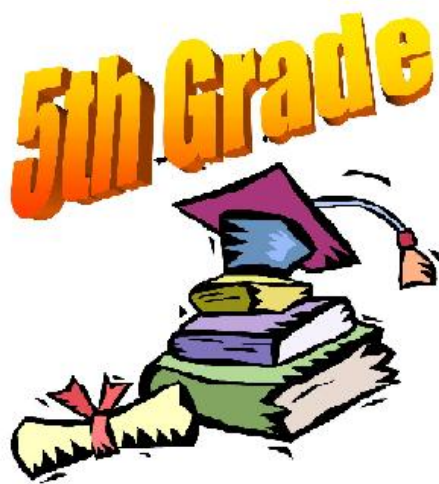


Welcome to Fifth Grade!



Mrs. Gray
Student Handbook
Room 22

Classroom Behavior:

My expectations are fairly simple to remember and are the same for everyone. They also require much thought on a daily basis. In all that you do, I expect you will put forth your BEST effort.

- Do your BEST work
- Do your BEST play
- Use your BEST word choice when speaking to others
- Consider others with your BEST intentions
- Treat each day as a new BEST day

If all else fails, keep your head up and do your BEST!

My discipline policy is also simple. I use Love and Logic. I want kids to view their behavior as an active choice. This year I will not be using rewards in my classroom. During the first week of school the students and I will create a vision of what we would like the classroom to be like for the year. We will do this through a variety of team building activities. There will also be natural consequences for their behavior. For example, homework not completed – student will stay in during recess to finish it.

Our Workman motto is, “**Remember to follow the Workman way, be kind, be safe, be productive today.**” We have also discussed “I messages” and the “Debug Plan.” These are methods which children can solve problems themselves. We are also practicing being “bucket fillers” daily!

Assignments/Homework:

Homework will be given on a regular basis. Homework will consist of any unfinished work from school as well as study links in math most every night. Homework is **due the following school day** unless it is a long-term project. The following items will be very helpful for students to have at home when completing their homework: dictionary, calculator, paper, and pencils. Also, the math resource book should come home each night and returned to school the next day. We use these with each lesson and they are a great reference for homework.

While late work is not ideal, I understand that sometimes it is unavoidable. Students who do not have their work completed on the day it is due will stay in during recess to complete it. For each day an assignment is late it will be docked 3% points.

All graded assignments will come home on Friday in their Wildcat (Friday) Folder. Please look through your child's work carefully, and return the empty Wildcat folder on Monday. This is a great way for you to keep track of their progress each marking period.

Redo work: Children **may redo** assignments or tests that receives a 69% or less. Assignments are to be redone over the weekend and are **due each Monday**. A new grade is determined by averaging both scores.

Aside from homework and projects, students are also encouraged to be reading at home. Research shows that the more a child reads, the more fluent he/she becomes and comprehension levels rise.

Challenge Homework will occur monthly starting in October.

Absences:

More time will be given to complete assignments when children are absent. It is in their best interest to get caught up right away and to complete all work as soon as possible since new learning occurs each day.

When your child is absent, please call the office (582-6700) and inform them. When picking your child up from school, please remember to use the parking lot closest to the firehouse next door.

When requesting work for your sick child, please do so first thing in the morning. This will allow me time to gather the necessary materials and have them waiting for you to pick up after school in the office.

Planner/Assignment Books:

Children are responsible for keeping a daily planner. It will record their daily assignments as well as homework and important reminders. In addition to an organizational tool, the assignment book is also a good way to communicate questions/concerns to me. Please read through and **sign this planner each week**.

Personal Items:

Students are responsible for the things they bring to school. If you wear glasses, designate a place for them so they don't get lost. If you bring a ball for recess, label it and keep it in the coatroom. We have a lost and found that you may visit if you lose something. Please think twice before you bring a treasured item to school because things do get lost. Keep money in a safe place, preferably on your body (pocket).

Toys or other items that cause a distraction will be held and given back at the end of the day. Toys are not allowed past the coatroom into the classroom with the exception of indoor recess. Normally, this isn't much of an issue. Toys that become a distraction over a period of time will be kept for safe keeping until the end of the year or by parent request.

Electronics are not allowed at school (cell phone, mp3 players, etc). Also, shoes with wheels are not permitted.

Birthday Celebrations:

*Due to health concerns we as a school no longer allow birthday treats to be brought into the classroom. Please refer to the school policy on all birthday celebrations.

**If you are having a private celebration outside of school, pass our invitations outside of the school day so that everyone's feelings remain in tact.

Holiday Celebrations:

We enjoy some holiday celebrations together. During we have a Halloween, holiday, and the end of the year. The past three years we have taken a field trip on Valentine's Day so we have not had a party in the classroom. Sign-ups will be available online near the time of our party. I will talk more about this during our curriculum night

Snacks:

Students may bring in a daily snack to be eaten any time. Our school policy requires students to bring in **fresh fruit** or **vegetables** only. (I do not mind yogurt or apple sauce) Please refer to our school policy regarding any restrictions due to health concerns. In addition to a snack, students are able to bring in **water** to drink in the classroom.

Field Trips:

Please fill out forms completely and mark dates on your calendar right away. We plan in advance to ensure a smooth and enjoyable trip. Make checks payable to **Workman Elementary School**. Please send forms in as soon as possible. If you would like to attend a trip, indicate it on the form in the designated area. There are no guarantees that every parent will be able to attend but I do my best to accommodate chaperones. If you are available to be an alternate chaperone, please indicate that on the parent volunteer sign-up.

Special Schedule:

Monday: World Language
Tuesday: Music
Wednesday: Library &
Technology

Thursday: Art
Friday: Gym

Communication:

Please know that you can contact me at any time with questions and/or concerns. Feel free to email me or drop me a note or call the school. Notes can also be written in the student planners. Please make sure that when you leave me a note in the assignment keeper you have your student bring that to me in the morning. This will give me chance to see it and have enough time to respond by the end of the day. Email is my preferred choice for communication but often emails end up in spam and are not delivered for 24 hours! If you have not heard from me within 24 hours please send a note or call the school.

You can get in touch with me three different ways:

By e-mail: Melanie.Gray@pccsmail.net

By Phone: 734-582-6700

By Note: Assignment keeper

I will do my best to touch base with you as soon as possible.

Classroom Website:

Our class website is up and running. Our website will house our newsletter which will be posted every two weeks as well as other great things we are doing. It also has great information for you...Our Class Blog (newsletter), Calendar, Parent Resources, as well as curriculum information. The site is regularly updated and usually has the answer to most questions. I encourage you to visit the site weekly to see what we are doing in the classroom. Let me know if you do not want your son/daughters work or photograph to be available on the website.

www.graysfifth.weebly.com

At curriculum night we will be talking more about our website as well as other technology pieces that will be implemented this year!

5th Grade Handbook Contract

After reading through the handbook with your family answer the following questions and return this page to Mrs. Gray.

My child's work (no name) **may be** published on the website: YES NO

My child's picture (no name) **can be** viewed on the website – (picture section is password protected – only families have password): YES NO

My child and I have visited the class website: YES NO

My child and I took the time to review the entire handbook: YES NO

Student Signature

Date

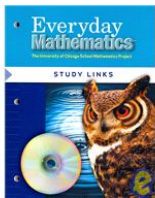
Parent Signature

Date

Please return this no later than Friday, September 7th, 2012

2012-2013 School Expenses

CASH ONLY PLEASE



Study Link Workbook



Time for Kids



Workman Assignment Keeper

Total: \$15.00