

**ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
CRAYFORD**

**HOMEWORK GUIDELINES
SEPTEMBER 2017-2018**

To be reviewed: Autumn 2018 –
Teaching and Learning – Mrs Stagg

Mission Statement

The teachers and governors of St. Joseph's provide a broad, balanced curriculum to enable each child to achieve the highest standards of education in a Catholic ethos.

THE AIMS OF ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ARE:

- to nurture the uniqueness of each individual as a member of God's family
- to ensure that the Catholic faith is at the heart of the whole school experience
- to create a well ordered supportive environment in an atmosphere conducive to learning where every child feels confident and safe.
- to create an atmosphere of reconciliation, where pupils can accept the consequences of their own actions, and be encouraged to make more responsible future choices
- to deliver a relevant curriculum with equal access for all pupils
- to encourage and support each child to achieve the highest standards of which they are capable
- to encourage each child to become a concerned compassionate member of society determined to promote justice and peace
- to promote good working relationships based on mutual cooperation and trust
- to provide a welcoming place for parents
- to work in harmony with the parish and the local community.

ST JOSEPH'S HOMEWORK GUIDELINES 2017-2018

St Joseph's have taken guidance from the DfE recommendations.
Recommended time allocation for daily homework activities

Children to read to parents each day for the following times:

Yr R	10 minutes	During this time parents are expected to hear their children read, taking time to discuss the pictures and storyline. Early readers may need the parent to read with them pointing out letter sounds and looking at the meaning of the text.
Yr 1	10 minutes	
Yr 2	10 minutes	
Yr 3	15 minutes	Lower Junior children are to be encouraged to read to parents and make predictions about the story.
Yr 4	15 minutes	
Yr 5	15 minutes	Upper juniors should discuss with parents the book they are reading and other books the author has written and comment on style and presentation.
Yr 6	15 minutes	

Parents are to make a comment in the child's reading record every night. This will be monitored each day by the school.

Guidance for parents is stuck into children's Reading Record Books for support. Parental support is based on Reciprocal Reading guidance, Predict, Read, Clarify, Question, Summarise.

English homework 2017/2018 -

At St Joseph's, we are always trying to improve and develop learning for our pupils. After discussion with the children, staff and parents, we have decided to change the writing homework to develop and refine the children's word and sentence level skills. Therefore they will be given an English Skills workbook which provides graded questions that develop pupils' literacy skills. Each activity is divided into three distinct sections, a 'Warm-Up', 'Word Work' and 'Sentence Work', and these key areas are constantly revisited, giving pupils the intensive practice that is essential if they are to become fully literate. The children will be set a page to complete in the workbook weekly.

There will also be changes to the ways that spellings are taught. We recognise the need for repetition and 'over learning' to help embed spellings in children's minds. Therefore, children will bring home a set of 5/6 spellings from their year group's 'statutory' spelling list which are set within the National Curriculum. These will alternate and repeat weekly across a half term and be tested each week in class. If children already know the spellings after a few weeks, it is still important to revise them so that they really stick in their minds! Spelling patterns will be taught in school.

OTHER DAILY HOMEWORK
Foundation stage – 10 minutes

- tricky word lists to learn and practise
- home/school diary
- phonic activities

OTHER DAILY HOMEWORK
Key Stage 1 – 15 minutes

MONDAY	Mathematics This will include activities linked to class work to consolidate and embed arithmetic and reasoning skills.
TUESDAY	English Skills workbook
WEDNESDAY	R.E. The Wednesday Word
THURSDAY	Phonics This will be linked to class learning and focus on letter blends and sounds.
FRIDAY	Spellings Spelling lists to be learnt for a weekly spelling test using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method for learning.

OTHER DAILY HOMEWORK
Key Stage 2 – 20 minutes

MONDAY	Mathematics This will include activities linked to class work to consolidate and embed arithmetic and reasoning skills.
TUESDAY	English Skills workbook
WEDNESDAY	R.E. The Wednesday Word
THURSDAY	Times tables and Mathletics Times tables are directed by the teacher. Children should spend at least an hour a week on Mathletics.
FRIDAY	Spellings Spelling lists to be learnt for a weekly spelling test using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method for learning.

Signed: *M Lawrence*
Chair of Governors

Date: *13/10/2017*