

ABC's of First Grade



Allergies: Each class might have different allergy concerns based on the group of children. Please check with your child's teacher to make sure there aren't any restrictions about different foods that can be in the classroom.

Attendance: We use every minute for learning. Please try to have your child at school every day and on time. School begins at 7:40 a.m. and ends 1:40 p.m. Students are able to enter the classroom at 7:20 a.m. They can earn extra AR points or receive extra help from me at this time. In the case of sickness or an emergency, please send a doctor's note or parent note.



Birthdays: Your child's birthday is a very special day! If you are planning to bring in a treat for your child's birthday, please notify your child's teacher at least a day in advance. Please send only store-bought treats. Treats will be given to students during lunch. For students that have a birthday during the summer, we will celebrate their birthday as close to the month as possible. 😊

Book Orders: Periodically, Scholastic Book Club order forms will be sent home. If you would like to place an order, you can send in the order form and a check/money order made payable to Scholastic Book Clubs. No cash please! Also, you can place an order online using the code on the order form.

Box Top\$: Our school collects these to raise money for our school. Please send any that you have in.

Breakfast: School breakfast is served every morning from 7:20 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. If you would like for your child to eat breakfast at school, please be sure they are at school at 7:20 a.m. Breakfast is an important start to the day so that your child is ready to learn.



Calendar: The school will send home a monthly calendar. The calendar will have all of the important information about what is happening on the campus for the month. Please remove that calendar from your child's yellow folder when it is sent home. This calendar is for you to keep at home for your reference.

Communication: Each student will have a daily folder. Daily parent/teacher communication can be done in the folder. Also, make sure to read the weekly class newsletter (found in a clear sheet inside of the folder) for information. We are always available through email or by phone if you have questions or concerns.

Conferences: Parent/teacher conferences will be held before and after school at a scheduled time. Please give your child's teacher at least 24 hour notice if you would like to schedule a conference.



Discipline: Conduct concerns will be written on the calendar that stays inside the front left pocket of the daily folder. Your child has the chance to earn 20 points in conduct for the day. If they were marked down during the day, your child's teacher will write a number code that explains why they have points taken off. The codes can be found on the right side of the calendar for reference. Each code takes 2 points off of their daily conduct grade. If the behavior is severe, parent contact will be made over the phone. Each time a student is marked down in conduct, 2 points will be deducted from their weekly conduct grade.



Early Dismissal: Every Wednesday is an early release day. Students will be dismissed at 12:40 p.m.

Emergency Information: If your contact information changes at any time, make sure to notify the office or your child's teacher ASAP so that you can be reached if there is an emergency.



Field Trips: Our field trips will be educational and will enhance the State Standards. Anyone wanting to be a chaperone must be a board approved volunteer. If you are interested in being a volunteer, you must complete the Volunteer Approval Form.

FOCUS: You can access your child's grades online through the FOCUS website. If you do not have an account or have forgotten your login information, please let your child's teacher know and they will get you the needed paperwork.

Folder: Every child will receive a yellow daily folder on the first day of school to organize and keep important information safe. The folder will have the monthly behavior calendar that always stays in the folder and any additional papers can be taken out to keep at home. In the middle there are 2 clear sheets, one has the weekly newsletter and the other has the spelling and sight words for the 9 weeks. The back of the folder is where you will find your child's nightly phonics homework. It is very important that your child brings this to and from class **every** day.



Grading: Your child will receive a weekly folder with a breakdown of their grades from the prior week in their weekly Folder. All graded work will be sent home weekly in your child's weekly Folder. When Report Cards are sent home please return the signed Report Card envelope- the actual report card is yours to keep.



Homework: The school's policy is that every child read one book each night. Daily, students will bring home one AR book on their level as their *Book-A-Night*. Please look for more information in the *Book-A-Night* letter. In addition to the daily AR book your child will also have a phonics page for homework each night. It will be located at the back of their yellow daily folder.



Illness: If your child is sick and stays home from school, make sure to send in a doctor's note or parent note. A student may use 10 parent notes a year for the absence to be marked as excused. If your child has a doctors appointment for their illness please make sure to get a doctor's note to send in for the excuse note.



Just Read: Please make sure to read with your child at least 20 minutes every day! Accelerated Reader (AR) is an important part of our classrooms. Your child will read books at home (Book-A-Night) and in the classroom. Then, use this program to take quizzes about the books to earn points. This will help increase their comprehension. Your child will be given an individualized point goal per nine-week period. If they meet this goal, there will be classroom rewards.

















Keeping in Touch: Communication is important! You can contact your child's teacher by writing notes in the daily folder, phone, or e-mailing your child's teacher.

Keeping Up: First Grade will be a fabulous year of learning and growth. Please make sure to review and initial in the folder daily. The weekly newsletter will also give you information.



Lunch: Your child may bring a lunch or buy a school lunch. Regularly priced student lunches are \$2.25. You may go online to <https://family.titank12.com/> to add money to your child's account and view their transactions for the month. Monthly menus and school prices are on the Nassau County District website.

