

Important Information



Discipline:

I believe that when students feel engaged, respected and needed in the classroom, most discipline issues are significantly reduced. Therefore, I expect that our students come to school with an attitude of respect for themselves, their neighbors, and adults. I will treat them with respect so they know how to treat others around them. When problems do arise, I will treat each unique situation individually and in a way that is appropriate for the behavior. In my classroom, students will be directly involved in analyzing the problems they create and finding appropriate solutions. If problems escalate, I adhere to CRA protocol. I will communicate any major disruptions to parents as soon as possible so we can work together to find solutions that work for everyone.



Absences:

Attendance is critical to student growth and learning. Missed work will need to be made up. I will keep track of work when a student is absent and give it to him/her when they return to school. Students will have one week to return any work missed due to absence. Please keep in mind that some activities can not be made up. If you know of an absence in advance, please let me know as soon as possible so I can send work home in advance.



Planners:

Besides daily chats with your child, one of the best ways to find out what is happening in our classroom is to check your child's planner. Each day, your student will record what has been done and what due dates are coming up. Please use the planner as a communication tool by reading and signing it each day. Planners will also act as a desk organizer and contain folders with important assignments that students will need at school each day. Please help your child adjust to the routine of bringing it back to school every morning.

Progress Reports and Home Notes:



Please check your child's backpack regularly. Completed assignments will be sent home each week so you can see your child's grasp of each new concept. You can expect to see a progress report near the end of each term. I will send home a weekly newsletter to keep you posted on what is coming up in our classroom.



Homework:

Homework packets will be sent home each Monday and due back every Friday. You can count on always seeing nightly reading, spelling and math practice, as well as other assignments related to the curriculum we are currently studying.

Grading:

Any assignment scoring less than 75% will be asked to "Bounce Back". For example, in math this means the student will redo missed problems showing work and writing a sentence explaining why they missed it the first time.

"Bounced Back" assignments can receive full credit and tests can receive up to 1/2 credit for each problem corrected.



Birthdays:

We love to celebrate your child on his or her birthday. In keeping with the CRA parent handbook, I ask that you do not send treats or favors with your child on their special day. Don't worry – we'll still make them feel like a rock-star without them! Watch for our monthly calendars to see when your child's birthday will be celebrated. Summer birthdays will be celebrated on their half birthday – or let me know if there is a day you prefer for his/her birthday celebration.

Hygiene and Maturation:



Growing up is so exciting! Fifth graders get to attend a maturation program in the spring in which they will discuss the changes going on in their bodies. You will be invited to attend with them. In the meantime, now would be a great time to explain to your child that these changes also mean they need to change their hygiene habits. It can become awfully stuffy in a room full of students who have been running around at recess. Please encourage your fifth grader to shower regularly and consider wearing deodorant. We will all be very grateful!