



East Hills School

Allison Brown
Principal

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Dear East Hills Families,

We hope this letter provides you with an overview of the work we have been doing in the area of writing at East Hills. As you know, writing has been regarded as one of the basics in a child's education. We can assure you that we will put a great emphasis on writing and that your child will grow in leaps and bounds as a writer. Our emphasis has been on writing itself; your child is learning to plan, draft, and revise stories, poems, and essays...and best of all, to write with confidence and skill.

The children refer to the time that is set aside for writing instruction as "Writing Workshop," which is a title real authors use. It makes sense to borrow this term from the world of published authors because children learn to write like published authors. Like authors, they are usually writing *something for someone*. They may be writing for each other, for readers across the school, or for you. Like authors, they choose their own topics and write rough drafts which they revise and edit before publication.

We will monitor and celebrate each child's progress as he/she moves step-by-step toward being able to become a proficient writer. You will notice enormous growth in your child's writing this year as we move from one unit to the next during writing workshop. Our goal throughout each unit is to develop stamina, focus, structure, detail, a sense of purpose, an appreciation for conventions, and an enthusiasm for writing.

As you know, writing is one of the basic subjects in elementary school. Its importance continues to grow as standardized tests, colleges, and employers demand writing samples as evidence of one's ability to communicate effectively. We are partners in this incredibly important work of helping your child become a strong and confident writer.

Thank you for your support...and for your child!

Sincerely,

Allison Brown
Principal

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