

Homework Response Notes

The idea was originally brought to my attention through @HuntingEnglish as he retweeted a link credited to @miss_mcinerney about "Homework Excuse Notes". I really liked the concept behind these and adapted them a little to suit my style – because of this I thought I would share them and explain how I use them!

The basic concept is to record who has done well and not so well in their homework and keep it simple and easy to use.

Missing Homework: If they fail to do their homework they get a Missing Homework slip which they have to complete and stick in their book. It is printed on red paper so it is very clear if a student starts to build up a few of these so further action can be taken. I also plan to use these at parents evening to highlight frequent offenders.

Missing Homework This note does not excuse missing homework and a detention will be issued if the reason is not acceptable.

I did not hand in Probability, the and/or Rules

For the following reason(s):
Lost my Book, forgot how to do the Questions
Ask for help!

Detention issued

Name: [Redacted] Date: 22/9 Period: 3

Incomplete Homework: If homework is incomplete they would receive a yellow slip to stick in their books:

Incomplete Homework This note does not excuse incomplete homework and a detention will be issued if the reason is not acceptable and this is your second incomplete note in this half term

I did not complete

For the following reason(s):
didn't really get the last bit
of the home work
it's the same as the previous page.

Name: [Redacted] Date: 14/9 Period: 4

①

Title: Linear equations

1. Find x if:

- a. $5x = 40$ $x = 8$ ✓
- b. $7x = 42$ $x = 6$ ✓

2. Find x if:

- a. $x + 10 = 17$ $x = 7$ ✓
- b. $x - 13 = 40$ $x = 53$ ✓

3. Find x if

- a. $3x + 6 = 21$
- b. $7x + 11 = 67$
- c. $9x - 2 = 25$
- d. $11x - 14 = 30$

Stick this in your book and show all your working out below. Do not write on this sheet

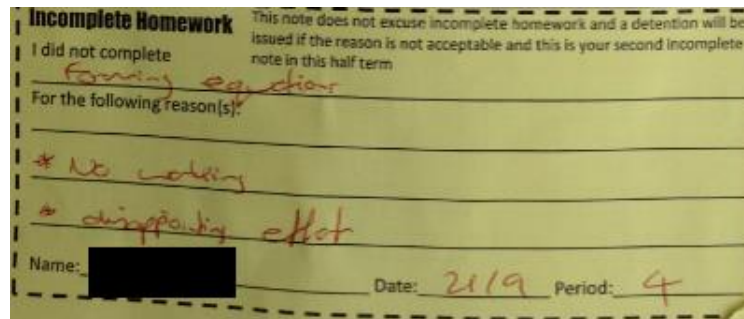
where is your working?

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x + 6 = 21 \\ -6 \quad \quad \quad \\ \hline 3x = 15 \\ \div 3 \quad \quad \quad \\ x = 5 \end{array}$$

Please Complete

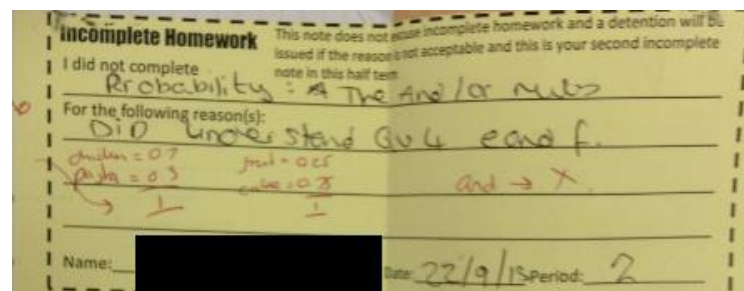
This allows me to set clear, high expectations of students. Two of these slips leads to a detention. The yellow slips also highlight the students that do enough to avoid a detention but not enough to make it a worthwhile exercise. I have only been using them for this term but have already noticed improvement from these students. I have always stated a wrong answer is better than a blank answer and this encourages students to give questions a go rather than leaving them blank. Which in turn gives me something to correct and for students to improve on during DIRT lessons.

The yellow slips also allow me to reinforce the high standards I expect from students work:



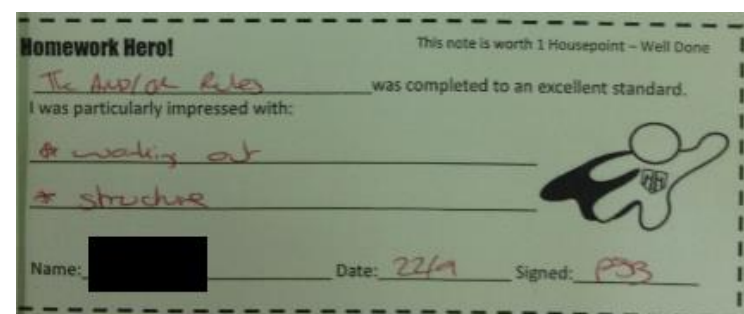
If they hand in work which has just been copied or falls below what I expect from them then I stick a yellow slip in their book as well. Which in time will ensure that all homework is completed to a high standard.

Since the introduction of these slips an added benefit has evolved from student responses. If a student has had a small issue with part of a question or knows they have made a mistake somewhere but doesn't understand why they ask for these notes when they hand their books in. This highlights where they need extra help and I can focus my marking on giving them a hint for the exact part they want. This next picture shows how it has been used:



It saves time looking through all their work for one mistake and they are more likely to respond to feedback as they have asked for it. It allows my marking to be more effectively focused and has sped up my formative marking.

Homework Hero: If a student completes their homework to an excellent standard or shows an improvement in a certain area they get a homework hero slip.



On reflection I feel I need to be more specific with these reasons to let the student know exactly what I am impressed with. However, it is a work in progress!

Thank you for reading!

@pbrucemaths