CURRICULUM NIGHT
INFORMATION PACKAGE

GR. 3/4
Mrs. Varney

Blog:
mrsvarneysclass.blogspot.ca

Twitter
@mrsvarneysclass
Homework

Assigned homework will sometimes include unfinished schoolwork. All the students have been given an agenda and are encouraged to record all assignments and due dates in this book. Since the first day of school, I have been encouraging the students to write in their agenda on a daily basis. Please make sure that you review your child’s agenda day by day as it is a great method of communication between you and I, and it also gives you an insight into what work needs to be completed for the following day. Writing in the agenda is a great way for the students to learn organizational skills by relying on themselves to make sure that they finish their work. The agenda is checked at the end of the day by myself, and you will notice my initials in red.

In addition to the agenda, I also update a Class Blog on a daily basis, therefore nothing is accidentally missed by the student or myself.

**How to access the Blog:**
1. Begin by accessing [http://mrsvarneysclass.blogspot.com](http://mrsvarneysclass.blogspot.com)
2. If you wish, become a member to receive updates via email, etc.
3. Peruse the information posted online. If necessary, please address all comments/concerns via the agenda or email.

Your child should spend a **minimum** of 30-40 minutes per evening on his or her homework excluding reading. Math is the only subject due on a daily basis, should there be no specific assignment, please encourage your child to read a book outside of what we’re reading in class, and/or work on Prodigy/Sumdog for minimum of 30 minutes. Please feel free to read and discuss with your child what they have read/what they are up to being specific with the subject so that they can speak to it more. Your child will appreciate this opportunity to discuss and share with you.

Homework is best completed in quiet place with as few distractions as possible. If possible, it should be completed at the same time each night. It will help your child organize himself/herself better if he/she has chosen the most suitable time and place and keep it routine.

Students, who arrive to school without assignments completed may be asked to remain in at recess to finish their work. I understand that there are commitments outside of school such as sports and music lessons, for example, however, school work should be given equal priority. Following the class blog will alleviate late nights and missed assignments. If missed work happens on a regular basis, a parent-teacher-child meeting will be arranged to address the situation.

**Curriculum Links**

Online Ontario Curriculum Grade 3-

Online Ontario Curriculum Grade 4-

Subject by subject, exemplars show teachers/parents key features to look for when grading student work. These documents feature samples of actual student work at each of the four levels of achievement, accompanied by teachers' comments explaining why the particular achievement level was assigned. Parents and students may also find these documents helpful.

Online Language Arts (Writing) Exemplars- Grades 1-8:  

Online Ontario Curriculum Mathematics Exemplars- Grade 3:  

Online Ontario Curriculum Mathematics Exemplars- Grade 4:  
[http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/math4ex/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/math4ex/)

*Other subject’s Exemplars also available on these sites, as well as other fabulous education related information.*
As there is a huge concentration on Numeracy and Literacy with the government, an excellent site to check out is: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/index.html

WORK HABITS AND ATTITUDE

Your child needs a regular routine to perform his/her best at school. Adequate rest and a nutritional diet are essential. Please examine your child’s notebooks on a regular basis. If you are pleased with what you see, encourage your child with constructive comments. If you are not pleased, try to discover wherein the problem lies. The student’s work reflects his/her attitude towards school and oneself. Work should always be neat and complete.

CLASS RULES

Rules are an essential part of classroom behaviour. These will help your child determine what is acceptable and what is unacceptable behaviour. There are only three essential rules in our classroom. The first is that the students be respectful of themselves and others. Respect can be shown towards themselves, their peers, teachers/adults, and the environment. This is a very important rule that is addressed in the classroom and in school on a daily basis. Following this rule, is of the utmost importance in keeping our classroom a safe and comfortable learning environment. The second is to raise your hand before you speak during a classroom lesson, and finally, listen quietly and respectfully while others are speaking.

ASSESSMENTS

The students are assessed on regular basis by the myself and their other teachers, they will also be involved in self-assessment and, where appropriate, peer evaluation. Assessment includes ongoing assessments, the occasional formal tests/quizzes, projects, presentations, assignments, homework, class participation, observation and notebooks. The students are evaluated based on the Ontario curriculum achievement characteristics (some are included in your package). To keep you informed about your child’s progress, certain pieces of work will be sent home for your perusal and signature. Here is the grading chart used in assessment and evaluation of your child:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>A+, A, A-</td>
<td>80-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>3</em></td>
<td>B+, B, B-</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>C+, C, C-</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>D+, D, D-</td>
<td>50-59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Provincial Standard Expectations is Level 3 and above.

By the time students reach the junior grades, they must be encouraged to take responsibility for their work. When a child is experiencing difficulty, and when appropriate, I would like him/her to be present at any discussions which take place in regards to his/her work.

If at any time throughout the school year you have any questions about your child’s progress or have any concerns about your child’s school life, please feel free to contact me via the agenda or at daniela.varney@tcdsb.org. Please notify me of any medical or home situations as this will help me understand your child in a better way. There are two scheduled interview times throughout the year and I would be happy to discuss your child’s progress during these interviews or at any other scheduled time.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Mrs. Varney