Homework Guidelines for Primary School

At BBS we aim for our students to connect their learning at school with events in the wider world, and to develop responsibility and independence as they become lifelong learners. At times, they will be encouraged to continue or consolidate their learning at home, by completing tasks which provide support for, or reinforcement of, skills and concepts learned in class. Sometimes, children may be asked to undertake some form of research into topics they are learning about in class, in order to take their knowledge and understanding further. The completion of such tasks at home also contributes to the development of self-management skills, such as self-discipline, organisation and independence. By the end of Grade 5, we aim for students to be equipped with the necessary skills to enable a smooth transition to Secondary School, where homework takes on a more formal role.

## German and English Language and Literacy

Every child from Grades $1-5$ should be encouraged to read to self or share a book, selected by the child, for at least 15 minutes every evening. This can be done in English, and the home language. From Grade 3 upwards, children take part in 'reading circles', for which they are given assigned reading and related tasks; in addition to this, we encourage children to read selfselected books. From Grade 2, children in the bilingual stream are also expected to read assigned books in German independently at home, and complete reading comprehension tasks using Antolin. Children in the monolingual stream are encouraged to take out picture books in German from the school library.

From Grade 2 onwards, children are encouraged to practise and review their English and German spellings (Word Work) at home.

## Learning Support

Pupils on intensive intervention programmes may receive extra homework assignments which will not exceed 15 minutes a day.

## Maths

Children from Grade 1 to Grade 5 may at times bring home Maths tasks, which they have worked on in class, to finish at home. All children from Grades 2 to Grade 5 have logins for either Mathletics (monolingual) or Matific (bilingual) and Anton (bilingual) where they can finish tasks begun in class and/or practice their Maths skills at home.

We recognise that children need a balance between school work and out of school activities. No formal homework will be set over the holidays. Grade 5 students may, however, be encouraged to pursue their chosen areas for research in the run up to the Exhibition (Summer Term).

Students are responsible for the following:

- Taking home the necessary reading books (library books or 'reading circle' books) and bringing them back to school on the relevant day
- Completing unfinished work at home, under instructions from the teacher, and bringing it back to school
- Grade 5 students are also expected to write down tasks for home, when instructed by their teachers to do so.

Parents are responsible for the following:

- Being involved in developing reading skills at home, by reading with or listening to children, and encouraging the reading of self-selected books (also in the home language)
- Providing a quiet area at home for children to complete their homework tasks
- Encouraging their children to take responsibility for their learning.

Teachers are responsible for the following:

- Informing the students and parents of the tasks or assignments (for example, in the weekly email, via Seesaw or for Grade 5 via the homework diary)
- Providing timely feedback (oral or written)

Parents are welcome to look at their children's school books to see content and progress; if you would like to avail of this, please contact the relevant teacher.

