



First Grade News

Important things to remember:

- **PLEASE** send a note when your child's transportation is different at the end of the day. If you cannot be contacted I am held accountable to stay with the usual way home. Let's avoid a disaster...send a note or call the office by 2:45.
- Send in forms as soon as possible
- Send your child to school in gym shoes every Friday for gym class.
- Send a healthy snack that is **NOT** peanut butter everyday. Students may bring a peanut butter sandwich for lunch, however they will be asked to eat away from our allergic student.
- Send back the **Planner** each day with your initials next to the days date to show me you have seen the sticker or lack of in the Planner. Feel free to write me any notes there, too.
- Take out the papers coming home each day in the **Home and Back** folder and send back any return papers or notes to the teacher or other staff in the building.
- Help your child return the reading log next Friday with books that were read

The start of school is always a fun and exciting time. Students came to school on Wednesday fairly at ease with finding me and joining our line as we waited for all of our classmates getting off the bus. Many thanks go to the parent helpers that helped students. Student excitement to start school and learn is evident in their happy faces, smiles, sparkle in their eyes, their curiosity, and their willingness to please.

It is one of my biggest joys to be your child's teacher. Students will grow in remarkable ways and I look forward to keeping you informed on this blog. Every Friday I will post a newsletter that will tell you about our week and give you some information about the upcoming week along with important things and dates to remember.

The first three days this week we spent learning about procedures, routines, and rules. Students learned how to move their magnet to show me what they are having for lunch day, turn in their folder, put their packed lunch under the table, hang up their backpack, open up their planner, turn in papers and then get started in their journal. We are working on taking care of myself, others, and property (MOP) and what that looks like in our classroom, hallway, lunch, playground, and bathroom. Students began earning bubbles as part of the behavior support we use in the classroom and school. Encourage your child to use good listening skills in order to be the best learner he/she can be. Consequences are also given to a student who has not fixed a behavior they have been warned about. It could be shouting out, talking when the teacher is talking, touching others, to name a few. All students have clips set on "Awesome" each day. If I have to correct the same offense twice the child moves his/her clip to "Oops". We talk about how we all make mistakes and that's ok, however we need to be in control to fix our oops so that it doesn't happen again. If on the same day the student continues to act out inappropriately the clip is then moved to a MOP which means the student is not taking care of either "myself, others or property" and piece of paper goes home with what the issue was and a parent must sign and the student must return the paper the following day. There are instances where in a worst case

scenario the child is sent to the principal's office.

We will focus on all alphabet letters and sounds reviewing what we know. We will be using the LIPS program to reinforce letter and sounds to make sure we are saying them properly. We will spend a little bit of time each day for about six weeks. Have you heard a child ask for a "jrink" of water? The "d" in drink can sound a lot like a "j". The LIPS program helps students focus on the correct sounds and then blend them by practicing receptive and expressive speech. Even if your child has the alphabet and their sounds down pat, it is a wonderful review that sets them up for success the rest of the school year.

Thank you parents for coming out to Open House. It was truly great to meet my new students and their families. I am always excited to start a new year and to begin working with the students.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Williams

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free."

Unknown