

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

If these guidelines are not followed, the following consequences will take place

Consequences

- First time- verbal reminder/warning
- Second time- name moves to green on the traffic light. Child meets with the teacher to discuss their behavior.
- Third time- name moves to yellow on the traffic light. Child loses 5 minutes of playtime.
- Fourth time- name moves to red on the traffic light. Parents and/or Principal are contacted.

*When children are caught being good there will be various individual or group rewards given.

Please review these with your child. 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 chance for school success. Reading to your child daily is also very important!

Behavior Charts

The students will also be bringing home a small chart where they will keep track of their behavior each day. If they did not get their name moved on the stop light, they will get to put a stamp on their chart. If they got on the green light, they will color that square green, yellow for the yellow light, red for the red light. The charts will be sent home every day. They must come back the next day in order for this to be effective in our classroom. At the end of the month, students who have earned stamps for the month may pick out of our treasure chest.

- September-November: Students may have two green lights and still pick out of treasure chest.
- December-February: students may have one green light and pick out of the treasure chest
- March until the end of the year: All stamps to pick out of treasure chest

Remember: Each day is a new beginning

- ***Absences:*** A signed excuse card must be returned with your child on the day he/she comes back to school. I sent a few home in your child's folder on the first day. Please let me know if you need any more cards.
- ***Birthdays:*** We would love if you would like to send in a treat for the class on your child's birthday. Please try to make these treats as healthy as possible and they may not include peanuts. Please let me know ahead of time. **To avoid hurt feelings, please do not send birthday invitations to school unless every child in the class is invited to the party.** Thank you for your understanding.
- ***Change of Plans:*** If there is a change of transportation or the person picking up your child, **I must have a written note informing the school of the change.**
- ***Recess:*** Weather permitting, we will be going out for recess as much as possible. Please see that your child is wearing 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. I will also provide snacks next week. Beginning Monday, September 9, if your child would like a snack in the afternoon, they may bring a **healthy** snack along in their backpack. Please do not put it in their lunch box as they may become confused whether it is part of lunch or a snack. 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.

There is no school tomorrow, Friday, August 31 or on Monday, September 3. Enjoy the long weekend!

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

Sincerely,

Sue Gehman

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P.S. If you have not already done so, please send in an am empty pencil box. I will be giving each child supplies to keep in their box.