

Dear Parents,

In less than a week's time, your child is already proving that he is learning important school behaviors (many of which are probably expected at home.) Your child is learning how to listen to directions and follow the rules. The rules and consequences include the following:

- Rule # 1. Listen When Your Teacher is Talking
- Rule # 2. Follow Directions Quickly
- Rule # 3. Respect Others, Respect Yourself, Respect Your School
- Rule # 4. Raise Your Hand to Talk
- Rule # 5. Be Safe, Be Honest

Consequences

This year, we will be using a behavior chart that recognizes positive behavioral choices, along with choices that are against our rules. Children will begin each day with their "clip" at "Ready to Learn." By making good choices, they may move their clip up the chart towards "Outstanding Behavior." Poor choices will cause them to move their clip down the chart. Consequences for continued poor behavioral choices may include time away from an activity or a phone call to parents.

Please review these with your child.

Behavior Charts

Beginning next week, students will be bringing home a calendar where they will keep track of their behavior each day. It will be taped into their home/school folder. Please check and initial the chart each evening. **The charts must come back the next day in order for this to be effective in our classroom.**

Additionally, your child is learning to clean up when finished with an activity, to sit on the carpet with legs crossed like a pretzel (or crisscross applesauce), and to wait for his turn to talk. We have also practiced walking in the hall like kindergarteners with hands at our sides or in our pockets (hall hands) and with no talking.

Academically, we are working on several basic concepts. These include writing our names, letter recognition and formation, early literacy experiences (listening and responding to stories), number recognition and formation (0 to 20—calendar skills), and shapes. It is important that these skills be practiced and reinforced at home. This will help improve your child's school success. Reading to your child daily is also very important!

☐ **Absences:** A signed excuse card **must** be returned with your child on the day he/she comes back to school. There are several in your child's folder.

☐ **Change of Plans:** If there is a change of transportation or the person picking up your child, **I must have a signed note informing the school of the change. If the change occurs during the school day, please call the school office at 397-5246. The secretary will get a message to me promptly.**

☐ **Recess:** Weather permitting, we will be going out for recess as much as possible. Please help your child wear appropriate clothing as the weather becomes colder.

☐ **Book Orders:** Each month you and your child will have the opportunity to order book club books. There is no obligation for you to order any books, but I will be happy to send in your order if you have one. Your child should return the order form, with a check, within a few days of receiving the papers. All purchases may be placed on one check made out to Scholastic. Purchases can also be made online.

☐ **Snacks:** I have provided snacks this week. Beginning next week, if your child would like a snack, they may bring a healthy snack along in their backpack. It should be something that they are able to eat independently in about 5 minutes time (Examples are pretzels, crackers or grapes.) **Please do not send drinks. Water is available in the classroom.** We will have snack time for the first several weeks of school.

Next week, we will have school Monday through Thursday. There is no school on Friday, September 4 or Monday, September 7.

Any questions? Please ask! Thanks for all your support!

Sue_gehman@conestogavalley.org

