

My Philosophy

I am a firm believer that students learn better in an environment where they feel comfortable, can laugh, and simply enjoy and look forward to being in that environment. I do ask that if anything is going on at home that will affect your child in the classroom, or if there is a reason your child has not gotten something completed for the week, you let me know. I want to make sure your children know we are working together to provide the best education for them, in the most suitable environment. Their education is a team effort among the teacher, parent, and student. Our door is always open in room B2, and I want us all to be on the same page! ☺

Homework

I have set up a folder for each student to keep home Monday-Thursday with homework for the week. **I do ask these folders come back on Friday to be checked.** The folders will be returned that following Monday with the week's homework. By sending home the folder for the week, I feel that will allow your child to get the week of homework done on his/her time. There will be no homework on Fridays!

I will give homework for Math, Reading, and Spelling with an occasional Science or Social Studies assignment.

- SPELLING

The words that your child brings home every Monday will be given to them in a "spelling test" on Friday. These words are their *Words Their Way* words that we use in class and for homework. (These words were determined by the spelling assessment given the first week of school.)

Please be aware that I do enjoy having the kids do their work outside, and I want to make it fun. I think writing your words in the dirt, or with chalk, etc. is a great way to remember them. I do not ask that you send in any sort of photo or email to let me know this work was done. I feel the truth is best said from a child, and I want them to know I trust and believe their word, as I hope they do mine!

- READING

When it comes to reading, I am a firm believer that young readers not only become better, more fluent readers by reading, but also by listening to other readers. When possible, please use alternative reading styles. Listen to your child read, read to your child, and read with your child (alternate who reads each page). I also believe that good readers need to comprehend the page which is why I ask on Monday/Tuesday nights that your child write at least one sentence about the story they read.

- MATH

I will send home weekly worksheets to practice the current Math skill or a review of a prior Math skill. Please make sure this sheet is returned and completed by Fridays, as we will usually try to go over it in class on Fridays!

Agendas

I will not send homework worksheets in your child's agenda (they will be in the HW folder discussed above), however, I will have your child copy their spelling words into his/her agenda on Monday. This will help your child get into the transition of using their agendas. Agendas are used to communicate with parents. I will check them daily, and I hope you will too.

Behavior

Your child will use a crayon to make a mark in his/her agenda each day for the color they are “on” in class. If this color is below green more than twice in a week, I will be in contact with you through your child’s agenda. The consequences for falling below green twice in one week, is that your child will not be able to pick from the Treasure Box on Friday.

I am aware that kids are kids, and have lots of energy, I do as well ☺, so for the most part we try to eliminate moving clips down unless it is for repeated actions that I have warned them not to do or breaking the class rules. The students and I will be coming up with a set of class rules. I like to get their input on our class rules, because I feel like that helps them to take ownership of their behavior and understand we are a family, working together to create a positive learning environment where we show compassion for each other and respect each other. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE SIGNING THESE AGENDAS NIGHTLY.** You will see a place each day on the agenda that has a “Signature” line. I want to make sure we are on the same page about your child’s daily color/behavior.

Please note, occasionally we do not get to fill out our behavior color as we are running late for dismissal due to running over on a particular lesson, an assembly or any last minute surprise/interruption that might come up at the end of the day.

Color Scale:

Dark Blue- Star Job

Light Blue- Keep it Up

Green- Ready to Learn

Yellow- Slow Down

Orange- Talk with Ms. Flanagan

Red- Parent Contact