**5th Grade Classroom Reminders**

**Homework: What is it?**

Homework is an opportunity to:

1. Complete assignments begun in class.
2. Reinforce skills already learned through activities.
3. Develop proper study habits.
4. Develop new interests and hobbies.
5. Read independently for pleasure.

*District 24 considers homework to be an essential part of the student’s education by promoting academic success and foster student responsibility. The amount of homework varies with the grade level and ability of the student. Homework assignments are related to that day’s activities and may or may not be started in the classroom. It is recommended that a special time and place be provided for your child to do homework.*

**How much time should homework take?** As a rule of thumb, homework for 5th graders should take approximately 50 minutes per night.However, what needs to be taken into consideration is that in addition to assigned homework, your child may be bringing homework that they did not complete in class. Every assignment is due the next day unless told otherwise. Homework is designed to enhance or reinforce learning that has already taken place and not to frustrate students. All work is thoroughly explained before being assigned.

**Missing Assignments:**

One day late = 15% deduction

 Two days late = 25%

 Three days late = 50%

No credit given after three day

* Of course this does not apply if a student has been absent. Please refer to Parent/Student Handbook for school policy.

**Special Projects:**

The majority of long-term projects will be done in class. This may vary by teacher.On some occasions throughout the year, homework will appear in the form of a special project. This type of longer-term homework will always be accompanied by a note home to the parents. That note will detail exactly what the project is, what the expectations of the assignments are, and when it is due.

**Field Trips**

All payments are due by the date designated on the permission slip. When you pay by check, please make the check payable to Millburn Elementary School. If you send cash, please send the exact amount.

**Birthday Treats**

 **Per the Wellness Committee,** edible birthday treats are not allowed.

**Assignment Notebook**

 Each child is responsible for having an assignment notebook with him/her every day for the entire year. It is your child’s responsibility to copy the day’s assignments in his/her assignment notebook.

**PBIS:**

All students are expected to follow the PBIS Matrix. The expected behaviors are consistent among the various locations through out the school. The students have been taught the Matrix expectations. Monthly, these expectations will be reinforced by Cool Tools. Each class created their own set of expectations.

**Second Steps:**

Second Step will continue to be taught in 5th grade. This is a great program that models proper behavior and problem solving skills. It helps to improve self-esteem, empathy, anger management, and respect. It will typically be taught weekly.

**Communication:**

The preferred method of communication is email or a note sent with your student. If you choose to call, please note that messages will be checked prior to 7:45 a.m. and after 2:45 p.m. If you need to arrange alternate transportation, please email the classroom teacher and cc: Rachel Sooley (rsooley@millburn24.net). If you email after 12:00 p.m. and only send it to the classroom teacher, there is a chance that they will not get the message until after school. Communications will be returned within 24 hours up receipt. Please note that this refers to school days only, not weekends or holidays.

**School Communications:**

 Weekly, the school will email all families, with an email on record, a link to the Mustang Minute and the Virtual Backpack. In order to know what activities are happening at the school, deadlines for signing up for programs, changes/improvements, and all other kinds of opportunities, it is important that you check this regularly. We have heard many students say they would liked to have done something, however they didn’t know about it. Paper communications will not be going home for these items.

**Contact Information:**

**Phone number for all teachers and the school is: 847-356-8331**

Mrs. Piekarz x 4858

 Email: kpiekarz@millburn24.net

 Class Website: www.millburn24.net/webpages/kpiekarz

Mrs. Cipolla x 4857

 Email: lcipolla@millburn24.net

 Class Website: www.millburn24.net/webpages/lcipolla

Mr. Gauthier x 4855

 Email: mgauthier@millburn24.net

 Class Website: www.millburn24.net/webpages/mgauthier

Mrs. Lafferty x 4856

 Email: klafferty@millburn24.net

 Class Website: [www.millburn24.net/webpages/klafferty](http://www.millburn24.net/webpages/klafferty)

Miss Maier x 4860

 Email: amaier@millburn24.net

 Class Website: [www.millburn24.net/webpages/amaier](http://www.millburn24.net/webpages/amaier)

Miss Gluskin 4859

 Email: jgluskin@millburn24.net

 Class Website: [www.millburn24.net/webpages/jgluskin](http://www.millburn24.net/webpages/jgluskin)