

Welcome to Ms. Holly's Class!

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child! This handbook will answer many of the questions you may have and will be a good future reference.



Kindergarten-2nd grade is a developmentally important period of social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth. Your involvement, interest, and enthusiasm will help make this a wonderful year for your child!

A child's first and most important teacher is his or her parents. Communication between parents and teachers is essential. Please call or send a note if you have a question or concern.

Take a moment to imagine the K-2nd world: letters, numbers, stories, sharing blocks, puzzles, play, paint and play-dough. Imagination and creativity are everywhere. As you talk with your child about their day and celebrate their best effort on the work they do, remember that a K-2nd grade is a "child's garden." Many times the process is more important than the product, and learning is accomplished by doing, touching, and experiencing.

Mrs. Elias' Kindergarten-2nd grade school supply list-2016-2017

1-bottle of white glue

8-glue sticks- preferably Elmer's (others dry out quickly)

12-24- #2 pencils

1-box of crayons

1-package of washable markers

1-pair of scissors

2- folders with pockets

1-ruler

1-clipboard

1-watercolor paints

1-lunchbox

1-water bottle

1-backpack

2- 10 oz bottles of sanitizer

1-box of tissue

2-package Clorox wipes

1-lysol disinfectant spray

1-package of 4 or more dry erase markers

1-box sandwich bags with zippers

Girls- please bring 1 box of plastic forks

Boys- please bring 1 box of plastic spoons

Plastic Pencil Box -- small size

***Please label all of your child's supplies**



Preparing your child for K-2nd grade

Your time and patience will help your child develop a strong sense of self-worth and confidence. Your child should be exposed to the following:

Keep in mind good Health Habits:

- *To wash hands before eating and after going to the bathroom.
- *To attend to their toilet needs independently.
- *To have a set bedtime.
- *Brush teeth regularly.
- *To cover mouth for coughs and sneezes and use a Kleenex appropriately.

Encourage your child to assist in developing their Physical Abilities:

- *To be able to balance and jump. -
- *Putting on and taking off their own jackets and shoes. (Able to zip, snap, and button.)
- *To be able to tie their own shoes.
- *To be able to skip, gallop, run, march, and hop.
- *To be able to identify parts of their body.
- *To be able to cut, paste, color, use a pencil and manipulate objects (eye-hand coordination activities.)
- *To be able to bounce, throw and catch a ball.



SHOULD I OR SHOULDN'T I?

Every year, some parents must make a choice whether to send their children to Kindergarten or delay their entrance for another year. This is an agonizing decision for some parents to make, but perhaps we can help you make a correct one. If you have concerns about your child's readiness, please talk to someone about your concerns. I would be happy to visit with you or direct you to another resource.

Excellent Learning Activities for Your Child

1. Books, books and more books. Read to them and with them!

2. Let your child be responsible for jobs around home. This allows them to develop a sense of responsibility, ownership and independence.

3. Have fun playing games and cards. A deck of cards is a wonderful tool for learning counting, sorting, and ordering numbers. Your child will also be learning how to take turns and play fairly.

4. Listen to your child and expect them to listen to you. If they won't listen to you, they will have trouble listening to the adults at school as well. Provide opportunities for them to practice if necessary.

5. Recite and sing favorite nursery rhymes and songs. Talk about the words, what they mean and if they rhyme.

6. Talk with your child as if they were an adult, this provides a strong language model for them to follow. Discourage "baby talk."

7. Have an art box or cupboard available for them to explore. Include: crayons, glue, sticks, tape, paper, paints, scissors, play-dough, pencils, and interesting writing supplies.

8. Have your child "read" to you.

9. Play counting games, rhyming games, and sound games as you travel in the car.

10. Arrange for your child to play with other children his or her age.

11 . Combine learning with "hands-on" play.

- String Cheerios, buttons, beads, macaroni.
- Sort clothing, silverware, buttons, coins, nails, playing cards.
- Pour rice, juice, milk, flour, cereal.
- Color drawings, newspapers, coloring books.
- Trace hands and feet, pictures from coloring books, shapes, blocks, cookie cutters.
- Cook Jello, Kool-aid, lemonade, cookies, popcorn.

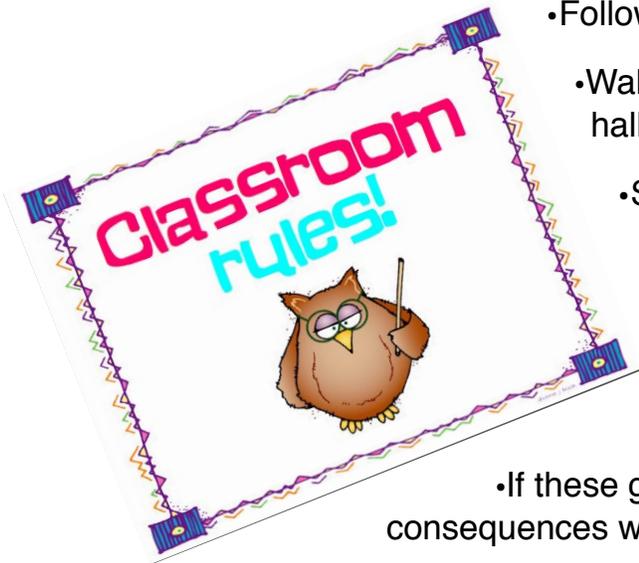


Our Classroom Management Plan

To ensure that each child has a pleasant, positive learning experience, a classroom management plan has been developed. Every child deserves to learn in an environment that allows learning. This plan will help insure a positive learning environment.

