August 20, 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to fifth-grade! I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child. First, I would like to introduce myself. I graduated and received my Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and Masters in Education from California Lutheran University. This is my sixteenth year teaching at Dearborn, and my thirteenth year in fifth-grade. I have taught fifth-grade, third-grade, and Resource. I am a Certified Gifted Teacher and I have participated in several professional development seminars and classes for differentiation and teaching gifted learners. I truly enjoy learning and I will continue to meet with other SAS teachers and attend gifted conferences to keep my teaching current and exciting for your child. I am excited to use Dr. Kaplan’s Depth and Complexity Prompts, technology, Interact Simulation kits, literature circles, tiered activities, and other tools for helping your child meet his/her potential.

In an effort to prepare your child for middle school, the fifth-grade will be team teaching this year. This means that your child will experience different teachers for different subject matters, allowing teachers to specialize in a few curricular areas. Students will learn important organizational skills that will prepare them for the future. Your child will with me for Language Arts, Math, Science and Health. I am considered the “Homeroom” teacher for your child. If you need to communicate with Mrs. Kent (Social Studies/History or Art), please feel free to email her throughout the year. Her email address is provided on page 3. Physical Education will be taught collaboratively by both fifth-grade teachers.

Fifth-grade also has a website that can be accessed to get information specific to our class and the fifth-grade updates. You can access it at: www.dearbornfifthgrade.weebly.com

So that your child will have a successful learning experience, I ask for your help in the following areas:

• Ask for, review, and discuss all graded assignments that are sent home. All tests are to be signed and returned-this will keep you aware of your child’s process throughout the year.
• Homework will be assigned every Monday through Thursday. Homework is given to reinforce or extend skills learned during the week. Students will be provided with a Student Homework Planner that they will be required to fill out and needs your signature daily.
  o Students will have long-term projects and will need help planning their time wisely.
  o 20 minutes of reading is required Monday – Thursday. Please encourage your child to also read for pleasure over the weekend. On our webpage, you can find several links with lists of grade 5 recommended books.
• Preparing your child for assessments by working on and encouraging study skills.
• Making sure your child arrives on time and is rarely absent. If your child is absent, please send a note explaining his/her reason for the absence upon returning to school.
• If you would like a conference, please make an appointment by sending me an email or note. If a phone conference is adequate, I will use the phone number you provide on the back page of this packet. Please feel free to email me at mrh8737@lausd.net for any general questions or concerns. Email will be my primary method of communication with room 24 families.

Attached to this letter are some basic policies and procedures we’ll be using in the fifth-grade. Please familiarize yourself with them and discuss them with your child.

I look forward to working collaboratively with you this year to make certain your child reaches his/her potential and has an enjoyable and successful year at Dearborn!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Weyandt, M.Ed
mrh8737@lausd.net
Dearborn (818) 349-4381
Behavior Expectations

Character building is very important in fifth-grade and we will be studying the Six Pillars of Character: Fairness, Responsibility, Citizenship, Trustworthiness, Caring and Respectfulness. Precious hours of instruction time can be lost when there is poor behavior in the classroom. Please discuss the importance of a positive classroom environment with your student. We will be using the school behavior conduct form to help you and the students monitor their behavior. Please take note of my classroom rules and discipline plan:

Be Respectful
1. Enter and leave the room quietly.
2. Raise your hand and wait to be called upon.
3. Listen respectfully to the teacher and to other students without interrupting.
4. Treat others the way you want to be treated.
5. Say “please” and “thank you.”

Be Responsible
1. Place personal property where your teacher directs.
2. Do not touch other people’s property.
3. Follow directions.
4. Come to school every day, on time, with your homework completed to the best of your ability.

Be Safe
1. Walk.
2. Keep walkways clear.
3. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Get permission before leaving your seat or the room.

Classroom Consequences

| 1st Time You Choose Not To Follow A Rule | You Earn: A verbal warning. Proceed with caution. |
| 2nd Time You Choose Not To Follow A Rule | You Earn: A check on the student’s behavior log. |
| 3rd Time You Choose Not To Follow A Rule | You Earn: Two checks on behavior log and lose free time at recess or lunch. |
| 4th Time You Choose Not To Follow A Rule | You Earn: Three checks on behavior log and lose free time and fill out behavior form. |
| 5th Time You Choose Not To Follow A Rule | You Earn: Four checks on behavior log and a trip to the office with behavior form and a phone call home. |

• Severe Clause: Any sort of physical violence or foul language directed at another student will send student directly to the Principal’s Office and a call home.

