

Dear Families,

Welcome to our 2018-2019 school year! I am excited to be your student's teacher this year. There are many marvelous adventures in store for your student. I am looking forward to our partnership in your student's social, emotional, and academic success. Please find pertinent information regarding this school year below.

School Hours

School hours are from 7:40-2:15. Please be sure that your child is on time for school every day. Arriving just a few minutes late puts your child at a disadvantage and takes instructional time away from other students. It can also cause your student to be flustered and not have a smooth transition into their day.

Students may begin entering the classroom at 7:15 a.m. Please consider bringing them to school at this earlier time.

Attendance

Students are expected to be in attendance, and on time, each day. Students need to be in their seat by the time the final bell rings in order to be marked present. Students that arrive after the tardy bell need to go to the front office to receive a Tardy Pass prior to entering the classroom.

School attendance will be a key component of our school's evaluation this year. We need every student present and on time. Also, if at all possible, please do not schedule medical or dental appointments during the school day unless you absolutely need to do so. Leaving early will also impact your student's attendance record.

School Absence

If your child needs to be absent for the day, or a portion of the day, please provide a signed, written note that indicates the reason for the absence. You may send me an e-mail to let me know that your child will be out, but you will **also** need to send a written note (or a doctor's note) to the office when he/she returns to school. **Please do not write these notes as a message in the Agenda, as they need to be turned in to the front office.**

Please note that this information may be subject to change as needed.

Behavior Plan

My goal is to promote a positive and safe learning environment. Students will be held to high academic and behavior standards. I believe in catching students "doing something good". Whether that be following directions, working cooperatively with others, being kind to someone, or participating actively in class discussions, students should be recognized for doing their personal best.

Students will receive a plus (+) on my clipboard when demonstrating their best/best effort or a mark-out (/) for behaviors that are inappropriate or continued to be repeated after a "warning/redirect" has been provided. Students have an opportunity to earn the mark-outs off by correcting the behavior. A grade of either an E (excellent), S (satisfactory), or N/NI (Needs to Improve) will be indicated in your student's Agenda to reflect their behavior for the day.

A grade of Satisfactory signifies a good day overall. It indicates that a student may have needed repeated reminders about the same, or a variety, of behavior(s). These would represent minor behavioral challenges. A grade of Needs to Improve (NI) indicates that a student struggled throughout the day with their behavior choices. They may have been defiant, uncooperative, disruptive, and/or disrespectful to an adult/peers. The behavior, in this case, did not improve significantly after warnings, reminders, or redirects, and took away from our positive classroom environment.

Please sign your student's Agenda each night to indicate that you have seen their behavior grade for the day. Discuss your student's grade with them. It will be important for students to know that you and I are actively involved in their schooling and want the best for them. Please discuss any matters that I indicate as needing to improve with your student.

Students that are blatantly disrespectful, demonstrate verbal or physical aggression, or that are disruptive to our learning environment, will receive a written referral and will be sent to the front office.

**Appropriate behavior is expected from each student in the class on a daily basis. Respect and kindness should be demonstrated towards peers and adults at all times. It is not fair for any child to lose educational time as a result of a

disruptive classmate. Please continue to discuss the class rules and appropriate behavior with your child throughout the school year.**

Parent Teacher Communication

Our primary source of daily communication with you is your student's B.E.E. Book (white binder/Agenda). Please check this binder each afternoon for important information from school, for activities, and behavior reports. All money, any notes for me, and transportation notes should be placed in this binder. We also ask that you sign/initial your name next to your student's behavior grade to indicate that you have seen this information.

It is your child's responsibility to unpack his/her bookbag each day. If you have a note for me, please let your student know that you have placed it inside of their binder and ask them to give it to me. Otherwise, I may not see the note until the end of the day.

**My primary source of parent-teacher communication will be via e-mail.
Please check your email often for messages from me.**

Friday Folders

Each Friday, your student's work for the week and/or any information from the front office will be shared with you. Please review all of the information in the folder, empty, and return the folder. Be sure to check your student's work for any notes or comments that I have written. Re-do or complete any assignments that indicate such. **Folders should be returned on Mondays.**

Grades

Students will receive academic grades for the first time in their academic career this year in *Second Grade*. Please explain and stress this to your student. Giving your personal best and full participation will be key this year. Students will be assessed via quizzes and tests in all academic areas, and will be assigned projects

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or activities from time to time throughout the school year. **Projects and activities are not optional.** Participation is expected from all students.

Projects and activities will be graded and should be turned in on time.

Weekly Skill Practice

Weekly Skill Practice provides an opportunity for students to have additional practice with their academic skills, and it allows you to see your student's strengths and weaknesses. Any at-home **practice** will not be graded. Completion of the activities will be at your discretion. However, I do strongly encourage you to provide opportunities for your student to have additional practice with their academic skills. It will also give you the opportunity to witness and identify areas that your student may need further support and instruction in.

Vocabulary

Students will receive assigned vocabulary words for the anchor texts and units of study that we are working on. **They will be assessed and graded on vocabulary words and definitions.**

Nightly Reading

Students will be assigned nightly reading to build reading fluency and to increase reading comprehension.

Applicable Websites

Dreambox

RAZ-Kids

Moby Max

Reading Horizons (for specific students)

Lexia (for specific/identified students)

Math

Students will receive a math workbook to keep at home. You will receive a Math Unit letter at the beginning of each unit that will explain the mathematical skills

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and focus that will be needed to complete the units successfully. Homework is not required, but strongly encouraged to continue to strengthen these skills and deepen the understanding of the concepts that are being taught.

