

Dear Families,

As our school year begins, I'd like to introduce the homework system that will be in place this year.

Research increasingly shows that too much homework in the early grades has negative results. The recommended amount of homework for elementary students is 10 minutes per grade level (40 minutes for 4th grade); however, students sometimes receive almost 3 times this much!

In addition to too much homework, families today have increasingly less time to spend together due to busy work, school, and extracurricular schedules.

The homework overload along with the time shortage has proven to result in negative feelings toward school, family and student frustration, and a poor self image.

THE SOLUTION

To combat this growing problem, our classroom will participate in Un-Homework. Un-Homework is a friendly homework alternative that offers the following:

- Student Choice (Un-Homework is not graded or mandatory)
- Incentives (Students are not punished for not doing homework; in fact, they earn chances for reward by choosing to do the work)
- Saved Time (Choices offered are brief, hands-on, explorations that will eliminate frustration and encourage empowered learning!)

Participation in Un-Homework is **highly encouraged** because the quick explorations will reinforce skills that we are learning in class! For more details about this program, please see the following page. If you have questions regarding Un-Homework, please contact me! Thank you!

Weekly at-home reading will still be required for our classroom: 20 minutes per day, Monday-Friday. Because of the flexibility of Un-Homework, there should be no conflicts finding the time for both assignments.



1 Students will receive 5 choices per week each Friday.

Fun Homework
 Week of ___/___/___ Name: _____

CHOICE #1
 Name 5 things you see outside. Tell how many syllables each word has. Clap them out!

CHOICE #2
 Touch 10 things around the house. Say the beginning sound of each thing. Can you guess what letter each one starts with?

CHOICE #3
 Try to name 5 students in our class. For extra fun, try to write them down!

CHOICE #4
 Tell about a book you read in class. Tell about the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

CHOICE #5//WEEKEND
 Have lots of FUN this weekend! Relax ☺
 *Fill out your tickets! Bring them in Monday for our Learning Lotto!

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

3 Students will bring in all raffle tickets every Friday to be entered into the Learning Lotto.



2 Students can choose 0-5 choices to complete weekly (or on the weekend). Each time a choice is completed, he/she will fill out a raffle ticket along with parent initials.

*** TICKET ***
 Name: _____
 Parent initials: _____

4 Winners pulled will roll dice to choose from the prize menu.

