



Pod 1 News

August 11, 2009

Dear Parents,

We have had a great start in First Grade! ☺ The students are beginning to listen better, already show good manners, and are eager to learn. Continue to be patient with your child and us as we transition from summer relaxation into a scheduled school routine. Here is an update of our pod happenings:

- **Language Arts** We have read several stories to them, discussed the main ideas, and given life experiences related to the stories. We will be emphasizing main idea, developing Word Wall vocabulary, and beginning our First Grade readers during the next two weeks. We are also individually assessing each child's reading ability. We will share those results with you at Parent Teacher Conferences.
- **Reading Bags** Very soon each child will bring home a Reading Bag with a leveled reader in it. Please listen to your child read it, help as needed, sign the Reading Log (enclosed in the bag), and return the Reading Bag and book the next day. We use the books in class.
- **Math** We have read several Math books to your children, will give a Math Assessment, and have observed your child's skills during our Math lessons. We will be learning Touchpoints for the next two weeks. Please take time to learn this fun way of recognizing numbers and number sense.
- **Homework** The students will have **Math homework during the week**. Please look at the homework, help as needed, and sign the homework. The students should return the homework in their Dragon Folder every day.
- **Unit** We will learn about Rules (school, bus, and classroom) and Me, Myself, and I for the next two weeks. Please take time to discuss these ideas at home. The students have role-played several of these rules. They, also, have written some interesting sentences about themselves.

Dates to Remember:

August	Parent Orientation -- Date to be announced later ** more information about this will be coming soon
Aug. 27	Fall Pictures at FRPS
Sept 7	Labor Day NO SCHOOL



CLASSROOM ROUTINE

- ❖ Please return the Dragon Folder **every day** after reviewing your child's work. Remember to take a few minutes to check for any notes/information inside the folder.
- ❖ Return library books before your child's library day.
- ❖ **Read with your child each night!** Feel free to "Partner Read" the story with your child. You read a page and then your child reads a page. Continue that way until your child is comfortable reading the story fluently by himself or herself. By the end of each week your child should be able to read the story independently.
- ❖ Continue to help with homework as needed. Please let us know if your child is having difficulty with the homework or if it takes longer than 20 minutes to complete the written part. **Please sign all written homework.** Your signature lets us know that you reviewed your child's homework and helped as needed.
- ❖ Feel free to call us at school between 3:00 – 3:15 if you have any questions or have concerns. We will be happy to talk with you.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

- ❖ Please make us aware of any custody problems.
- ❖ Visitors need to check in at the office. Also, parents need an I.D. to enter the building. **Remember to get a release slip if you are picking up your child early!**
- ❖ **Transportation changes must be in writing.**
- ❖ Please wait under the outside foyer when picking up a child. Only the parent or an adult can pick up a child.
- ❖ **Please!** If your child is a car rider, please encourage your child to walk down to the pod themselves.
- ❖ Please do not park on the yellow curb. It is for Drop Off only.
- ❖ Please do not drop off your child before 8:00. **Also, when possible, make every effort to not interrupt class by picking up your child early.**
- ❖ Children who are not picked up at dismissal time may be released to the Community Police.

**THANKS FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION!!
WE APPRECIATE YOU!!**