

**Home to School:**

* School journals (1st – 6th class)
* Notes from infant parents to infant teachers
* Email to teacher or school (info@ourladysgns.ie)
* Phone call to school (urgent situation only)
* Parent-Teacher meetings
* Meetings by appointment

Parents can communicate any issues regarding homework with class teacher through school journal or email.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Principal)

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