Mrs. Schwartz's Classroom

Communication

- Please read the weekly newsletter. It will provide important information about the areas of concentration for the week as well as daily homework. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.
  - Email: Evelyn_Y_Schwartz@mcpsmd.org
  - Note in your child’s Home folder
  - Telephone before or after school - (301-279-4975).

In all instances, I will respond within 24 hours. Please do not stop by the classroom to discuss concerns with me without an appointment, as it interrupts learning in the classroom.

Homework

- Homework will be given each day. The work will be due the following day, unless otherwise noted.
- Make sure your child puts his/her first and last name on the homework sheet.
- Return the homework in the home folder the following day.
- Homework should be done in the same location at home to establish routine.
- Neatness should be taken into account while completing homework.
- Reading Homework—Please refer to the calendar inside the folder for reading homework assignments. Please sign the calendar nightly.

Journals

- Your child should complete one entry each week in his/her Home Journal to READING class by Thursday.
- Your child should practice reading his/her journal at home. Students will be sharing their journals with the class.
- Students should do their own writing; however parents may help with ideas. The journal should be a reflection of the student's own writing ability.
- Please read the letter in the front cover of journal for more information.
Other Information

- **Check in at the office**
  Remember to check in at the office BEFORE you come to the classroom, even if it is just for a few minutes. When you pick your child up during the day, please wait at the office and they will call for your child.

- **Bus riders/Walkers**
  If your child is going home a different way than usual, you must send a note giving your permission.

- **Backpacks**
  Each day your child should check their backpack to make sure they have included lunch box or money, Home folder, Math folder and Reading folder, library book, and any notes.

- **Birthday Celebrations**
  If you would like to send a birthday treat, please let me know ahead of time. Store-bought treats should be easily handled and have ingredients listed on the label. Please try to avoid items with nuts. Lunchtime or the end of the day is the best time for birthday treats. **Non-food items such as pencils, erasers, and stickers are a great alternative to food items.**

- **Allergies**
  If your child has any allergies, please let me know. This is important, especially for birthday celebrations and in the lunchroom. If your child has allergies, please send an alternative treat for your child. I will make sure that the specific treat is given for each celebration.
Graded Papers

Please review all graded papers that come home with your child to ensure they understand the concepts.

- Grading Policy

  Some papers will have letter grades or be based on a rubric scale:
  
  - O or 4 = outstanding
  - S, 3, or 2 = satisfactory
  - N or 1 = not yet, needs improvement

  Some papers will be graded as follows:
  
  - ★ = excellent, neatly done
  - 😊 or ✔+ = very good, neat
  - ✔ = completed, may have made errors
  - ✔- = needs to revisit the topic, did not follow directions

- Helpful websites

  http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/ General information about MCPS

  http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/stonemil/ Stone Mill website
Classroom Management

Good Citizenship Calendar and Chart
In your child’s home folder, a citizenship calendar is kept. Students who have followed class and school rules will earn a sticker. Students who have forgotten the rules will not earn a sticker. A quick note will be written on the calendar. Please discuss positive and negative behavior with your student.

The behavior chart is a visual representation of your child’s day. Green is the goal! However, if a student chooses to break a rule:

1. Color chart yellow—warning, note on calendar
2. Color chart orange—time out in classroom or recess
3. Color chart red—time out in classroom or recess and teacher contacts parent

I believe that all students can be successful in first grade. All students are expected to behave appropriately in the classroom, on the playground and other places in the school. I expect all students to allow me to teach and to allow others to learn. No student will be allowed to interfere with another student’s learning.

With this system, I am reinforcing positive behavior. If your child persists in negative behaviors that prevent other children from learning, I will contact you. Please reinforce at home the idea that each child is responsible for his/her behavior and must bear the consequences of that behavior.

Class Rewards
The class as a whole has the opportunity to earn rewards by spelling out words on the board. The class can earn rewards by working as a class following classroom and school rules. The class can also earn a “monkey on the vine.” The class can earn a monkey by working as a class following classroom and school rules.

Table Rewards
Each table has the opportunity to earn marbles. Every Friday, I will count the total number of marbles. The table with the most marbles will receive a reward. Marbles are earned by working together as a group in following school and classroom rules.

Individual Rewards
Each student has the opportunity to be rewarded for good behavior. Each student has a sticker book.
Schedule for Mrs. Schwartz’s Class

9:05-9:15 Welcome, unpack
9:15-9:27 Pledge, lunch count, journal time
9:27-11:00 Reading Initiative
11:00-11:30 Writer’s workshop and snack time
11:30-12:25 Math
12:30-1:25 Lunch/Recess
1:30-1:40 Bathroom break, morning meeting, literature
1:40-2:25 Specials
2:25-3:15 Social studies/science, handwriting
3:15-3:25 Closing activities and dismissal

Specials Schedule

Monday
PE 1:40-2:25

Tuesday

Wednesday  Music 1:40-2:25
Thursday  Art 1:40-2:25
Friday  Computer Lab 2:35-3:15

Media Center B week 1:40-2:25
Counseling C week 1:40-2:25