Homework Policy and Guidelines for Prep to Year 3

Our School Community’s Beliefs about Homework for Prep to Year 3

Purpose
Heatley Primary School is committed to working together with parents and carers of our students to provide the best possible outcomes for our students.

Aims:
- To enable parents to play an active role in the child's learning and understand what is taking place at school
- To encourage children to take responsibility for ongoing learning
- To develop, reinforce and practise skills to support classroom learning
- To develop the child's organisational and time management skills
- To establish a home study routine

Homework Guidelines

Prep - up to 30 mins/week (5-10 mins daily)

Homework in Prep may include:
- learning their letters and sounds of the alphabet
- sight words
- home reading daily

Year 1—Year 3 up to 1 hour per week (10-20 mins daily)

Homework in Years 1, 2 and 3 may include:
- daily reading to, with, and by parents / caregivers or other family members.
- learning sight words and locating sight words in their home readers
- learning weekly spelling words
- conversation about what is happening at school

Teachers’ Roles and Responsibilities will be to provide
- Sight words/spelling
- Home readers

Parents’ Roles and Responsibilities will be:-
- Read and sign home reading contract
- Supervise care of home reading books
- Establish a homework routine
- Encourage and support students to complete homework

Students’ Roles and Responsibilities will be:-
- To share homework with parents and teachers
- To take responsibility and care for home reading books

These guidelines will be communicated to parents at the beginning of each year at the Parent Information Session and in enrolment pack.
2014 Home Reading Program

This note is to ask for your support and explain the Heatley SS Home Reading Program for 2014 and how you can help us with it.

At Heatley SS we aim to have ALL children reading and achieving to their potential. Research shows that when parents and school work closely together, and when parents are able to spend a few minutes each day at home talking and looking at a book with their child, their child has a much greater success rate of high achievement at school.

Please complete the attached Home Reading Contract and return it to your child’s teacher. Only after you have agreed to the terms of the contract will your child be issued with a book and reading record.

The book sent home will be relatively easy for your child to build confidence, encourage fluency and reading for meaning. Please sign the reading record sheet when your child has finished reading the book and write a brief comment for the teacher if you think it is necessary.

If you feel the books are unsuitable for your child please contact the class teacher. To help develop your child’s independence, we want you to encourage your child to be responsible for the care and return of these books.

Your child may be provided with sight words as part of the Reading program. This will be explained in more detail when you receive your child’s reading folder.

You also need to know that unreturned or damaged books will need to be replaced at your expense. Replacement charges are $10 per book.

We encourage you to support this program and help us so we can make sure your child becomes a confident and competent reader.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Wilkinson
Principal

Home Reading Program Contract

I/We agree to participate in the Heatley Home Reading Program with my/our child for 2014. (This contract is for one year only)

I/We agree to supervise and read with my/our child and to oversee my/our child’s care of the program’s books. I/We agree to take full responsibility of the books used by my child at home.

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________ Class:________________________
Parent/Caregiver Name: ________________________________
Parent/Caregiver Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________