

WELCOME



Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Dear Third Grade Parents,

We are extremely excited about the 2009-2010 school year. We look forward to working with you and your child. Please, feel free to contact us at the school this year if you have any questions or concerns. We are available for calls or conferences after 2:30 p.m. The school telephone number is 576-4800.

We would like to share with you a few things you should know about procedures and information at Mamie Lou Gross Elementary School:

Tardy Bell

The tardy bell will ring at 8:00 a.m. each morning. When your child is absent, PLEASE, send in a note stating the reason for his or her absence. In order for an absence to be excused and to allow a student to make up any missed work, a note stating the reason for the absence must be sent in on the day your child returns to school.

Transportation

Your child's means of transportation from school is very important. We need to know how your child will be leaving. Please, send in a note to the office if your child will be changing the way he or she leaves the school. We cannot vary the transportation without **written consent** from you.

STAR Binder

Each day your child will bring home a STAR binder. The binder will contain important papers that need to be signed and homework assignments. There will be notes or symbols/numbers on the behavior log telling you what kind of day your child had at school. The behavior log (located at the back of the binder) is designed to enhance communication between home and school, so **it is imperative that the log is signed and returned daily.** Our discipline plan is based on classroom rules, rewards, and consequences.

Lunch Prices

Lunch prices are \$1.25 for regular lunch and \$.40 for reduced lunches. Breakfast is FREE! Please, be sure your child has lunch money for each day of the week. It would be most helpful if you would like to pay for lunch weekly, instead of daily. Lunch money MUST be enclosed in an envelope with your child's name and his or her teacher's name on the front of the envelope. Free and reduced lunch forms will be sent home the first week of school.

PTO

PTO will meet on the first Thursday every other month at 6:00 p.m. Please, become involved in our PTO this year. This program directly benefits your child, and parent involvement is the key to success!

Homework

Homework is a must!!! In order to help your child become successful, please make sure he or she completes homework on the nights it is given. Your child is responsible for placing all daily homework assignments in the STAR binder. There will be consequences for not turning in homework.

Reading

We would like for each child to read at least 20 minutes each night, but even 10 minutes would help improve reading skills. In your child's behavior log, you will see a place to log in how long your child spends reading each day. Since reading is such an important matter, students will be allowed to bring books from home to read after they have completed an assignment. Please limit this to two books a day.

Changing Classes

Your child will have three different teachers this year. Mrs. McCullough will be teaching reading and social studies. Mrs. Samuel will be teaching language arts, which includes story writing, spelling, and grammar. Mrs. Smith will be teaching math and science. A schedule is enclosed in the STAR binder.

Conference Time

We would like to meet with each of our parents during the next four weeks to discuss your child's progress and to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please sign up for a time. If you need to talk to any of us before your scheduled conference time, please feel free to call the school after 2:30 p.m.

Again, we are looking forward to a wonderful year. We hope to work together with you as partners in education for your child's benefit.

Sincerely,

Third Grade Teachers