

Classroom Policy and Procedure Letter 2023 - 2024

Welcome to one of the most incredible years your child will have in his/her school career! First grade is an exciting time as children embark upon new adventures in the world of learning.

First grade is a challenging yet rewarding year with many opportunities for success. Your child will be given more responsibility for his/her personal growth.

Classroom Expectations

Students are to be prepared for class. This includes homework assignments and any supplies needed. Students are responsible for classwork and for making up assignments when they are out. Students are expected to be respectful of classmates and teachers. Students should keep a well maintained area in the classroom. Books and other material belonging to St. John's should also be maintained and returned in good condition.

- **Label Everything.** Please make sure all **Supplies** and **Clothing** such as jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, etc. are labeled.
- **Absences:** A note is required when a child is absent.
- Please put all notes to me in your child's folder. Folders are checked daily. If your child's dismissal schedule is changing please discuss this with them and include a note to me in your child's folder. If a change occurs during the school day you may contact the school office.
- **Money Collection:** Whenever you send money to school please place it in an envelope with your child's name and class on it.
- **Please fill out 1st Grade information sheet and return it as soon as possible.** Please list any allergies your child has so I may keep it on file. If your child has Asthma and is in need of an inhaler, please write me a note. Also, please make sure the school nurse has your child's medical records.

Curriculum

The following are some themes/topics covered in first grade.

- **Super Kids Reading Program:** Reading/Writing standards are covered throughout this program.

- **Envision Math Program:** Topics include: addition, subtraction, time and measurement. (This program includes online access to activities/videos that your child will be required to complete).
- **Science and Social Studies** will be taught using Studies Weekly Magazines. A magazine for each of these two subjects will be sent home weekly. Studies Weekly Magazines are aligned with New York State standards.

Project Based Learning- In lieu of a Science or Social Studies Fair we create in house themed projects. This allows us to differentiate, authentically assess each child and promote cooperative learning. This year we will be working on the following: **Pete The Cat, and all his adventures.**

Religion Program- Children will be learning about basic Bible stories and will be orally tested on 5 questions that you will receive at the beginning of the week. We will go over the Bible stories and questions in class daily. Children will be tested each Thursday.

Grading Policy

Your child's grades come from a variety of assessments. They are but not limited to; tests, writing, classwork, and projects.

- **Tests:** Spelling and Religion are given on a weekly basis; for other subjects, when we complete a unit a test will be given. When a graded test is sent home, **please sign the test and return it to school.**

Homework Policy

I will be posting homework sheets along with that week's Religion sheet at the beginning of each week on Google Classroom. Homework is a reinforcement of the work that we do during our school day. All homework is to be done by the student with the supervision and help of a parent/guardian. Students should learn to become more responsible when completing homework, but it is essential for parents to monitor and work with their child on a daily basis. If you see that your child is having difficulty with the homework, please contact me regarding the issue so that it can be handled successfully. **Please do not go ahead in homework. Please check your child's homework each night and sign each assignment.** In addition to any written homework, your child must read each night. A Reading Log sheet will be inside their Reading Log Folder. Please sign the reading log each night. When reading with your child, stop and ask questions about the story being read. This will help your child with comprehension skills.

I don't expect students to be able to read on their own in the beginning of the school year. Families can read to the students and this will be counted on the students Reading Log. The Reading log will count as a grade towards Reading on their report card.

Discipline Policy

Positive reinforcement is always the first method used when behavior is involved, however when a child exhibits continuous disruptive, disrespectful or inappropriate behaviors the following may be necessary: phone call home, loss of recess, exemption from school activities, Principal intervention, parent meeting, and in some cases suspension or expulsion.

Online Grading System: Gradebook Wizard

The school will utilize an online system to monitor your child's academic progress and for communication with his/her teachers. Please check the website often to view recent grades and teacher messages.

Snack- Snack time consists of a healthy snack and water. Students are able to keep water at their desk throughout the day.

Recess- Weather permitted, students will be going outside to play. If we have to remain inside, they will either watch a movie or play in the classroom. If your child chooses to bring a toy from home to play with, they are responsible for taking care of it.

Parent Involvement – I encourage parent involvement. This can be done by becoming a Mystery Reader, or coming in to do a craft. You will also be invited in to watch children present a project or sing songs.

Dismissal- It is very important that I receive a note if your child's normal dismissal routine is changed. This is to protect your child.

I look forward to a wonderful and productive school year and I feel privileged to be part of your child's journey. Working together, we can make sure that your child is successful in the first grade.

Sincerely,

Ms. Morris