**Grading and Homework Policy**

**for 4th Grade**

Homework is an essential part of your successful educational program. Doing homework will help you develop many

valuable skills such as good study habits, time management, responsibility, and perseverance. Teachers will assign

homework that will foster individual learning and growth and that is appropriate for the subject area. Homework is

part of all students’ regular evaluations. Students should gradually become accustomed to planning and scheduling their time so all needs, wants and obligations are satisfied. Homework reinforces key concepts taught in the classroom through practice and/or enrichment activities. It also reinforces our conviction that the responsibility of learning occurs at home and at school. It is your responsibility to complete and turn in homework on time. In case

of conflict regarding homework assignments the teacher’s record is final. If you or your parents have questions about

homework, immediately contact the teacher who assigned it.

**Schools Responsibility:**

The school is responsible for printing and issuing the progress reports, DPS reports and report cards in a timely fashion.

**Parent’s Responsibility**:

It is the parent’s responsibility to report to the school and request a report not received in time. Late work is not tolerated. Students need to come to class with the supplies needed daily to be successful in school. *Parents please* check work for effort and accuracy. This includes backpack, homework folder, and lunch money!

**Parent Suggestions:**

To help ensure positive homework experiences, we offer the following suggestions.

1. If possible, schedule some regular "quiet time" in your home. Students could fulfill their school work responsibilities and other family members could read, draw, write, etc.
2. Designate a consistent drop-off place where materials (backpacks, etc.) are put immediately after school and again after work is completed for the night.
	1. Ask your child if he or she has homework (and perhaps check their backpack) until they start remembering on their own.
	2. Make sure completed work gets back into the folder.
3. Create a learning environment conducive to your child's learning styles.
4. Provide basic materials like pencils and sharpeners, paper, a ruler, folders, crayons, scissors, etc. at home so that all supplies don't have to be transported to and from school.
5. Check work for effort, accuracy, etc. and provide positive feedback!

If you do not get your progress card and report card, please email me directly at **pandega@harmonytx.org** or **mroland@harmonytx.org** or call the school office at 972-262-8020.

As another communication tool, Harmony Science Academy uses Wednesday Mail folders. Every Wednesday, parent should see the Wednesday mail folder and sign it.

Progress Cards will be sent by Wednesday mail folder.

**Teacher’s Responsibility:**

It is the teacher’s responsibility to call or email parents, if a student is failing a class. We must also underline that, it is the parent’s responsibility to ensure that students submit their homework.

You may also get online information about your child’s progress and assignments by logging in on our website <http://www.hsnature.org/>

**Harmony School of Nature & Athletics** is dedicated to excellence in education, and we want to clarify and commit to our responsibilities to create more caring and efficient communication between homes and school.

All classes at **Harmony School of Nature & Athletics** will follow this standard scale for assigning letter grades for six-week periods, finals and semester work.

Individual teachers *will establish the grading policies and procedures for their classes.*

**Late Class work/Home work:**

10 *points off per day* on that assignment/project grade - no exceptions; Third day if no homework on that assignment will result in a grade of zero on that assignment.

Day 1: - 10 pts.

Day 2: - 20 pts.

Day 3: - 30 pts. – Sign the conduct book/sheet (cowboy cash), which affects citizenship grade. Parent must sign conduct slip and return to teacher the next day.

**Make-up Work for Excused Absences**

An absence from school, even for several days, does not excuse you from responsibilities in the

classroom on the day you return. If you have an excused absence, you will be given the same

number of days that you were absent to make up missed work.

To be eligible for make-up work, you must show each teacher the “excused absence slip.” On the

day you return to school, it is your responsibility to find out what work is required and when the

work needs to be completed, and record the due dates.

If you are absent for school-related reasons or for an anticipated or planned absence, make

arrangements with your teacher(s) for assignments prior to your absence. For students with

excused absences, make-up tests will be scheduled at a time designated by the teacher. It is the

student’s responsibility to take the test at that time. If you fail to do this, the teacher is not

obligated to re-schedule the make-up. If you fail to make up a test without making other

arrangements, the teacher may decide not to give you the test.

**B. Make-up Work for Unexcused Absences**

If you have an unexcused absence, your grade(s) in a class or classes will be affected in one of these ways.

