



HOMEWORK POLICY

Our Vision

We seek to build a learning community, enriched by diversity and united in faith for today, tomorrow and into the future. Therefore our mission is to build a community that celebrates faith, learning and diversity.

Strategic Goal: To implement quality school curriculum programs that support and encourage life long learning roles

Goal: To develop quality school and classroom plans/programs that actively engage teachers and students in learning

School Motto: United in Faith

Four Pillars

- Faith: We celebrate our FAITH by living Gospel Values
- Diversity: We celebrate DIVERSITY by embracing each person's unique identity and giftedness
- Learning: We celebrate LEARNING by striving for excellence in a student-centred environment
- Community: We celebrate COMMUNITY by promoting a spirit of togetherness

Introduction

We are committed to creating a vibrant learning community, acknowledging and celebrating diversity, enriched by and united in faith. Our policy documents are based on our deep understanding of the vision and mission of Jesus. This policy is also informed by contemporary theory on homework.

Rationale

At Our Lady of the Way we work together as a community of teachers, students and parents toward positive relationships. We value homework as a means of reinforcing learning, developing independence as a learner, and learning to engage positively and helpfully with people and the world around us.

We believe that children learn best when they are motivated and confident. At Our Lady of the Way we view homework as part of the life long learning process, assisting children to develop the skills and attitudes for independent learning. It is a means of developing responsibility for their own learning in partnership with their family.

At Our Lady of the Way School we endeavour to create an environment where all members of the community feel confident and competent as learners. It is the responsibility of everyone in the community to strive to make this happen.

Consequences

In implementing this policy, Our Lady of the Way school, in partnership with our families will consider:

- special needs of individual students including students with disabilities
- goals and needs of students on IEP's and ILP's
- issues of equity and justice

Therefore:

- Homework should be positive reinforcement of prior learning.
- Homework should be achievable and encourage independent learning.
- Communication between home and school is a critical part of the homework process.

Procedures and practices:

At OLW we will use a homework grid or other similar method that offers some choice in the homework as well as some compulsory activities with which the children will engage. The grid may be of a week or fortnight duration. Homework will:

- be at a level appropriate for the child
- be related to class work in content or process
- encourage independence
- be challenging, interesting and sometimes fun
- sometimes require family interaction
- at times be negotiated between teacher and home

<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fiction (book) • non fiction • textbook • a magazine • a newspaper • about something of interest 	<p>Be read to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by a family member • by a carer / friend • reading material might be instructions for other work, a story 	<p>Shopping with family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • select product (be responsible for choosing fruit / vege) • budgeting • money handling (pay for certain groceries) • buy ingredients for a particular meal / recipe to prepare 	<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number facts • revision of concepts from class • number games
<p>Physical Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • go to sport / team training • ballet / dancing • hit a tennis ball • work in the garden • 	<p>Home Duties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular chores make bed, take out garbage, wash dishes • cooking • prepare school lunches • 	<p>Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paint • draw • create a collage • collect recyclables • needlework • knitting • pottery • hobbies 	
<p>Teach your parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • something you learned at school • a new skill • a computer skill 	<p>Play a Game</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • board game (scrabble) • word game (I spy, 20 questions) • card game • make a board or card game • physical game 	<p>Assignment or research project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on class topic • on interest topic 	<p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • family talk time • phone a relative / friend • write a letter or email to someone special
<p>Meditation / Spiritual / Relaxation /</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prayer • community service • time out time • yoga • listen to music 	<p>Use of computer for work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • word processing • data gathering • information organization • using paint programs • spreadsheeting 	<p>Cultural Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • go to a play • visit the museum • visit an art gallery • view a cultural show on TV • music lessons • band practice • choir • drama rehearsals 	<p>Spelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn weekly list words oral and written • learn new strategies for spelling • personal challenge words • word of the week