

Fifth Grade Information 2014 - 2015

Homework

~ In our classrooms, students should expect to have homework almost every night during the week. With the exception of assignments that carry over from one week to the next, we will rarely give homework over the weekend; children need a break from school to recharge for the following week.

~ Homework will ALWAYS have a purpose based on what we are doing in class. We never give “busy work.” Sometimes the work will be for us to informally assess how the students are progressing; other times, it will be for the students to practice a skill they have learned. Some homework will be collected and assessed while other assignments may just be corrected in class. Homework completion often provides the necessary preparation for a student’s full participation and success in the next day’s activities.

~ Each student will designate a folder as a permanent “Homework Folder” for easy organization. Anything that needs to go home should be put on the left side, while anything coming back to school should be on the right. This will help the students keep track of their papers so they don’t get lost.

~ If we give a long-range assignment, we expect students to budget their time wisely and NOT wait until the night before it is due. Students will most likely have other work that night as well, which still needs to be completed. Whenever possible, we will provide students with benchmarks to help them stay on track.

~ Students will be using their Carderock Springs “Student Daily Planner” books every day to write down their assignments and their due dates. While assignment notebooks will not be checked daily for parent signatures, we encourage parents/guardians to check this book over with their children every night to help them keep organized. Everything that will be posted on the website should be written in here by the students before packing up at the end of the day.

~ ***Both the assignment book and the homework folder should go home EVERY AFTERNOON and come back to school EVERY MORNING.***

Homework Policy

~ As mentioned, homework is very important to the students’ learning, and we fully expect every assignment to be completed to the best of each student’s ability. If it is not completed, or not returned to school, the student may choose to stay inside during recess to complete it or complete it that evening. Either the student chooses to bring the completed work as assigned, or they are choosing to complete it during their recess period or as an additional assignment the next night. All assignments, however WILL be completed. Additionally, for each marking period:

Missed Homework #1: Warning

Missed Homework #2: Warning

Missed Homework #3: Letter home

Missed Homework #6: Parent/Teacher conference

Missed Homework #11: Let’s just hope it doesn’t get this far.

Grades

~ You can expect to see all graded papers filed in your child's binder. We will have a section on the front page of our class websites noting any papers that were returned to the students that day.

~ Each subject will have a section of the binder (Math, Reading, Writing, Science, and Social Studies). As something is handed back, the students will place it in the binder in reverse chronological order (the newest paper should be on top) along with other class notes and handouts.

~ This way, you can always see constant updates on your child's progress, and there should be no surprises come report card time. We make sure to keep everybody (both students and parents) updated constantly on student progress.

~ If any student is ever confused, or needs extra help, we are more than willing to provide it, but **it is the responsibility of the student to come to us.**

Class Websites

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/carderockspringses/classroom/grade5/>

- As previously stated, the main page will have a list of graded papers returned each day. It will also include a brief synopsis of what we will be learning in the upcoming week. "Graded Papers Returned" will be updated every day, while the "Up on Deck" (Mr. G.), "What's to Come" (Ms. Matas.), and "Crystal Ball" (Ms. Noonan) sections will be updated once a week.
- Upcoming class, grade level, or school-wide events will be listed in the "Announcements and Upcoming Events" section.
- The "Homework" section will include daily and long term assignments, along with due dates. When possible, we will also upload the actual assignment for long term tasks.
- See the "Class Information and Educational Resources," section for various documents, educational tools and websites.

Classroom Behavior

~ We are very big on respect, and that goes in all directions (teacher to student, student to teacher, student to student). We fully expect every student to be respectful at all times.

~ We usually run laid-back classrooms with lots of group work and co-operative learning. We believe it is nothing but positive for the students to learn from each other. This gives them plenty of time to interact and share ideas. There obviously will be times, though, when the room needs to be quiet. Students need to follow directions the first time they are given.

~ If misbehavior is persistent, students will fill out a Self-Reflection Form. When necessary, this will be sent home for parents to sign and return.

Academic Classes

~ Children will switch classes a number of times throughout the day. Writing will be with homerooms. In addition:

- Ms. Matas will be teaching three sections of math.
- Mr. G. will be teaching three sections of reading.
- Ms. Noonan will be teaching three sections of Science/Social Studies

~ This will allow each child to work with different peers throughout the day, as well as different teachers while also beginning to prepare them for middle school.