

Homework and Policy Guidelines

Ms. Bad – Room 204

At Stratford School, homework is an important part of the overall educational success of students. Homework reinforces the learning your child does in school. Additionally, assignments and projects provide an opportunity for students to become responsible for their work habits and learn to manage time effectively.

In fourth grade, students should have **approximately 60 minutes of total** homework Monday-Thursday (no homework is given on Fridays).

- 15 minutes or more should be spent reading a book of choice each night.
- All written assignments (EXCEPT math) are to be completed in cursive unless otherwise specified by Ms. Bad.
- All math homework should be completed on graph paper (see headings below).
- All other homework should be completed on lined white paper, unless otherwise specified by Ms. Bad for projects/art.

Helpful Hints for Homework Success:

- Set aside a regular time for homework (preferably after a snack and before any extracurricular activities)
- Try breaking up homework into smaller segments, allowing for short breaks (5-10 minutes) in between segments.
- Set aside a regular study spot with resources to complete homework. Some items that would be helpful to have at home for your student to use for homework include:
 - Dictionary (or online access to look up words)
 - Pencils with erasers
 - Ruler
 - Scissors
 - Colored Pencils
 - Markers
 - Crayons
 - Glue
 - Paper
- Encourage your child to do his/her best but remember to move on to other parts of the homework if he/she becomes overly stressed. For example, if a math problem is too difficult and your child has spent an appropriate amount of time trying to solve it for its complexity, have your child go on and complete the rest of the work. Any extremely difficult problems/questions can be brought to school to be discussed with Ms. Bad and the class.
- Have your child set time limits/goals on how much time he/she will spend working on a particular assignment. Have a clock or timer nearby to help reinforce time management skills.

Grading Guidelines:

Assignments must be turned in **on time** to receive full credit. No credit will be given if the assignment is more than one day late, with the exception of major writing assignments, projects, or reports or extraordinary circumstances leading to your child's absence from school (see below). If I feel that your child is not doing his/her best work, I will ask that the work be redone. Remember to

always check homework assignments for correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar before submitting them.

Homework will be checked according to a check system:

- A **PLUS (+)** will be given for work that is complete (showing best effort), neat, and mostly free of errors.
- A **CHECK (✓)** will be given for work that is complete, but contains many errors and/or does not show a student's best effort.
- A **MINUS (-)** will be given for work that is incomplete, late, or demonstrates minimal effort.

***Homework is work 20% of the total subject grades.** Several missed or low assignments can severely affect grades. Please contact Ms. Bad with questions or help if you feel that your child needs more support in completing homework BEFORE the end of the term.

Late Work/Absent Work Policy:

1. Late work is accepted for a + (50%) score up to ONE DAY after a due date. Any homework not turned in after that point will count as a ZERO score.
2. However, if a student is absent due to illness or extraordinary circumstances, he/she will receive a detailed explanation of work to be completed. Please ask your child to speak to Ms. Bad to develop an individual plan/schedule for turning in late work.

Homework Assignment Headings:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Student #</i>
<i>Date</i>	
<u><i>Subject: Name of Assignment</i></u>	

Example:

<i>Ashley Jan</i>	<i>#15</i>
<i>9/1/18</i>	
<u><i>Vocabulary: Content Sentences</i></u>	