



Home Learning – SHINE Challenge

Dear Parents

There are two aspects to Home Learning at Stella Maris.

Part 1: Compulsory Weekly Home Learning Activities

These activities need to be completed each week.

- **Daily Reading** – All children are expected to read daily. The Year 0-2 children will be given home readers by class teachers. Year 3-8 children will select their own reading material from the school or public libraries, books at home, newspapers, magazines etc. Details of their reading are to be entered into the reading log in their Home Learning Diaries.
- **Basic Facts** – Daily practice of Basic Facts – this can be done through Mathletics and using the new Bubble Sheets. If your child does not have access to the Internet for Mathletics at home please inform your class teacher and they will ensure they have regular access to Mathletics in the class. Flashcards, Bingo games are also a good way to support the children in learning their basic facts.
- **RE** – RE activities will be set when required as part of the programme. These need to be returned to school the following day, unless otherwise stated.
- **Information gathering** – the children may be asked to collect information to use as part of their inquiry at school.

Part 2: SHINE Challenge

SHINE is an acronym for “**Strength and Heart In New Endeavours**”

The Stella Maris SHINE Challenge has been based upon the very successful PRIDE Challenge developed by the staff of Clarkville School (Christchurch) in 2006. We have adapted the challenge to reflect the special character and culture of Stella Maris.

The SHINE Challenge is an optional challenge that provides a variety of endeavours that the children complete throughout the year at their own pace. It also recognises the many activities that they participate in outside of school and encourages participation in new endeavours.

There are 5 categories:

1. Living the Marian Values
2. Service in School or the Community
3. Physical Activity and the Outdoors
4. Academic Excellence
5. Excellence in the Arts

Each of the categories has a selection of challenges for the children to choose from. There is a minimum number of challenges for each year level, but the children may complete more if they choose to. They must complete at least one challenge from each category but may then “major” in the area of their preference. If they complete the SHINE Challenge successfully by October they will receive an award at the end of the year.

YEAR LEVEL	Minumum number of challenges to be completed
Year 2	6 challenges
Year 3	7 challenges
Year 4	8 challenges
Year 5	9 challenges
Year 6	10 challenges
Year 7	12 challenges
Year 8	13 challenges
NB: There is no maximum number of challenges.	

Each child has been given a SHINE Challenge booklet for their year level. In the booklet the children, parents and teachers mark off the challenges as they are completed.

As they complete each challenge they will present their evidence and reflections in a manner that they choose and share their achievement with their class teacher and classmates. The evidence could include their planning, a “photo journal”, notes made in their Home Learning book, slide show or another form of their choice. The children will need to work with you and their teachers as they plan and carry out the tasks.

The children should include a reflection on the learning they did as they completed the different SHINE Challenges. They may use the attached Reflection Sheet or write their own reflection, remembering to include a reflection on how they used the Key Competencies.

The SHINE Challenge booklets and reflection sheets are available to download on the school website.

The SHINE Challenge is about us (home and school) encouraging and challenging the children to aim for excellence in whatever they do.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to speak with your child's teacher.

Regards

Catherine Cyprian
Associate Principal

SHINE - “Strength and Heart In New Endeavours”