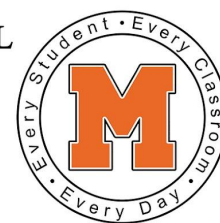




# HENRY B. BURKLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

41 Mayflower Avenue Middleborough, MA 02346

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Derek D. Thompson  
Principal

Gregory D. Thomas  
Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

Generally, homework is the intersection where home and school meet. It's through homework that teachers and families have the most amount of contact and it's for this reason that we recognize the importance of communication and consistency regarding our homework expectations. At HBB homework should take more than 10 minutes multiplied by the grade (gr.1=10 mins, gr. 3=30 mins etc). This is just a general outline. Even more important to time, is the purpose of homework here at HBB.

While homework can help with the reinforcement of taught skills, the primary purpose of homework here at HBB is to teach **personal responsibility** and the important executive functioning skills of **organization and planning**. In an effort to prepare students for success after HBB we believe it is essential that students develop these skills. It is our hope that students learn to bring their work home and bring it back. Homework is for the students, not parents. We ask that as parents and guardians, you work with your child on the skills needed to meet this responsibility but we do not want parents doing the homework for their child. We want to see what our kids can do independently. Knowing a child is struggling with homework informs our instruction and tells us a lot about what we need to do in the classroom. Additionally, it should not be a major source of stress or frustration. If that is the case, please reach out and connect with your child's teacher and we will happily differentiate our approach.

As parents we ask that you do your best to provide a consistent and quiet space for your child each night to complete their homework and encourage them to do so. If your child is struggling we ask that you encourage them to do their best and to let the teacher know. Students will not be punished for making mistakes. Parents should not feel pressured to teach things they don't feel comfortable teaching nor should parents be completing projects etc. for students. Simply put, we want our students to learn to be responsible for completing their homework and we want to see what they can do independently! To stay involved, ask them about their homework, let them try to teach you and, most importantly, read books together and talk about the books. These are some of the best ways to support your child's learning in school!

Please review your child's grade level expectations closely and let us know if you have any questions.

*-Derek Thompson*