

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

Beginning the week of March 11th, in order to better prepare our students for the PSSAs, in lieu of vocabulary homework, students will receive a packet with a written passage, multiple choice questions and a writing prompt. This packet is meant to be completed at home and will be due every Friday. On Friday, students will input their multiple choice responses in a Google Form instead of having a weekly quiz. The multiple choice section will count towards the students' reading grade and the written response (essay and graphic organizer) will count towards their writing grade for the third semester. The multiple choice section cannot be turned in later than Friday as we will be reviewing the answers on that day. The written portion may be turned in late with a loss of 10 points per late day.

Along with the multiple choice answers and a completed handwritten response, students must complete a graphic organizer that addresses the writing prompt. These graphic organizers will be made out of notebook paper (we will review how to construct one in class). Students will have at least 45 minutes of class time during the week to work on their packets and will receive assistance in class if needed. You can also assist them with their packets at home.

Students will receive their graded packets back the following week and **can rewrite the writing component for full credit**. Students are not able to retake their multiple choice section.

Similar to the posting schedule for vocabulary words, the PSSA writing packet will be posted Friday evening under the "Homework" tab (accessed via: <http://www.mrskurtzman2023.weebly.com>). **Students may be assisted on both the writing and multiple choice sections of this packet.** If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at srschwartz@philasd.org.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kurtzman

*****In short, every Friday students should be turning in: Their multiple choice bubble sheet, a graphic organizer, and their five paragraph essay written in the space provided in their packet.*****

Please sign and return the below slip to Mrs. Kurtzman by Wednesday March 6th.

I understand that _____ will have a PSSA packet due every Friday in lieu of vocabulary homework beginning the week of March 11th. Students will be expected to complete the multiple choice answers as well as a graphic organizer, and five paragraph essay.

Signature

Date