

Parents, scroll down for Parent Advice.

For Children: TIPS FOR HOMEWORK SUCCESS

1. Set up your homework space. Turn off the T.V. and computer. Use your agenda to help you make a stack of your assignments. Place the most important or difficult things on top and the least important or quick-and-easy things on the bottom.
2. Get your tools ready. Sharpen pencils, have an eraser, a highlighter - whatever you need - ready.
3. Check the clock before you start. Set a time goal for the first assignment, and stick to it. Always begin by reading directions.
4. Remember headings as required. All homework needs a date, subject, and page/problem numbers. Some homework also needs your name. Use the heading you were taught in class.
5. Ignore distractions, or adjust your time goals. Consider finding a new homework space if you are distracted.
6. Keep a positive, can-do attitude. You CAN do the homework and do it well. Don't waste time and energy on worry or self-pity. You'll be proud of yourself later.
7. Ask for help as seldom as possible. You can often understand things if you reread directions, check class notes, or take a break and come back with a fresh brain.
8. Check off completed assignments in your agenda. Make notes about changes in on-going assignments.
9. Look back over your work. Can you find ways to improve it?
10. Then pack everything in your bookbag so that all you have to do in the morning is grab the bag as you dash out the door.

Now, sit back and feel the satisfaction of a job well done.

How Parents Can Help with Homework

Where homework is concerned, *less is more.*

Less help from parents will lead to more independence on the part of the child - at least it will if we do our job well. We want our children to become the capable, independent leaders of tomorrow.

Assignments are explained at school, and students are encouraged to ask questions. Please contact Yu Laoshi if homework help or supervision becomes necessary on a regular basis.



How can parents help at home?

1. Set up a quiet work space.
2. Review assignments and assist with organizing the space and tasks.
3. Set expectations.
4. Move slowly away. Encourage independence.
5. Check work sparingly. Assist your child in developing the checking habit.
6. Check the bookbag from time to time to see if it is neat and organized. Select a day to have your child take care of this important task every week.

Students will learn how to use the Waddell Agenda to record assignments and plan projects. Yu Laosi writes assignments on the board as they are explained. Often, handouts are provided and links on our web page are shown. Students have and are expected to use their work folders and/or binders to keep papers organized.

Take time to discuss assignments and due dates. If your child cannot explain what is written in the agenda or does not seem able to complete an assignment with little assistance from you - and this happens with some regularity - please call or email the teacher for a conference so that we can discuss ways of surmounting these problems.

Help your child organize the homework space and evaluate its effectiveness. Your encouragement to be organized and responsible encourages independence. When your child seems to have a handle on the use of the agenda, gradually decrease your checks and allow your child to take on the responsibility for assignments. Provide more support if needed. The agenda is a tool that, if used effectively, will allow your child to complete and hand in assignments and projects independent of your help.

Early in the year, *check the Agenda often.*

Praise effort and independence.

Help your child recognize and deal with unproductive behaviors.