

## Fascinating First Grade Facts

We are happy to be your child's teacher. We have had the opportunity to meet several of you, and hope to know all parents in the near future. Your child is important to us. We want them to learn, to grow, and have a happy year.

### BEHAVIOR

First Grade uses a card system for behavior.

Green Card = GREAT!

Yellow = Warning (Think about behavior and make a positive change)

Orange = Refocus (note in agenda) alternate physical activity during free time

Pink = Parent is called (if work is not complete / study hall  
If work is complete, and extra jobs completed, free time will then be given)

Black = Principal (A student may be sent directly to the principal at any time for a severe disregard of school-wide rules)

If your child is on a green card at the end of the day they receive a stamp in their agenda and a sticker for their chart. No stamp in the agenda reflects a yellow warning card. Do not get upset if your child occasionally has a warning card. The orange and pink cards are the problems and will be recorded in the agenda, along with a note listing the rule broken.

### CLASS RULES

1. Listen and follow directions the first time given.
2. Keep hands, feet, objects, and unkind words to yourself.
3. Talk at the appropriate times using the appropriate voice.
  4. Respect others and their property.
  5. Obey all SCHOOL-WIDE RULES.

Rewards for good behavior, returning homework, and kindness to others include; praise, extra stickers (5 stickers = one trip to the treasure box) treats, and special privileges.

### COMMUNICATIONS

If you wish to have a conference about your child anytime throughout the year, please let us know by written note or phone call to the school office, at least the day before you wish to come. This way we will be able to let you know if we will be available on that particular day and time. If you would like us to telephone you, please send a note by your child, e-mail us through our web site or call the school office and leave a message with the secretary (444-3956).

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## CURRICULUM

Reading: Students are leveled for reading and may have a different teacher. We will be using the Scott Foresman reading series.

Phonics: First grade will continue using Saxon Phonics.

Math: Houghton Mifflin will be the math series.

Websites that you may use at home to enhance the Tennessee state standards are located on the [www.wcschools.com](http://www.wcschools.com) website under featured links or [www.tennessee.gov/education/ci/standards/index/shtml](http://www.tennessee.gov/education/ci/standards/index/shtml) Other student enrichment sites include:

[www.sfreeding.com](http://www.sfreeding.com)

[www.eduplace.com](http://www.eduplace.com)

[www.saxonpublishers.harcourtachieve.com](http://www.saxonpublishers.harcourtachieve.com)

## FIELD TRIPS

We feel that field trips will enhance our learning environment. We will take several trips during the school year. Parents are welcome if space is available.

## GRADING SCALE

Report Cards and Class work

- + Usually demonstrates skills or behavior
- / Occasionally demonstrates skill or behavior
- Needs improvement

## GRADE REPORTS

Progress Reports will be sent home every 4 ½ weeks and Report Cards every 9 weeks. To help your child earn extra rewards, please sign and return these the next day.

## PARTIES

A student's birthday is a special event. If you would like to provide cookies and a drink for the celebration please contact us by the agenda book.

Birthday party invitations will only be passed out if an invitation is sent for every child.

We will have various parties throughout the year. A room parent will contact you to help with our celebrations.

## SNACK GUIDELINES

If your child would like to bring a snack to school each day please try and make it a healthy one.

Some suggested snacks:

Apples or other fresh fruit

Peanuts

Carrots or Celery sticks

Goldfish

Pretzels

Popcorn

Please do not to send drinks (other than water) or anything that would be very messy.

Please go over this note with your child and stress the importance of NOT SHARING their snack. We don't want to be spreading germs or causing food allergies, so students will not be allowed to share snacks. The snacks are eaten in the mornings about 9:45. If you feel your child requires a snack please provide the appropriate foods for him/her.

#### TRANSPORTATION

**A VERY IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT GETTING HOME IN THE AFTERNOON.** If your child is usually a car rider, they can not ride the bus unless they have a note from you, or you call the office and they send one down. The same goes for a bus rider. We can not send them to be a car rider unless We have a note or you call the office and they send one to us. These are just safety features, to ensure your child gets transported correctly.

#### TAKE HOME FOLDERS and AGENDA

Take Home Folders and Agenda books will be sent home each day. Please remove and examine papers, encourage your child to make corrections and complete homework. **PLEASE** sign the agenda book and return both the next day. We stress STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY (please help your child by going through these things promptly so they may earn their stickers) This is a way for them to be rewarded for responsibility while letting you know what is going on at school on a regular basis. If you have notes, papers or money to return to school, please place them inside the take home folder. **Please place money in an envelope with your child's name, the amount and the purpose of the money.** (sometimes your child is unclear on what the money is for)

## VOCABULARY

Math Facts

Multi colored math flash cards sent home to be memorized.

Mini Phonics Readers

To be read at home to someone and kept at home for continued practice.

Take Home Books

Books sent home in an envelope for students to practice until they can read with ease. After your child successfully reads the book at school the next take home reader will be sent home. Each student has a goal of reading 60 books.

Word Wall Words

A list of words that should be recognized and read. (without sounding them out)

Note: We understand that all of this information may be overwhelming for you. You probably think that it's more than your child might be able to handle. We've made an excellent start of the school year, and are adding things slowly, one at a time. The students are learning the routine and are becoming familiar with our expectations. Given time, they will adapt. We will continue to stretch our expectations weekly as we add more items to our schedule.

We appreciate you sharing your children with us this year. This group works really well together, they are willing to learn, and are all very capable. Encourage them to keep a positive outlook on their own education. Please let us know about any developments with your child, and feel free to contact us with any concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

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