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Tharawal Public School Homework Procedures

Implementation of the NSW DOE Homework Procedures

This document should be read in conjunction with the DoE Homework Policy: <u>http://bit.ly/nswdoehw</u>

RATIONALE

At Tharawal Primary School we believe that homework can play an important part in strengthening the quality learning that occurs in our classrooms. The policy is being written to ensure that homework is "purposeful and relevant to student needs and that it should not jeopardise the right of children to enjoy a balanced lifestyle" (Dixon, 2007). We are a school that has high expectations of our students and their learning.

POLICY STATEMENT

This policy hopes to achieve the setting of a consistent and age appropriate amount of homework across all grades.

IMPLEMENTATION

In Primary, homework is to be handed out on a Friday and is due back to the teacher the following Thursday. For infants, reading folders are returned every day to change readers and new maths activities will be set on a Friday.

As a school community we believe that positive parental involvement in homework correlates with higher levels of student achievement (Horsley & Walker, 2008). Parents/ caregivers are encouraged to be interested and cooperative they should consult with their child and allocate enough time to complete set homework. They will also assist their child as much as possible.

Students will ensure that they complete homework to the best of their ability and ask their teacher for help (at least two days before the homework is due to be completed) if they are unsure of a task or expectations.

Teachers will only set homework with content that has been covered in class (Protheroe, 2009). Teachers will monitor the completion of homework by sighting and initialling it each week and set homework according to the following tables.

Year	Maximum Time (per night)	Activities
К	10 minutes	5 mins Reading/Sight Words/ 5 mins Optional Maths
1	15 minutes	10 mins Reading/Sight Words, 5 mins Maths
2	15 minutes	10 mins Reading, 5 mins Maths
3	20 minutes	15 mins Reading, 5 mins Maths/Choice Grid
4	20 minutes	15 mins Reading, 5 mins Maths/Choice Grid
5	30 minutes	20 mins Reading, 10 mins Maths/Choice Grid
6	30 minutes	20 mins Reading, 10 mins Maths/Choice Grid

Reading: Reading a levelled (majority of K-2) OR Lexile book (3-6) depending on student ability. Each student is to fill out a 'Reading Gym'* reading log.

Sight Words: Playing games with and revising sight words.

Maths: Either Mathletics OR an appropriate mathematics revision sheet (not both).

Choice Grid: Is an <u>optional</u> activity for years 3-6 only. Each stage grid will have a range of activities that students can pick from.

How each grade presents their homework will be decided at the start of the year by the stage team. For example, if students are only completing reading and Mathletics, they won't need a homework book.

Reading Gym: Students fill out a reading log for 5 nights of reading per week during school terms.

Gym No.	Prize
25	Reading Gym Class
	Award
50	Reading Gym Class
	Award
75	Reading Gym Class
	Award
100	Reading Gym Class
	Award
125	Reading Gym Class
	Award
150	Reading Gym Class
	Award
175	Reading Gym Class
	Award
200	Reading Gym Class
	Award

Please note Reading Gym Class Awards can go towards a Silver Award

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

There will be monitoring through ongoing informal conversations between parents and teachers. As required the Principal will initiate monitoring and evaluation of homework and direct any relevant reviews.