July 21, 2017

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.

**Class Rules:**

 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 learning about My Classroom Economy. Students will be learning financial responsibility and many other things. As part of My Classroom Economy, students will be rewarded for following these rules with classroom “currency”. Students will be asked to sign a contract stating that they agree to follow the above class rules. Students who don’t meet these expectations will be fined some of their classroom dollars. (More information about My Classroom Economy to follow).

**Consequences:**

Additional consequences for breaking the rules will be as follows: warnings, loss of recess, discipline plan, and then referral to the principal. Students will have weekly behavior points. Every time a student gets a warning/fine, a point will be subtracted from the student’s behavior grade. When a student writes a discipline plan, it will need to be signed by the parents and returned to school the next day. An unreturned form will result in loss of recess. Students will a behavior grade below 75% will miss out on fun classroom activities and/or field trips.

**Rewards:**

 Students are rewarded for good behavior and for following classroom policies. There are rewards for the class, for team groups, and for individuals. Rewards range from extra classroom economy money to classroom parties.

**Homework/ Classwork:**

 I will be assigning nightly homework. Students will record homework in their planners. 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. It is the student’s responsibility to complete all assignments and turn them in on time.

**Grading:**

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. Graded work will be returned each Wednesday in a designated folder. Please review the work, sign the folder, and return it each Thursday. Students may redo assignments with scores below 70% to be submitted for regrading. Corrected work will receive half credit. You may also keep track of your student’s grades with Family Link located on the school website. Be on the lookout for more information on Family Link from our school registrar.

**Celebrations/ Birthdays/ Holiday**

 Classroom celebrations will be organized according to our rewards system. Student will earn class parties by following directions, displaying good behavior, and showing kindness to one another. Out of respect for everyone’s diverse beliefs, I will not be organizing class holiday parties. If a student has a birthday during the school year, they are welcome to bring treats to share. Arrangements can be made to share treats during our morning or afternoon break.

 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 . Please check my classroom website: [**mrsbrannock.weebly.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