

Punctuation Mastery

We all know of the numerous students who don't use appropriate age level grammar and punctuation in their everyday writing; despite being taught the skills and being able to reproduce them in a test situation.

The idea of 'Punctuation Mastery' is that we acknowledge those students who do make an effort to consistently apply the various punctuation skills applicable to their year levels and, by doing so, encourage others to also consistently demonstrate age appropriate punctuation in their everyday writing.

Below is a continuum of the punctuation/grammar skills students should be using at the various year levels. If you have students who are consistently demonstrating the skills applicable to their year level in their everyday writing then send them to Admin with an example of their writing. They will then be presented a 'Punctuation Star' badge and they will also receive public recognition by receiving a 'Punctuation & Grammar' award at the next mini-assembly.

Note that, as students progress through the grades, their writing must demonstrate a consistent use of all the punctuation/grammar skills of the preceding years as well as the skills set out for their actual year level.

The requisite skills are:

| 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | P | Punctuation/Grammar Skills |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | | | | | | My punctuation is different from my letters. I use capital letters to start my writing. I use a capital letter for names. |
| | | | | | | | I use capital letters for names and at the start of sentences. I use full stops to end a statement, question marks to end a question and exclamation marks to end an exclamation. |
| | | | | | | | I use capital letters for proper nouns. |
| | | | | | | | I use commas to separate items in a list. I use apostrophes to signal missing letters in contractions. |
| | | | | | | | I use quotation marks to signal dialogue in my narratives, to punctuate a title and to indicate quotes. |
| | | | | | | | I correctly use possessive apostrophes with both common and proper nouns. |
| | | | | | | | I use commas to correctly separate clauses in complex sentences. |