

Welcome to First Grade

2015-2016

Please keep this handy so you can refer to it throughout the year.

ABSENCES - Please keep your child home if ill. He/she will recover much more quickly and others will be protected from illness. Be sure to contact the office at (720) 424-3410.

When your child returns to school, send a note stating the cause of the absence. This excuse should be dated and signed by a parent or guardian.

ARRIVAL & PICK-UP - Please have your child at school no earlier than 8:40 a.m. unless eating breakfast at school, which begins at 8:30. School dismissal is at 3:45 p.m. Please pick up your child from school at that time. Meeting your child outside school will help with dismissal as the halls become very crowded at the end of the day.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS - We welcome birthday celebrations however; it is not required. Please remember we have a **non-food** policy for birthdays. Some suggestions for non-food items are stickers, pencils, erasers, small toys, etc...

COMMUNICATIONS - First Grade Newsletters will be sent home electronically on the first and third Thursday of each month. Be sure to check them out for current and upcoming events.

CONFERENCES - Parent/Teacher conferences are held in October/November and again in the spring (if needed). If you would like to discuss your child's progress at other times during the year, please schedule an appointment before or after school.

CONTACTING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER - If you need to contact your child's teacher, please call before 8:45 a.m. or after 3:45 p.m. You may also leave a message on our voice mail and we will return your call as soon as possible however, it may be easier to reach us by email:

102- lisa_lynch@dpsk12.org

103 - alfreda_clark@dpsk12.org

119 - antoinette_klein@dpsk12.org

In case of an emergency, you may leave a message with the office staff.

HOMEWORK - Homework will be sent home every Thursday and is due on or before the following Thursday. Homework is for review and reinforcement of skills taught in school and for development of good study habits.

In addition, throughout the year, an occasional research, science or family project will be given. Due dates and special instructions will be sent home explaining the project. Optional monthly challenge packets are available at your request. These packets are for you to enjoy at home and do not need to be returned.

LABELS - Please label all your child's belongings including clothing (jackets, sweaters, etc.) that may be taken off at school. This helps us to identify the item if lost.

LIBRARY BOOKS DUE on designated days: Klein (Monday); Clark (Tuesday); Lynch (Wednesday)

LUNCH TIMES - 12:05-12:50

MISCELLANEOUS - Be sure to refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for additional information or questions you may have.

MONEY - When sending money to school, please send it in a sealed envelope with your child's name, room number and the purpose. Remember, you can pay for your child's lunch in advance or online.

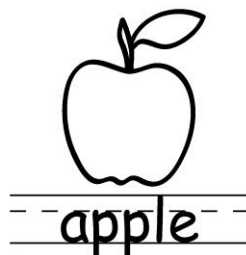
PERSONAL ITEMS - First graders may bring books from home to school. Other items may be brought on designated days or as items relate to units of study. Please wear tennis shoes to school these designated P.E. day.

102 - Mrs. Lynch - Monday & Friday

103 - Mrs. Clark - Monday & Wednesday

119 - Ms. Klein - Tuesday & Thursday

VISTING & VOLUNTEERS - Parent volunteers are always welcomed. When visiting the school, be sure to check in at the office and get a visitor's pass. It is suggested that visitors stay no longer than 20-30 minutes at one time unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher.



HELP NEEDED

If you would like to lend a hand this year, please check the items that interest you and return this form to school with your child. We'll be in touch. Thank you!

Weekly/Monthly Classroom Volunteer ____

Day & Time available _____

Reading with children ____

Publishing Center ____

Working with a group of children ____

LMC (help with shelving books, etc.) ____

Speaking to the class about your profession or culture ____

At home projects (cutting, stapling, etc. of materials) ____

Chaperone for field trips ____

(The chaperone must be a parent, grandparent or guardian. Older siblings are not allowed. As a chaperone you may ride the bus with the class and your admission is paid. It is imperative that young children be left at home as they are prohibited to ride on the school bus.)

Student: _____

Parent(s): _____

Phone: _____ Best time to call: _____

E-mail _____

Especially for First Graders

Listed below are the areas of literacy that we will be working on at school. We can use your help to reinforce these skills at home. Your child may already be demonstrating some of these skills. Please use this as a checklist. These are state mandated skills all children must have by the end of first grade. We will review where your child's progress during parent/teacher conferences this fall.

1. Read left page before right.
2. Notices changes in print (e.g. changes in line, word, letter order).
3. Identifies function of period, questions mark, exclamation mark, comma, quotation marks.
4. Identifies all uppercase and lowercase letters.
5. Uses beginning and ending sounds in reading and writing.
6. Uses blends (e.g. br, fl, st) and digraphs (sh, ch, th, wh).
7. Uses endings (s, ed, er, ing).
8. Uses long vowel sounds in reading and writing.
9. Uses short vowel sounds in reading and writing.
10. Uses simple word families (e.g. at = bat, sat, cat; ake = rake, wake)
11. Can read 90-100 high frequency words.
12. Deals with unknown words while reading: Uses phonics, pictures clues, context and re-reading strategies
13. Self-corrects when a mistake is made while reading.
14. Uses the title, pictures, and context to predict what the story is about.
15. Retells the story in sequence, with important details.