

4th Grade Writing Standards Mr. Payson 2-20-19

Please follow these expectations to make your best work, every time!

Name and Date

- Needs to be on every piece of work turned in.

Write in pencil, or blue / black ballpoint pen only

- No markers, highlighters, or colored pens, please.

Legible writing.

- Words that are hard to read will be marked with a “?”

Capitalization

- All sentences begin with a capital letter.
- All names begin with a capital letter.

Punctuation, Spelling, Grammar

- All sentences end with correct punctuation.
- Quotation marks: used before the first spoken word and after the punctuation of the last spoken word.
- Check spelling of unfamiliar words with a dictionary.
- Watch out for homophones (like “there, they’re, their”).
- Use powerful verbs (action words). (Boring verbs such as “was,” “went,” “had,” and “said” are overused.)
- Use words to describe things (adjectives) and to describe actions (adverbs).

Respect the margins

- The left-hand margin should be straight and not wander into the middle of the page.
- Please don’t write to the very edge of the right-hand side of the paper. (Making a light pencil margin on the right with a ruler can help!)

Scratch-outs

- If you make a mistake, please don’t scratch it out: instead, draw a neat line ~~threw the mistake~~ through the mistake and write the corrected phrase next to it.
- Work with more than four or five rubbing-outs may need to be neatly rewritten.

Scrunched-up paper ..

- Please keep your work inside your homework folder so it doesn’t get creased or crumpled.
- Work on crumpled, ripped or stained paper may need to be neatly rewritten.

Teacher’s Markings

- A red checkmark in the upper right corner means that work has been accepted and may be filed in its subject folder.
- Please follow teacher’s instructions in red, or ask the teacher for help.