

August 20, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to a brand new school year! We have been very busy preparing our rooms for our first graders and we are looking forward to a successful, fun-filled year of learning. In order to help you and your child feel comfortable right from the start, we would like you to know the behavior expectations for first grade. Please read and discuss these with your child every day before school.

The rules posted in each first grade classroom are as follows:

1. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
2. Listen when other people are talking.
3. Follow directions the first time.
4. When you hear, or see, the signal stop talking right away.
5. Move safely all the time.

Our classroom behavior management system now includes a large color chart along with clips labeled with each child's name. All students start the day on green which is labeled "Ready to Learn". The chart extends above green to 3 sections; blue is labeled "Outstanding", pink is labeled "Role Model" and the top of the chart is silver labeled "Shining Star". If your child is showing exemplary behavior, his/her clip will be moved up to the blue section. Continued outstanding behavior will result in movement to pink or silver. When your child ends the day on any of these colors (green, blue, pink, or silver) he/she has had a successful day in first grade.

If a student chooses not to follow a rule, one verbal reminder will be given. The child will be reminded of which rule was not followed and then he/she has the opportunity to make the necessary behavior changes. If the behavior does not improve, the student's clip will be moved down 1 level to "Think About It" (yellow). This is another reminder of our behavior expectations. If the student still chooses to not improve his/her behavior, the clip will be moved down 1 more level to "Teacher's Choice" (orange). This will result in a consequence of the teacher's choosing, such as time missed from recess, time-out, or loss of a privilege. Continued misbehavior will result in moving the clip down to the bottom of the chart which is "Parent Contact" (red). If your child is on orange or red, the back of the weekly assignment sheet will be used to explain which rule was not followed. In this situation we request that you have a discussion with your child about appropriate classroom behavior. Ending the day on red will result in a phone call home.

Student clips will be moved up and down all day, depending on each child's behavior choices. The color filled in on the assignment sheet will be the color your child was on at the **end** of the day. All students have many chances during the school day to make good choices and move up levels, even if the day starts out poorly.

To keep you informed of your child's behavior at school we use a weekly assignment sheet. Each afternoon, he or she will color the behavior box on the assignment sheet that corresponds to where his/her clip is on our color chart.

To help our young students understand our expectations during each activity, we are using a CHAMPS board. The words and pictures next to each letter clearly state what the teacher expects her students to be doing during the activity.

- **C** is for the Conversation Level allowed during each activity (Zero Zone, Whisper 1, Talking 2).
- **H** is for Help. This will show the students how to ask for help in an appropriate manner.
- **A** is for Activity. This tells the students exactly what is going on in the classroom (ex. whole group instruction, independent work time, testing, walking in the hallway...)
- **M** is for Movement. This section lets the students know if and when they can move around (ex. to get a drink, get supplies, go to the bathroom...)
- **P** is for Participation. This lets the students know what the teacher should see if they are following directions. (ex. looking at the teacher, reading quietly...)
- **S** is for Success. This section lets students know what will happen if all the other areas of CHAMPS are followed (ex. We will get to lunch on time, or everyone will be learning.)

Thank you for taking the time with your child to read and talk about the behavior expectations for first grade. If you have any questions or concerns, please call. The office phone number is 630-375-3400. With our combined support and encouragement, your child can have a successful year.

The First Grade Team

Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Gillette, Mrs. Grommon, Mrs. Kugelberg, and Mrs. Oland