

WMES Homework Guidelines

Our school believes that the partnership between home and school is a powerful influence on the academic, social and spiritual development of our students. In light of this, we also see the role of homework as supportive in developing success in our young people. It not only teaches responsibility and organizational skills, but it also serves to enlist parents as active agents in the educational goals of the school.

Our school promotes purposeful homework that is age-appropriate, both in terms of content and amount. These guidelines include home reading programs as part of the homework students complete each night. While the amount of homework is not rigidly enforced, some guiding expectations across grade-levels have been adopted:

- 10 minutes of homework per grade level per night on average (e.g. 20 minutes for Grade 2; 30 minutes for Grade 3; keeping in mind that in the upper grades this would not be strictly enforced to maintain a reasonable amount of homework)
- minimize weekend assignments when possible
- minimize Monday tests
- minimize homework at vacation times (Spring Break, Christmas Break)
- limit tests to a maximum of two per week when possible

Our school supports homework with these appropriate limits, while acknowledging that special assignments or exams may demand exceptions to be made. We encourage further discussion with homeroom teachers when more clarification is needed.

While WMES sees the value of family vacations, work missed during these times is not considered to be homework. The parent should be in contact with the homeroom teacher to negotiate what work can be completed during the leave period and what will need to be completed upon the student's return to school.

Accepted at May, 2008 Board Mtg.