* You may not make up work following an unexcused absence.
* Unexcused absence may result in an "F" or "zero" for the day in each class missed.
* Teachers are not obligated to allow you to make up quizzes or tests.

**Note:** A school has right and duty to pursue a sanction against a student’s parent for excessive absences. Sections

25.901(a) and (b) of the Education Code, authorize an attendance officer to refer a student to juvenile court or file

a complaint in justice or municipal court for “unexcused absence.” Section 25.095(b) requires the school to notify a

parent if a student has a certain number of absences “without excuse.” Also, Section 25.0951 provides that a

school district shall a file a complaint in justice or municipal court or refer a student to juvenile court if the student

“fails to attend school without excuse” (emphasis added) for either 10 or more days or parts of days within a six month period or 3 or more days or parts of days within a four-week period. An absence currently may be excused

under Section 25.087(a) for “any cause acceptable to the teacher, principal, or superintendent of the school.”

Student’s grades will correspond to this scale.

**Grading Scale:**

A 90 –100

B 80 – 89

C 70 – 79

D 60 – 69

F 0 – 59

**Conduct Grades:**

E Excellent

S Satisfactory

N Needs Improvement

P Poor

I Incomplete

\* *Parents please* check your child’s work for effort, accuracy, etc. and provide positive feedback!

*Grades are not based on the graded papers sent home*. It is only a very small portion of the student’s grades.  Student’s achievement is assessed in a variety of formal and informal ways. Report card grades are reflective of the following:

* Teacher Observation
* Group Discussion
* Reflections
* Interviews
* Journals
* Games
* Anecdotal Records/Notes
* Class Work
* Portfolios
* Quizzes and tests
* Performances
* Graphic Organizers
* Performance Tasks
* Projects
* Reports
* Etc...

This school year progress card and report card grade dates will be as follows:

**1st 6-week** Aug 23 - Oct 1 29 Days

**2nd 6-week** Oct 4 - Nov 12 29 Days

**3rd 6-week** Nov 15 - Jan 14 31 Days

**4th 6-week** Jan 18 - Feb 25 28 Days

**5th 6-week** Feb 28 - Apr 15 29 Days

**6th 6-week** Apr 18 - May 31 29 Days

**Total Dates**

**Note: Dates vary slightly due to School beginning Aug. 30th**

**Mandatory Homework**

* Reading homework will be assigned every night (Reading Homework is - reading **to the student**; reading **by the student;** **to another adult**; or **reading with a student**).
* Reading logs will be signed nightly (Monday - Friday) by parents to verify that a student read their assignment.
* Study Spelling Words and Multiplication Times Table daily. There will be a weekly test!
1. Math, Reading, and Writing TAKS practice page 1 (or 2) per week. Most importantly, *questions that are missed on home/class work should be corrected (and returned the next morning)* as practice or reinforcement and helps us monitor students’ progress and identify any “gaps” in their comprehension. It enables us to flexibly group students for any reteaching that might be necessary before moving on the next teaching objective. Immediate feedback assists the teacher with small group instruction/reteach. ***Students who double check their work and show pencil proofing skills will have far less corrections****.* “So, double check your work!” *Parents please* check work for effort, accuracy, etc. and provide positive feedback!
* Also, if the grade is below passing, the parent must also sign the graded paper.
	+ Additional homework will be assigned throughout the year based on the teachers’ discretion.Please check the “to parent” side of your child’s homework folder daily!

**Other types of homework seen throughout the school year are**:

    1.  Unfinished/Incomplete class work from that day, as determined by the teacher. It should be completed and returned the following morning.
    2.  Projects that strengthen and extend the learning that occurs throughout a thematic cycle.
    3.  Enrichment activities that facilitate connections between school and real-life experiences.

*Homework should enhance the learning that's occurring at home* ***and*** *in the classroom.  Please share these experiences with your child.  Also, please share with* ***us****, those experiences you create at home.  We appreciate your support!!!*

*Mrs. Andega*

 *Mrs. Roland*

*4th Grade Teachers*

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Please sign below to indicate that you have received the Fourth Grade Homework and Grading Policy. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**