	<p>Medicine: All medicine must be kept and administered in the clinic. Children are not allowed to carry medication with them. *(EPI pens are an exception)</p> <p>Minutes Matter: We will be working every minute of the day and we have a very busy schedule. Please try to schedule appointments after school.</p>
	<p>Newsletters: A class newsletter will be sent home weekly. The newsletter will include important dates, information and testing dates. The newsletter will be in your child's yellow daily folder. Please make sure to read the newsletter for important information.</p>
	<p>Outside: Our class will have playground time each day. Make sure your child is dressed appropriately for play and weather. Tennis shoes are best. Flip flops and other backless shoes are not permitted, as stated in Nassau County School Board Handbook as these are not safe. Please send your child with a labeled water bottle to bring out to the playground each day.</p>
	<p>Parental Involvement: Your support of the school activities makes your child feel important and sends the message that you value school. Thank you for your help!</p> <p>P.R.A.I.S.E.: We are a PRAISE school. This means we are Proud, Respectful, Accountable, Involved, Safe, for Everyone. We will be discussing what each of those words mean and what we can do to show PRAISE in our actions and words. Your child will earn PRAISE Bucks all over school for showing these good behaviors! The PRAISE Bucks can be turned in for special rewards.</p>
	<p>Questions: If you have any questions for me, you can call, email me or write a note in the yellow daily folder.</p> <p>Quiet Time: Please provide a quiet work space for your child to complete their homework and read. Routines and consistency will help your be child successful.</p>
	<p>Rainbow Sight Words: This year we are doing Rainbow Sight Words in 1st grade! Your child will come home with the colored sight word list that they are working on. Please practice these words with them at night. Then, when they are ready they can come to school to take their sight word test so they can move to the next color level. It is their responsibility to tell me when they are ready to test on their sight word list. Please talk with your child about being a self advocate for their learning by letting me know when they are ready to test. The students will progress through the year from word lists, to sentences to passages.</p> <p>Responsible: We want to teach each student to be responsible. Please help with this at home. It is your child's responsibility to do their homework and to return their daily folder every day.</p>
	<p>Spelling: Spelling homework will not be required. 9 weeks spelling lists can be found in the daily folder. If a student is struggling with spelling tests and you would like additional suggestions for practice at home, please ask.</p>

	<p>Transportation: We must know how your child is getting home from school. If you need to make a change, we must receive a written note or a phone call to the front office. PLEASE do not give changes through my phone extension, a remind app message, or email. We cannot ensure that we will receive it in time. If a written note or phone call to the front office is not received for a change, your child will be sent home the usual way. As per the Transportation Department, we may not make changes in buses for at least the first six weeks of school.</p>
	<p>Understanding: Please be understanding if any problems should arise. Your child is important to me. We want to have open communication with parents. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher when needed. We absolutely want the best for your child!</p> <p>Unique: Each child is unique. Therefore, we will implement a variety of teaching/learning techniques in the classroom to help your child gain the knowledge and skills he/she needs in order to be confident and successful!</p> <p>Us: Together, we can be a powerful team in your child's education. We look forward to working with you!</p>
	<p>Volunteers: The school will need volunteers from time to time. If you are interested in volunteering, you must be a board-approved volunteer. This requires some paperwork to be filled out and then sent to the district for approval. This process takes a minimum of 6-8 weeks, so turn this in as soon as possible. Thank you for your help! *Due to COVID-19, we are not able to host volunteers at this time. We encourage you to still complete the volunteer paperwork, just in case the regulations change as the year progresses.</p>
	<p>Weekly Graded Folders: A weekly graded folder will be sent home with your child each week. Please review the graded work and sign the paper that shows their weekly grades, their sight word level and their weekly progress toward their AR goal. Please remove all student papers from the folder before returning on Thursday.</p> <p>Welcome: Welcome to our First Grade family! We are going to have a fantastic year!</p> <p>Working Together: We believe in building a classroom based on trust and an atmosphere in which your child feels safe and secure. Your child should feel comfortable to ask their teacher any question or share any thoughts or concerns.</p>
	<p>eXtra: From time to time, we will place a donation list in the newsletter. This will be when we are in need of these items. If you are not able to donate, no worries! Please consider ordering from Scholastic through our class! It will help to build our classroom library 😊</p> <p>At this time most 1st grade teachers have an Amazon Wishlist of items for the classroom. They will update this list as we need additional things for our classroom. The Amazon Wishlist can be found with your child's teacher.</p>
	<p>You: You are the first and most important teacher in your child's life. Be involved. Ask questions about their day. Read to them and with them. Help them study. Encourage them to love school and learning! Stay updated through your child's daily folder.</p>
	<p>ZZZZ's: Make sure that your child gets plenty of rest. Setting and keeping a bedtime routine is a wonderful gift you can give to your child. It will help your child to be alert and ready to learn.</p>