



## St Liborius Primary School, Eaglehawk



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Principal

Two years ago we reviewed our Homework Policy and found that:

- Studies showed homework often didn't help learning
- Parents support their children's learning by involving them in a **wide range of home activities**

*Parents support their children's learning by involving them in a **wide range of home activities** including:*

- Talking to their child about events and experiences, encouraging their child's interests, taking their child to interesting places, reading aloud, providing an environment rich in print material.
- Exploiting the wide range of ordinarily occurring home and community activities for their learning potential -cooking, fixing things, shopping, participating in family projects, activities, and conversations, participating in church activities.
- Participating in organized activities –sport, dance, art.
- Play games that stimulate the mind, particularly those that contain an element of strategy. Games will improve mathematical skills, verbal skills; improve powers of concentration, perceptions and reasoning.
- Limit television and computer time unless it is homework related.

## “Learning Through Games”

### Goals

- Provide 'home activities' which would engage children's interest and support their learning.
- Provide an alternative for students spending too much time watching television and playing electronic games.
- Provide opportunities for social interaction among family members.

## Value of Games

- Fun - learning in a meaningful, non threatening way.
- Consolidate and apply basic numeracy and literacy skills.
- Social skills
- Cooperative skills
- Communication skills.

## Next Steps

- Acquire a Games Library for students
  - provides access & affordability
- Committee was formed to achieve this
  - staff & parents
- Grant Applications were made to
  - Sidney Myer Fund
  - Frances and Harold Abbott Foundation.
- Parent Survey to identify any issues

## What are the benefits?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sitting down and interacting in positive way</li><li>• Gracious in defeat and winning!</li><li>• Confidence</li><li>• Being able to compete</li><li>• Learning about fairness</li><li>• Reinforcing what's learnt in the classroom</li><li>• Taking turns</li><li>• Getting along</li><li>• Following rules</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memory</li><li>• Problem solving</li><li>• Enjoying interaction with others</li><li>• Strategy and planning</li><li>• Decision making</li><li>• Honesty</li><li>• Having fun!!</li><li>• Communication</li><li>• Learning to have patience</li><li>• Negotiation and decision making</li></ul> |
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## What do the students think?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need more Sitting Ducks – they are always out!! I have never been able to get it</li><li>• I think that all of the games are excellent</li><li>• The games would be fun to play in free time and at lunch time</li><li>• I think the games project is a great idea</li><li>• The games are great - we should still have them, Great way to get together and have fun with your family</li><li>• Most of the games are fun</li><li>• Can you please get more games</li><li>• Fantastic. Love all of the games. Good to be able to bring them home and swap them over.</li><li>• I would like to borrow more</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It's a good way to learn</li><li>• It's a good idea because it gets the family to spend time with each other</li><li>• Could be more copies of some of the games so they don't run out as quick</li><li>• It would be good to get more games</li><li>• Piggy Back is really good , I did not want to bring it back</li><li>• Not many schools let you borrow games, I think it is great</li><li>• I would like to play most of the games but it is hard to figure out the rules</li><li>• Great way of learning</li><li>• Cool AS!!!</li><li>• Fun</li><li>• Fun</li><li>• Fun!!!!</li></ul> |
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