

Parent Handbook

First Grade



Teacher
Mrs. Angela Dressander

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Parent/Guardian Information
Grade 1



Classroom Management

I believe that all children are capable of behaving well in the classroom. That being said, here is our behavior plan.

Our class has 5 rules and we will review them every day:

- 1. Listen when someone is talking.**
- 2. Follow directions quickly and quietly.**
- 3. Raise your hand to speak.**
- 4. Be Safe. Be Honest.**
- 5. Respect others. Respect yourself. Respect your school.**

If your child is spoken to about a rule, we will fill out one of the forms shown to the right. This does not mean they were “in trouble” or that they necessarily had a consequence. It just means we talked about it and you probably should too. If your child has an issue that is concerning to me, I will either send you a note/email OR call you directly that day. Any students who cannot act appropriately using this plan will be placed on an individual behavior plan that works for them. Please sign any forms sent home and return it the next day.

We talked about a rule today!

Name _____

Date _____

Parent Sign _____

Circle rules talked about. Notes on back if needed.

 Listen when someone is talking.	 Follow directions quickly and quietly.	 Raise your hand to speak.
 Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect your school.	 Be safe. Be honest.	

In addition, we will be using “Swag Tags.”

Swag Tags

In no time, your child will be coming home to tell you all about the swag tag that he/she earned at school! So, I would like to take this opportunity to explain what swag tags are and how your child can earn them.

Swag tags are incentive tags that your child can earn for positive behavior and choices that he/she makes during the school day. The tags are placed on a necklace that is kept at school and brought home at the end of the school year.

Swag tags are not meant to take home but can be looked at if you come into school to visit! We will also have them available when you come in for parent-teacher conferences.

Swag tags are earned when the teacher notices a choice or behavior that is done by a student that exceeds expectations. Swag tags can be earned for many things. Some of these may include: 100% on a test, Helping Others, Good Listening, etc. I strongly believe in positive reinforcement in my classroom and this is one method that we will use this year to encourage the positive choices and hard work.

Drop off and Pick Up

First Graders should be dropped off by the big playground. They will line up on the First Grade line until the bell rings at 8:00AM. Pick up is at 3:00PM at the big playground as well.

Keeping in Touch

I will be sending home a newsletter every other Friday to keep you informed of curriculum content, tests, homework, classroom/school events, and projects. Once a month the students and I will create a video newsletter. Our class will also be using Seesaw this year to keep in touch and to share pictures and more. You can reach me by note, email (adressander@ststephenparish.com), or a phone call to the school office and I will get back to you as soon as possible. I will always be more than willing to discuss your questions or concerns.

Appointments/Absences

If your child is unable to attend school due to an illness or appointment, please notify the office. It is also helpful to have a note or email sent to me so that missed work can be gathered and organized for your child.

Homework

Students should complete 10 minutes a week on either Prodigy or Freckle. They will be given their login at the beginning of the school year. Students should also read or be read to at least 15 minutes a day. I will also send home weekly reading challenges via Seesaw.

Snack

Snack time will take place during our mid-morning break. Students should be bringing their own healthy snack each day.

Birthdays

Student birthdays will be special days for students within our classroom! If you wish to send in a birthday treat for your child's birthday that is fine. Just let me know in advance. Those students who celebrate summer birthdays may plan on celebrating their half-year birthdays with us.

Scholastic Book Clubs

Book order forms will be sent home with the first of the month's newsletter. This is a great time to stock up on some great books. All books purchased help our classroom earn bonus points which are used to buy books for our classroom. It is helpful if you pay with a check. I understand if you can not and cash will be just fine. Scholastic book orders may also be placed online. I will send home the login and password with the first book order of the year.

Specials

Students will participate in specials. The specials for this year will be: Music, Art, Computers, Spanish, and Physical Education.

Curriculum

Reading: This year, your student will be working on becoming a reader. They will work on skills to help them decode words and to read with fluency/accuracy. Students will also read a variety of books and work on their reading comprehension.

Writing: First graders will begin to write a variety of pieces. They will learn about the writing process. They will write about their opinions and about their experiences.

Math: Students will be learning all about numbers. They will explore ways to make numbers. They will work on addition and subtraction concepts. Students will also explore patterns and talk about problem solving strategies. First graders will also explore shapes.

Science: Students will explore plants, animals, phases of the moon, light and sound, and much more in Science this year.

Social Studies: Students will learn about rules, families, the past, and much more in Social Studies this year.

Religion: Students will learn about God the Father, God the son, and God the Holy Spirit. They will attend Mass weekly and explore Bible stories. Students will also learn the importance of prayer. They will work on learning several prayers. First graders will also learn about the Seven Sacraments.

It is going to be a great year. I look forward to working with all of you. Once again, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and talk with me.

Mrs. Dressander
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