

MILL HILL SCHOOL

635 MILL HILL TERRACE, SOUTHPORT, CONNECTICUT 06890

Phone 203.255.8320 • Fax 203.255.8205

Website: <http://fairfieldschools.org/schools/mh>

ADMINISTRATION

KEVIN CHASE

Principal

Dear Families,

As parent/teacher conferences approach, I wanted to share some insights into how you can help make the most out of your fifteen minutes with your child's classroom teacher. You will likely discuss assessments taken thus far this year or maybe a goal that your child is working on during conferences. I will attempt to answer some of the more generic questions and provide you with some guiding questions to help you get down to the specifics that you may want. Remember, this is a generic guideline that can be adjusted depending on the grade level.

What assessments has my child been given so far?

District fall assessments:

Grade 1-5 Math: i-Ready provides teachers with information in 4 areas of math instruction: number operations, algebra and algebraic thinking, measurement and data, geometry; Math fluency

Language Arts: Spelling Inventory provides teachers with information about what spelling patterns a child has

Kindergarten Math: Counting and number identification

Language Arts: Concepts about print, letter id and letter sound identification

In Class Assessments: Depending on the grade level and unit of study, your child may have test scores in all or some areas of the curriculum.

Social interactions are monitored very closely and supported during morning/afternoon meeting, at town meetings, on the playground, at lunch, and in every special area.

What are good questions to ask my child's teacher?

What are child's strengths in math, reading, writing, etc.?

How can I help support his/her growth in those areas at home?

What goals do you have for my child academically/ behaviorally /socially?

How can I help support those goals at home?

Do you have any concerns about my child?



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How do I ask my child about School?

Ideas to help spark a more in-depth conversation about school to get a response other than “good”:

I looked at a number of resources for parents and found these conversation starters to be very helpful in getting an actual conversation going about school. These questions come from a number of resources for parents and are helpful conversation starters to initiate a conversation about school. These “starters” tend to require more specific responses than a yes/no, good/bad answer.

- Tell me something that made you laugh today in school.
- What is the best thing that happened at school today/what was the worst thing that happened at school today? (you gain an appreciation for their perspective and provide counsel in regard to “worst”)
- If you could change your seat in class where would you like to sit and why?
- Tell me about a weird/new/funny/unusual word you heard today in school.
- How did you help somebody in school today/how did somebody help you in school today?
- Tell me one thing you worked on today in school.
- Who would you like to play with at recess that you never played with before?
- What word did your teacher say the most today?
- Where did you play at recess today and what did you do?
- What was your favorite part of lunch?
- If you were the teacher tomorrow what would you teach your class?
- Tell me about 3 different times you had to use your pencil today.
- Tell me one thing that you wish did not happen today in school.
- What is a goal you are working on in school and how can I help you with that goal?
- If you could play I SPY in school, what room would you like to play in and why?
- If you could be a worker in the school, what job would you like and why?

