

Homework Policy 2007-2008

The Purpose of Homework

Homework is one of the many learning activities in which students engage; its purpose should be to:

- **Extend** learning and/or provide practice in applying concepts initially presented in the classroom.
- **Provide** opportunities for independent and guided work (depending on grade level and task).
- **Strengthen** concept and skill development
- **Develop** initiative, responsibility, self-direction and organizational skills

Guidelines/Teacher Responsibilities

- No assignment will be given that has not been clearly explained in class.
- Due dates will be given for all assignments.
- Homework will grow from classroom tasks and projects or will focus on skill/strategy reinforcement.
- Homework will be checked for quality and completion. Homework completion will be reflected under the Learning Skills Section of the report card for grades 1-5 using the code (I, L, F, R, NI) explained on the back of the report card.
- Specific homework assignments will be designated by the teacher as assessments and will be included in the academic grade
- Teachers will communicate to parents about missing or incomplete assignments as needed.
- Homework will not be assigned the evening preceding designated religious holidays.

Student Responsibilities

- It is the student's responsibility to be aware of assignments and to seek further explanation if needed.
- The student will organize his/her time to work on assignments (with parental support for K-2).
- The student will turn in assignments on time. The work will reflect his/her best effort.
- Students in 4-5 will be responsible for recording daily assignments in their student agenda book.

Time Allotments

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|--------------|-------------------------|
| Kindergarten | 10-15 minutes per night |
| Grades 1 | 15-20 minutes per night |
| Grades 2 & 3 | 30-45 minutes per night |
| Grades 4 & 5 | 45-60 minutes per night |
- The guidelines do not include independent reading and basic math fact practice.
 - Times are approximate. Individual student's pace must be taken into consideration. We request that problems/concerns be communicated to the teacher.
 - When enough time has been provided to complete class work, yet an individual has not completed the work, it may be assigned for homework, thereby exceeding the recommended time allotment.
 - Students who miss regular instruction due to participation in enrichment activities, including 4th & 5th grade instrumental music, may receive assignments beyond the allotted time.

Parent Responsibilities

- Monitor your child's assignment book.
- Provide a quiet study area.
- Provide a designated time for homework.
- Make necessary resources available.
- Assist your child with mastery of specific skills (i.e., math facts).
- Encourage the children to complete homework on their own as much as possible and assist only as needed.
- Monitor your child's work for understanding.
- Communicate individual student needs with the teacher.
- Use teacher feedback to improve and direct your child's homework.
- Arrange with the teacher to secure assignments during periods of excused absences (illness or family emergency).
- Teachers are not responsible for re-teaching or providing homework for extended vacations and unexcused absences.