July 26, 2013

Dear Fifth Grade Parents:

 Welcome! I am very excited for the upcoming school year. I am Mrs. Heather Brannock. I would like to start the year by making a promise to you that I will do my best to provide your child with a safe and caring classroom that will promote a love for learning.

 I will consistently challenge students to reach educational goals and improve the quality of their work. In our class each student will:

1. work and play safely
2. follow directions
3. respect others and their things
4. use kind words
5. follow all school rules
6. pay attention
7. share with others
8. keep a positive attitude

 We will begin our year by spending the first week with activities on making friends, building self-esteem, learning class rules and procedures, and other important issues in order to develop a safe, caring classroom. Students will be asked to sign a contract stating that they agree to follow the above class rules. Consequences for breaking the rules will be as follows: warnings, loss of privileges, and then referral to the principal. Students will have weekly behavior/responsibility points. Every time a student gets a warning, a point will be subtracted from the student’s behavior/responsibility grade. Students will also be rewarded for good behavior. There will be rewards for the class, for team groups, and individuals.

 I will be assigning nightly homework. Students will record homework in their agendas. Please check this and initial it every night when students have completed the assignments. In addition, if a student does not complete class work on time they will have to finish it at home along with regular homework assignments. Students will be given two homework passes every quarter. If a student does not turn in homework on time, I will ask for a homework pass. The student will still be required to complete the assignment. If the student runs out of passes, they will receive a warning.

 Students will be graded according to the following scale:

A+ = 98-100%

 A = 94-97%

 A- =90-93%

 B+ = 88-89%

 B = 84-87%

 B- =80-83%

 C+ =78-79%

 C= 74-77%

 C- =70-73%

 D+ =68-69%

 D = 64-67%

 D- =60-63%

 F= 59% and below

When I grade your student’s work, I will put a fraction at the top of their paper. The top number describes the number of points the student got correct and the bottom number shows the number of points possible. I will also put a percent next to the fraction, using the above scale.

 I believe that communication between parents, students, and teachers is the key to a successful school year. I will always be available to students and parents for questions or concerns. Please feel free to contact me at any time. You may call the front office at 399-2121 or email me at hbrannock@geageckos.org . You are always welcome to come by the classroom. Please check my classroom website: [**http://brannock.webs.com/**](http://brannock.webs.com/) . It will contain important information such as projects, class work, announcements, and photos.

 In closing, I look forward to a happy, fun, and successful year together. I promise a fantastic and memorable year!

 Sincerely,

 Mrs. Brannock