** Students who have five or less checks will be able to participate in the monthly fifth-grade activity. Students who earn more than five checks on their behavior log, will not participate in the monthly activity.
Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones are to be turned off (not on vibrate) and kept in backpacks until the end of the school day at 2:15. Any cell phones that are confiscated must be picked up by a parent in the school office. Offenders will receive checks on conduct sheet, which may result in a loss of monthly fifth-grade activity.

Birthday Celebrations

In accordance with the District Healthy Beverage and Obesity Prevention policy, I ask that you not send in any sweets, cupcakes, or doughnuts for birthday celebrations or holidays. If your child will be having a birthday during the school year and you would like to do something for the class, I ask that you send a healthy treat. Please contact me a couple of days in advance so we can plan accordingly.

Additionally, please DO NOT send invitations for your child’s birthday party to school to hand out unless the entire class is being invited. Feelings are often hurt when only a student or two is left out of those invited. A class roster will be compiled by the end of September, please use this roster to MAIL invitations if you are selecting only certain students for birthday parties.

Field Trips

We are in the planning stages for several field trips for this year. Our hope is that all fifth-grade classes will attend all field trips together. All field trips are curriculum based. Typically, we allow a parent to attend one field trip per school year and they are chosen by lottery. More information on field trips should be available at Back to School Night.

Supply List

There are many supplies that we need in the classroom to make our year a success. Many of these supplies are provided by the school or by me. However, neither the school nor myself have unlimited budgets, and therefore we must ask for your help in making sure all students have the materials we need to complete our assignments and activities with ease. If you have trouble providing these items for your child please contact me.

Items we would appreciate if you could provide for your child:
* 2 fabric book covers (jumbo size, standard sizes will not fit)
* pencil sharpener with a case to catch shavings
* colored pencils (12 or 24 pack)
* pencils
* wide ruled 3 hole punched paper
* pencil pouches (no boxes; pouches can be carried to other classrooms when teaming)
* 1 ½ inch 3 ring binder with dividers
* subject dividers
* 3 spiral bound single subject notebook
* highlighter

Items we’d LOVE to have for the class if you are able to donate:
* gift cards for Target or Lakeshore for educational supplies
* paper towels
* kleenex
* disinfectant wipes for clean up
* dry erase markers
* pencils
* glue sticks
* ziplock bags of any size
* sharpies
* post-it notes of any size
* wide ruled 3 hole punched paper
* scotch tape

Space in our classrooms is very tight, so we ask that you do not bring the following items to school:
* additional 3 ring binders (they won’t fit in the desk with all our text books)
* pencil boxes (no room, pouches only please)
* folders
* mechanical pencils
* white out
* sharpies
PARENTS:
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS PAGE AND RETURN WITH YOUR STUDENT TOMORROW!

1. Student ____________________________________________________________

2. Parent/Guardian Name(s)____________________________________________

3. Best phone number(s) for contact after 2:15 p.m.:
   #1 Contact ________________________ @ _ _ _ - _ _ _ - _ _ _  
   #2 Contact ________________________ @ _ _ _ - _ _ _ - _ _ _  

4. Email address for contact #1: ____________________________
   Email address for contact #2: ____________________________

   Email is very important because notices can get lost in bottomless backpacks. I will use email regularly to make general announcements (i.e. Don’t forget the science test Friday) and to make personal contact regarding your child (i.e. Wanted you to know about your child’s improvement in math). Using email also allows me to save photocopies for academic work instead of notices to go home. Please list an email address you’ll check daily. Free email accounts are available from Yahoo or Gmail.

*Please email me the first/second week to make sure I have the correct email address for you.

5. Are you available to help out in the classroom? If so, please check all boxes that apply.
   □ I would like to go on field trips
   □ I am able to help out with classroom needs (copying, correcting, filing, etc.)
   □ I am interested in being a room parent (special events, contacting parents, creating roster, spring silent auction, etc.)

6. Is there anything special you think I should know about your child?
   **Please Fill out Helping Hand form on the back of this sheet**

   Parent Signature ______________________________________________________

   Date _____/______/_______