

September 3, 2009

Dear Families,

The first week of 5th grade is officially over! Students have spent a lot of time getting to know each other and setting expectations and routines for our classroom.

Since our open house is a little bit later this year, I just wanted to fill you in on a couple of expectations that you should be aware of.

The first is regarding "Friday Folders." Fifth grade uses a Friday Folder system to help alleviate papers getting misplaced or parents having to check for important papers throughout the week. When possible, important documents and corrected work will be sent home on Friday. We ask that you go through the folder with your child and sign the front of the folder verifying that you have seen the enclosed materials. The folders should be returned to school on Monday.

A letter regarding Courtyard Privileges for 5th grade students will be sent home on Tuesday. Students will begin working towards earning Courtyard next week. If students don't earn the privilege one week, they start with a clean slate the next week.

Homework: Students will record their homework for the week in their agendas on Mondays. The day the assignment is written on is the day that it is due! The entire homework packet will also go home on Mondays to help students manage their time with extracurricular activities. Within the next couple of weeks we will have established our weekly routine with homework. Most weeks will consist of a math packet, math facts, spelling, and a reading packet. Students should also be reading 30 minutes every night. On Friday, students should have the Title and Author of the book they are reading at home listed in the section provided in their agendas along with parent initials.

If there are ever any questions or concerns, the best ways to reach me are through e-mail or sending in a note. I usually don't check my telephone messages throughout the day, so my response may not be as prompt if you phone. I would be happy to call you to discuss any questions you may have.

I look forward to working with you this year! Have a great long weekend!

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*The 5th Grade is in need of parent volunteers to help tear out and hole punch math units. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know!