Differentiated Homework Plan

Whereby the Milley children, with parental consent, are differentiating assigned homework, the school, the parents and the student acknowledge the following:

For the purposes of this document homework is defined as any work to be done at home or outside of the school setting.

Student Responsibilities

As students have a responsibility to take ownership of their own personal learning the school, the parents and the student recognize that the student has a responsibility to:

• Come to class prepared (textbooks, notebooks, pen/pencil, agenda, etc.) and ready to learn.
• Use the time given in class to complete assigned work.
• Seek teacher assistance if having difficulties with the work assigned or are feeling overwhelmed with the amount of tests or quizzes. This may include accessing the learning centre or seeking help from the teacher outside of class (i.e. recess, lunch, before or after school).
• To use their class time efficiently. If the children are not using their class time effectively by misbehaving, refusing to work to their potential or are exhibiting other unacceptable actions, consequences or disciplinary actions may result.
• Prepare for tests and quizzes.
• Review class work.
• Read daily.
• Practice musical instruments at home.
• In the event of an absence, meet with the teacher(s) to find out what work was missed. Complete the work at home in a timely manner. If an exam is missed, it will be written as soon as possible upon return.

Teacher Responsibilities

As teachers have a responsibility to their students the school, the parents and the student recognize that for the purposes of this plan the teachers have a responsibility to:

• Ensure reasonable notice and scheduling of tests and quizzes. When possible, a few days notice to a week notice will be given dependent on the type of test or quiz taking into consideration the work load in other subjects.
• Ensure that homework, as defined above, will not be used as a form of evaluation for the children.
• Give adequate time in class for the children to complete work that is to be graded, evaluated or assessed.
• Grade, evaluate or assess the children only on assignments and work that have been worked on in class. Based on the teacher's professional opinion, if substantially all of the students complete and hand in an assignment which has been completed 'in class' then the children will be graded the same as all of the students.
• Differentiate assignments that are sent home for partial or complete completion. The children will be graded, evaluated or assessed on what they complete in the class time provided and not out of the whole assignment.
• Differentiate assignments that are graded, evaluated or assessed and may require partners/groups that have a component completed outside of class time.
• Encourage the children to use their class time efficiently. If the children are not using their class time effectively by misbehaving, refusing to work to their potential or are exhibiting other unacceptable actions and such behavior prevents them from completing the assignment in the class time provided, no extra time will be given and that work which was completed by them in the allotted time will be graded against the whole assignment.
• Use a variety of other assessment tools such as tests, quizzes, rubrics, checklists, self-assessment, etc.
• Use those reasonable efforts to determine if the children are having difficulties with the work assigned and offer assistance if needed.
• Provide feedback to the parents regarding areas of improvement that the children may work on at home.
• Continue to communicate by the agenda, email, eboard or phone calls home.

Parent Responsibilities
Given that it is widely recognized that parent’s are the primary educators of their children, the school strongly encourages and supports the following decisions made by the family to:

• Provide opportunities to review and discuss class work
• Provide opportunities to prepare and study for tests and quizzes.
• Provide opportunities to practice math concepts.
• Assist with editing writing that may by choice be done in the home.
• Support and assist in areas of weakness or strength in consultation with the teachers.
• Support and provide opportunities for organization, preparedness and time management.
• In the event of an absence, provide opportunities and support in catching up at home on work missed in class in a timely manner.
• Understand that certain junior high option classes (band – practicing an instrument / drama – memorizing lines, etc.) require home practice in order to be successful.
• Communicate with the teachers on the children's progress.

__________________________________________  ____________________________________________  ____________________________________________
Student signature                    Parent signature                    Teacher signature