



September 6, 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the second grade! I am looking forward to an exciting year of teaching and a great year of learning. My goal is to make this a successful and happy year for your child. In order to do this, we must keep the lines of communication open. Please feel free to contact me at school (858) 496-8070 or email me at jsteinhour@sandi.net. Your messages will be returned in a timely manner. I would now like to take this opportunity to share some of our classroom policies and expectations with you.

Homework

Starting next week, students will receive a homework packet every Monday. It will be due every Friday. Homework will take approximately 30 minutes each night, including 20 minutes of home reading. In order to ensure quality work and accountability, I require reading logs for home reading and a parent signature weekly on the homework. This will be explained more clearly on the cover sheet of the homework packet. I feel that homework is an excellent reinforcement of your child's classroom learning, and it provides quality time for students and parents to communicate about school together.

News Reports

In addition to the homework, your child will be required to bring in a news article to share every other week. The report outline will be stapled to the back of the homework packet. Please help your child fill out the outline with some interesting facts to tell the class about his/her article. News can be retrieved from the newspaper, internet, magazines, etc. I will send home more detailed information, resources, and examples before news reports start in 2 weeks. I will also explain it more thoroughly at Back to School Night.

Start of the Week

Each week our class will feature a "Star of the Week." One child will be chosen each Friday to become the following week's "Star." That child will bring home a poster to fill out. The poster, along with collections, pictures, books, and other personal items to share will be displayed in the classroom for the entire week. All items will be returned at the end of the week.

Class Rules

- * Follow directions and stay on task.
- * Treat people like you want to be treated
- * Listen carefully and raise a quiet hand.
- * Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- * Always do your best.

Rewards and Discipline

I have a discipline system with rewards and consequences for classroom behavior. Each child will start the day with a green card. Weekly drawings with rewards will be held for students who remain on green all week. We also have rewards for tables and individuals who excel and make good choices all week. Failure to follow classroom rules results in the card being changed, and consequences will follow. The cards can be changed back with positive classroom behavior.

Behavior Chart Card Colors/ Consequences

- * Green- Good behavior
- * Yellow- Warning
- * Orange- Recess detention and note home
- * Red- Recess detention, phone call home, and possible visit to principal or counselor.

We have a busy school year planned. I hope to see you Thursday, September 22 for Back to School Night where we can share the classroom and further discuss curriculum, policies, and procedures. At that time I will also set out a parent volunteer sign-up for classroom helpers. This will be a wonderful year, and I am excited to work together with you to provide an excellent education for your child.

Sincerely,

Jenny Steinhour

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CLASS!