Spelling

At this time, we will not have spelling homework or spelling tests. However, I would like to strongly encourage you to continue to introduce words to your student and to teach them how to spell words correctly. Pay closer attention to your student's writing and take notice of words that are used often and misspelled repeatedly. Those words would be a great place to begin this process. Then, continue to build their spelling skills by focusing on additional spelling words.

We will focus on spelling patterns and words that are associated with the patterns in class. Students should be able to apply these skills to their reading and writing.

Science and Social Studies

Review, research, or read about current or historical events and discoveries.

Fry Sight Words

Students are expected to be able to read a minimum of 200 sight words by the end of the school year. A list of these words will be provided to each student. Please practice these words with your student daily. Students will be assessed on their knowledge of these words throughout the year.

Reading Counts Tests

My goal is for each student to take, and pass, a minimum of 25 Reading Counts tests by the end of the academic year. A score of 70% or higher must be obtained to receive a passing score on each test. Tests that are not passed will need to be re-taken. Students will be instructed to re-read the book and to re-take the test.

It is my suggestion that students read the book at least 3 times (for smaller books/easy readers) prior to attempting to take a test on it. You can help by asking your student questions about the story as you are reading. It will be important to take note of the illustrations, as well.

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Recess

Play time and social interaction with other children is extremely important. Unless it is extremely hot, cold, or raining we will be outside for recess. Due to our daily activities, please consider sending your student to school with closed-toe shoes each day. Sandals and open-toe shoes can pose hazards and prevent students from having the appropriate freedom of movement. Thank you.

Room Climate

It would be helpful if your child brought a light weight jacket or sweater to keep in the class in case it is cold.

Field Trips

Second Grade may be going on field trips throughout the school year. We may have a trip in the Fall and in the Spring. Permission slips will be sent home prior to each trip. Students will not be permitted to participate in school-approved field trips without a signed permission slip. The permission slips ask for a "donation" in order to attend. This is done to prevent students from not being able to participate in these wonderful and learning-enhancing activities due to the inability to pay. Please note, however, that if we do not collect enough funds to cover the costs of travel and/or admittance, we will have to cancel the trip(s).

Chaperones will be needed to assist with monitoring students for safety when we leave campus. All parents wishing to chaperone will have two days to return the permission slip and the required fee in order to be considered as a chaperone. Chaperones will be selected on a first come, first serve basis. All students attending field trips are required to use the transportation that is provided by Inman Elementary School to and from the event.

All parents or guardians that will come into contact with students are required to watch the Reporting video and sign off to show that they have done so prior to doing so. This video may be found via a link on our school website, inmaneagles.org.

Lunch Money

Please place your student's lunch money in a labeled envelope, with their name and lunch PIN # on it. You may pre-pay for as many lunches as you wish. The account can also be used for milk money for those students whom bring lunch boxes but need a drink. Please be sure to discuss the lunch menu with your child. At times,

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there are choices that students don't like to eat. If you speak with your student and find that they don't like either choice, please consider packing a lunch from home.

Students will be allowed to purchase **ice cream** on Fridays. Ice cream is sold for \$1.00. Place your student's ice cream money in a Ziploc bag or envelope with their name written on it. Each child is responsible for his/her own ice cream money.

****Our lunch time is from 11:14 a.m. to 11:44 a.m.****

Parents/relatives are welcome to eat lunch with their student. Please be sure to sign in at the front office. Meet your student in the cafeteria. There is a designated family eating table for students and lunch guests. Students are allowed to invite one friend, or classmate, to eat with them.

Snack

We will have snack time in the morning. Please send in a healthy, nutritious snack for your child. If you would like to send in enough snacks for the entire class/students that do not bring a snack, you are welcome to do so. Water bottles are allowed during snack time. Please do not send any red drinks that may stain, or sweet, sugary foods.

Specials

Monday	P.E.
Tuesday	Technology/Media Lesson
Wednesday	Art
Thursday	P.E.
Friday	Music

****Students need to wear sneakers/tennis shoes on P.E. days.****

****We will have library check-out every Tuesday morning. Please be sure to return your student's library book by this time.**** Students that are ready, should also take a Reading Counts test before turning their library book in.**

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Birthdays and Celebrations

School administration has provided guidelines for birthday celebrations. Please read the following message:

2018-2019 Elementary School Celebration Guidelines

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are a special day and an important time to celebrate with classmates. However, due to new nutrition regulations and with the growing number of students with severe food allergies, our elementary schools will highly discourage treats such as cakes, cookies, cupcakes, or other food items. Alternative suggestions to celebrate your child's birthday:

- School Ice Cream Passes for the class during lunch. The school ice cream has been approved to comply with the Smart Snack regulations from the Federal government.
- Donate a book to the classroom library in honor of your child's birthday.
- Donate a board game or puzzle in honor of your child's birthday.

SCHOOL PARTIES and ACTIVITIES

In an effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for all of our elementary students, school parties and activities should emphasize activities (such as crafts or games) and limit refreshments and/or treats. Room parents are expected to consult with the classroom teacher to determine if any students have food allergies or diet restrictions.

****Please do not send in flowers or balloons for your student.****

If you would like to send in birthday party invitations, please provide one for each student. In the event that you are only inviting a select few students (for example, the girls only), please send me a note with the invitations and I will place them in their folders discreetly.

Thank you for your support and cooperation! Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, suggestions, or concerns that you might have.

I am looking forward to a safe, successful, and superb school year!

I am deeply honored to be able to work with your family this year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Davis