

Homework in Room 20

Homework in Room 20 will consist of the following:

Weekly spelling homework - students will be given a spelling list and activities each Friday. The activities will be due the following Thursday when students will be tested on the words. Spelling activities will incorporate parts of speech, grammar, syllabication, spelling rules, and a study of prefix, suffix and root word meanings.

At home reading - students will be expected to read at least 90 minutes each week. This reading includes reading independently, reading with an adult, or reading to someone else.

Long-term projects - students will have several long-term projects throughout the year that include book projects, current-event summaries, science projects, and social studies projects. These usually occur over a 2 to 6 week period. A separate instruction sheet will be provided for each project and should be kept in the "project" section of your child's binder. Instruction sheets will also be posted on my class website.

Completion of in-class assignments - students are usually provided with time in class to work on math, reading, grammar, science, and social studies assignments. If the work is not completed in class, students will take it home to complete.

Typing final drafts of writing assignments - students will type some assignments in class, but others will need to be typed at home (especially longer pieces like essays).

Reviewing material for quizzes and tests - students will need to review material for weekly geography tests (Sept-Dec), weekly spelling tests, end-of-the-unit tests in math, science and social studies, and math facts tests.

Homework Expectations

All assignments and projects are designed to accomplish specific learning objectives. It is not my intention to give "busy work." The amount of time students spend on homework varies widely. Some students will be able to complete all their in-class assignments and weekly spelling during class, as well as have time to review for quizzes and do some independent reading. Other students will take incomplete class assignments home and have to do spelling homework and reading at home, too. Most students will fall somewhere in between. If your child is spending considerably more than 4-5 hours of concentrated time per week (not including reading time) on schoolwork, please contact me; homework is **NOT** intended to dominate your child's life.

Parents are encouraged to provide adequate time and quiet space for students to work on their assignments. They are asked to check the assignment notebook nightly to see that all homework is complete. Answering simple questions, sitting with a child to edit and proofread, insisting on neatness and completeness are all ways that parents can assist their children. Please let me know right away if your child does not understand work they are being asked to complete.

All assignments should be completed as neatly as possible, with the proper heading, and returned to school in the homework pocket of the binder so as not to get them wrinkled or dirty. Multi-page assignments should be stapled neatly in the left hand corner.

In order for me to know that you are being kept up-to-date on your child's work and progress, a parent signature is required nightly in the blue assignment notebook, which lists homework and assignments to be completed, and each weekend in the Friday Folder, which contains the week's corrected work, our class newsletter, and notices from school. **Please note that students write assignments in their assignment notebooks based on the due date. Therefore, Tuesday night, parents should look at the assignments due Wednesday and sign Wednesday's line. Wednesday night's signature should be on Thursday's line, etc...

Students are expected to have assignments ready to turn in on time, usually first thing in the morning. Students with incomplete assignments will miss morning recess in order to complete their unfinished work. In the event of an emergency or a difficult circumstance, a written excuse from a parent will entitle the student to an additional day to complete the assignment. In the case of an absence, work given to the student prior to the absence will be due upon returning to school. Work missed during the absence will be made up over a period of time appropriate to the length of the absence.