

PARENT LETTER 2026-27 QUARTER 1

WRITING-MRS. NICHOLS

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Welcome back for another exciting school year at Cassell!

The students will start the year by learning the Writing Process. During Writer's Workshop the students will create: an autobiography, a speech, and a story in 7th grade. A personal narrative and Science Fair reports in 8th grade.

By the end of 1st Quarter, Students Will Be Able To:

- Write routinely over an extended period using the writing process.
- Write a narrative using dialogue, transitions, events, characters, and descriptions.
- Use sensory language to describe an event.
- Use a variety of transition words appropriately in writing.
- Write following Standard English conventions.

High Expectations: Cassell School holds ALL students to high expectations including academic performance, attendance, and behavior. Please review the middle school behavior policy, "Go For The Gold", with your child. The students will bring home their planners every night for you to check homework and tallies. Students will talk to you about why they received a tally for the day! If you need further assistance please contact the teacher NOT administration.

Grade Categories:

Formative Assessment (classwork) 40%

Summative Assessment (final projects) 60%

 Students may only retake a test if they receive a 59% or lower (F, not a D). They are allowed 1 attempt if they choose to take it. The new score is entered

into Gradebook as a replacement. However; The new score cannot be higher than a 70 (if corrections are correct).

Gradebook: Aspen Gradebook is updated weekly so please check your student's progress (even better- ask them to check it)! Grade codes used in Aspen are as follows:

INC= Incomplete

EXC= Excused

0= assignment was attempted but no credit was given

MSG= Missing (assignment was never turned in on time)

Homework Protocol: Writing will be worked on in school. Homework will be assigned if absent.

Missing Assignment Protocol: Students' grades will be affected if missing assignments do not get turned in.

- Students will have 2 days to make up the work for each class day they were absent and will be graded according to the same criteria as if the student had not been absent
 - For every day after the 2 days, the assignment will be graded for accuracy and also have 10 points deducted from the remaining total points (Include this in your parent letters!)
 - Both absent and non-absent missing assignments are graded as 0% (missing)
 - Absent "work" cannot be sent home prior to an expected absence as every assignment is given with instruction and is not considered "busy work."
- Thank you for your understanding.

This year's whole-school theme
is ART is the HeART of
Learning!

