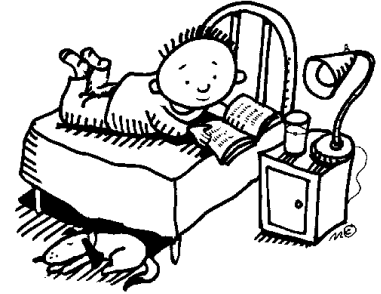


Dear Parents,



Grigsby Intermediate's Fifth Grade follows a homework policy that is consistent across all six of the Fifth Grade classrooms. Students who do not turn in their homework on the date assigned will be referred to a homework detention session. These sessions begin at 7:45 a.m., and are monitored by one of the Fifth Grade teachers. When students are referred to a homework detention, they are given a note to bring home for parents to read and sign. If a student fails to bring the note back to school the following day, the teacher will phone parents and the detention may be doubled. If a student continues not having the note signed or serving detention, the principal will be contacted.

Why give a homework detention?

Homework is essential practice for learning new skills and being prepared for class the next day. Missing homework results in lowered grades. It also means that the student will have less opportunity to participate in good question-and-answer sessions when teachers go over the homework in class – one of the most meaningful learning experiences of the day! Missing or late homework may also be signaling that the student is experiencing a breakdown in fulfilling personal responsibilities or is having difficulties being organized. Please talk with your child about the importance of completing and turning in homework when it is due. If your child is having trouble turning it in when it is due, see if you can help him/her figure out where their work study habits are breaking down so that they can improve. Students must make up any missed homework.

Here are some ideas for discussing homework with your child and answering their questions.



Why do we even have homework?

Homework gives you a chance to practice, much like practicing skills for sports teams or dance or piano. To get good at something, you need to practice!

What if don't turn in my homework on time?

The most important consequence for not turning in homework on time is that you don't get the practice you need for the next day's lesson. When the class goes over that homework, you will not have the questions that *you* need to ask. **ASKING QUESTIONS IS WHERE SOME OF THE BEST LEARNING TAKES PLACE!** You will still be expected to make up your homework, so the next night you end up having double homework! In addition, you will have to get up early to attend an assigned 7:45 a.m. homework detention.

What happens to my grade if I turn in my homework late?

Turning your homework in late is much better than not turning it in at all. It is almost impossible to recover from a zero on an assignment! Teachers can deduct points for late homework.

What if I don't know how to do some of my homework?

That is a good question. First, ask your parents or phone a friend from class for help. Second, make sure that you go ahead and fill it in, draw, or write something -- don't leave it blank! By giving it your best guess possible, your teacher will at least be able to see what you were thinking as you worked on it, and will know how to help you the next day

Homework is schoolwork to go!

You will always be happier knowing that you came to school with your homework completed and that you are ready for a new day of learning!

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding homework and the Fifth Grade homework detention policy!

Thanks in advance for your support,
The Fifth Grade Teachers
Mr. Starkey