**Ms. Heather’s Class ABCs**



**An a**wesome Class who love to help and work

**A**rt: I really enjoy art projects, though I am less adept at crafts. Let me know if you have a fun craft for the class , or can come in and work with students on sewing, painting, weaving, cooking.

**B**irthdays : The birthday student gets to be the ‘Person of the Day’. Afterwards we sing ‘Happy Birthday’ to them and clap, tap, or snap out their age in years. The student also has the opportunity to bring in five items to share, that tell about what is important to them.

Small treats ( eg. mini-muffin or a single small cookie or a chocolate dipped strawberry) are welcome, and we share these at snack time.

**B**ackpacks: Children need to bring a full-sized backpack every day.

**C**ooking: Yes, please!! But we need help, I have a bread maker , blender and hot plate to use.

**D**iscipline: We will be using the five-card system. All students will start each day on green. The goal will be to work towards having an awesome day and turn your card to a blue Merit card. Students who forget to follow our class rules after two gentle warnings will turn their card to yellow as a reminder.

**Classroom Rules**

1. Honor the Speaker ( eyes on, bodies still)

2. Follow Directions the First Time

3. Use Kind Words

4. Use Classroom materials responsibly

5. Keep your hands and feet to yourself

If they continue to forget to follow the rules they will turn their card to orange and have a break from the group. A third reminder will result in them having to fill in a pink think slip and take it home for parents to sign and return. Students can always work their way back to green by making better choices during the day. I expect most students to finish their day with a blue merit card. A red card is given out for either repeatedly not following rules or for a major poor choice which will also be noted in kick-board. Hitting, mean words and stealing are red-card actions.

**E**mail Updates. I have entered all of your email addresses into a class group and you should have received at least one email from me by now, if you have not please see me so that we can check the address I have. My goal is to send email updates at least twice a month. If you do not have access to the internet please let me know and I will print out a copy for you.

**F**ieldtrips. These are being planned. Our first will be to Impossible Acres. We will need at least 10 class drivers, so please get yourself fingerprinted and paperwork into the office as soon as possible.

**H**omework packets will be sent home every Friday beginning September 2nd. Packets should be completed neatly in pencil and returned the following Thursday.

**I**nvitations are only welcome at school when the whole class is invited, otherwise please find a private moment to hand out cards.

**K**ickboard. This is a new system of positive encouragement being used throughout the school and accessible to parents on-line. Each day I will post the color card they finish on. It is also where we track behavior, so if the student makes a particularly poor choice, such as hitting or being unsafe, this will also be noted there. Mostly, though, there will be points for all the good choices they have made during the day.

**M**ontessori. We will work on Montessori jobs most days of the week. There is no product involved, only process. It is a wonderful way to learn and the students really enjoy the sense of independence and mastery.

**M**ystery Tin . Each week we will celebrate a letter of the alphabet. When your child brings home the mystery time please help them to identify 1-3 objects that begin with the letter and can fit in the tin. Have them write down or dictate three clues for the class and return the tin the following day.

**P**ick-up. It is essential that your student is only picked up by someone on their authorized list. For a sibling or relative to pick them up please put them on the list. If you need to add someone or change plans just send me a text ( 530-601-1923) or let the front office know. As the students are very young and easily confused I can not make changes about pick-up directly from them

**P**lay-dough: Homemade is the best!

**Q**uestions?

**R**eading. Please find time to read with your student every night. This year I am going to experiment with sending reading books home with 1st graders. These are to read ‘with’ your child, they may not be ready to read them independently and the goal is for it to be a positive experience with lots of discussion and snuggling.

**S**nack schedule will be handed out tonight. Families, We have snack as a community and each day one family will be responsible for bringing enough healthy snack to feed 27 students. If this is a hardship for your family please let me know and we can make other arrangements. In addition to providing snack, families will be expected to wash the dishes and towels that were used that day and return them the following morning. These hours will count towards volunteer time. Do remember to send enough food for the whole class and have two food groups, eg Grain + Protein or Fruit.

**S**hutterfly: I will set up a shutterfly site for our class and post pictures there. Only class members are invited to see the site.

**T**echnology: We will be using computers most days once the school year gets going. I mostly focus on the iReady lessons. There are other resources listed on the DMCS website. I like ABCYA as it is fun and varied.

**V**olunteering: Passport All volunteers must be cleared by having a current negative tuberculin (TB) skin test. Volunteers may earn volunteer hours both in and out of the classroom. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering and for what types of activities. Out of class volunteer activities may include preparing classroom materials, washing dishes, or doing laundry. In class volunteering may include reviewing sight words with students, assisting students with workbooks, or doing centers. Parents who volunteer 20 hours earn their child “Free Dress Fridays.”

We will need some parents to volunteer as parent drivers for field trips. Please have your fingerprints cleared ASAP if you think you would like to drive and chaperone for any of our field trips.

**W**riting. At this age we encourage students to use inventive writing as it helps to establish phonemic awareness. Do not feel anxious about or correct your child’s, unless it is a sight word that they have misspelled. I will be handing out packets of sight words which can be cut into flash cards and used for practice at home.

**XY**

**Zzzz** Be sure your child gets plenty of sleep each night so that he or she is prepared to do his or her best in class!

***Ms. Heather’s Class Schedule 2017/18***

 ***( This is something we are working towards)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Monday*** | ***Tuesday*** | ***Wednesday*** | ***Thursday*** | ***Friday*** |
| ***8:10*** | *Pledges**8:15 Music**8:35 PE* | *Pledges**Morning Meeting* *Language Arts* | *Pledges**8:15 Music* | *Pledges**Morning Meeting* *Language Arts* | *Pledges**Morning Meeting* *Language Arts* |
| ***9:00*** | *9:20**Morning Meeting :* | ***Montessori Job Time*** | *9:20**Morning Meeting*  | ***Montessori Job Time*** | ***Montessori Job Time*** |
| ***9:45*** | ***Community Snack*** | ***Community Snack*** | ***Community Snack*** | ***Community Snack*** | ***Community Snack*** |
| ***10:00*** | *Math Meeting:**Math Jobs* | *Math Meeting:**Math Jobs* | ***Montessori Job Time*** | *Math Meeting:**Math Jobs* | *Math Meeting:**Math Jobs* |
| ***11:00*** | *Clean-Up and Songs* | *Clean-Up and Songs* | *Sharing Circle* | *Clean-Up and Songs* | *Clean-Up and Songs* |
| ***11:15-12:00*** | ***Recess/ Lunch*** | ***Recess/ Lunch*** | *12:15 Dismissal* | ***Recess/ Lunch*** | ***Recess/ Lunch*** |
| ***12:10******12:40*** | *Reading**Art/Science/iReady/Social Studies* | *Reading**Art/Science/iReady/Social Studies* |  | *PE**Art/Science/iReady/Social Studies* | *Reading**Fun Friday* |
| ***2:00*** | *Story* | *Story**Mystery Box* |  | *Story**Mystery Box* | *Story**Mystery Box* |
| ***2:30*** | *Dismissal* | *Dismissal* |  | *Dismissal* | *Dismissal* |
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