CLASSROOM GUIDELINES:

- Be a good listener, do not interrupt others when they are talking.
 - Follow directions the first time they are given.
 - Walk in the classroom and quietly in the hallways.
 - Share with classmates.
 - Treat others with respect. No fighting, teasing, tattling or saying "bad" words.
 - Use an "inside" voice while working in the classroom.
- If these guidelines are not followed, the following consequences will take place.



CONSEQUENCES:

First time: Verbal Reminder/Warning

Second time: Child meets with teacher to discuss their behavior and a point will be taken from Class Dojo

Third time: Child will meet again with teacher, a time out will be given and behavior will be discussed with a parent

Each day is a new beginning. When the children are "caught being good." There will be various individual or group rewards given.

If necessary, teacher, parents and child will set up an individual discipline plan to address any challenges that your child is dealing with in the classroom. My goal is to educate all students, and I will strive to maintain an environment that is conducive to learning for everyone.

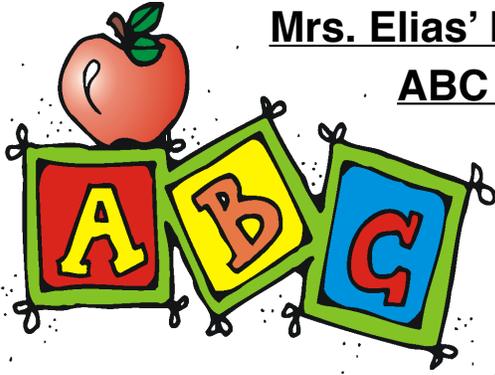
INDIVIDUAL REWARD EXAMPLES:

- *Verbal Praise*
- *Extra points on Class Dojo*
- *Treats*
- *Prize Box*

GROUP REWARD EXAMPLES:

- *Verbal Praise*
- *Extra Points on Class Dojo*
- *Extra Recess or Center Time*
- *Treat*
- *Movie/Class Party*





Mrs. Elias' Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade ABC Classroom Handbook

Absent- If your child is absent, please call me or the school ASAP. Missing schoolwork will be sent home on the day your child returns to school.

Attendance- It is important that your child arrives by 8:20 in order for them to get ready for the day and be on the family rug by 8:30 a.m. We have a policy on attendance. Please see our school handbook on our website shoalcreekschool.com

Beginning weeks- At the start, of the school year, the students will be involved in learning classroom routine and rules.

The students will also receive review work. The work might be EASY for some students at first. During this time, I am assessing the students and observing what types of work they can handle. Also, students need to refresh some of their skills that they may have forgotten over the summer. Students need to feel they can handle this work. I don't want them to struggle and feel they are unable to do the work. I want my students to have a high self-esteem right from the start.

Birthdays- Birthdays are a special event, and we love to celebrate them! If your child is celebrating a birthday during the school year, you can send a treat to be given right after lunch or at the end of the day. If you are sending treats, please let me know 2-3 days in advance. Some children are on special diets and will need to have an alternative treat sent in by their parents.

Backpacks- Please check your child's backpack each night! Important notes or unfinished schoolwork may be sent home that will require immediate attention.

Chapel Service- Every Wednesday afternoon, we will have chapel service in the church at the beginning of the day. If you are late, please bring your child into chapel.

Clothes- all children will need extra clothes because accidents and spills happen. Please send 1 long sleeve shirt, 1 short sleeve shirt, 1 pair of pants, 1 pair of shorts, 1 pair of socks and 2 pair of underwear. Please have all clothing labeled and in a large gallon baggie.

Communication- On Fridays, I will email out our weekly classroom newsletter that will include announcements, upcoming school events, the concepts we will cover in class, memory verse and spelling words. On Friday's, your child will also bring home their weekly take home folder with their graded papers. Please return the folder the next day. The school's weekly newsletter will be emailed to you. You may also find our school's information on our website at shoalcreekschool.com.

Contacting me- I am happy to discuss with you any concerns or answer any questions. If you need to contact me, you may

- send me an email at helias@gccsda.com. I check my emails a few times a day and will respond to you as soon as I can. This is the easiest way to get a hold of me.

- write a note and put it in your child's take home folder.

- Call the school at 770-251-1464

- Stop by the classroom and talk to me after class.

- If there is an emergency, you may call me at 404-309-0412 Mon-Fri. between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. After 6.p.m. and on the weekends, my time with my husband and children comes first as well as having Sabbath Rest.

Daily take home folders- this folder should be checked every night. You will find hot lunch menus, reading logs, permission slips or any other information in this folder. This is the folder where you can put notes/information for example- permission slips etc.

Dismissal-your child will be dismissed from the classroom at the end of the day at 3:15 p.m. Mrs. Aimee Arrington will be doing the car pool line.

Dress code- please look at our school handbook located on our website for everyday uniform information. You will need to purchase a Shoal Creek Polo and t-shirt for Fridays and field trip days. You can purchase these at the school office. Please make sure your child has tennis shoes every day for p.e. and recess.

Excuse notes- If your child is sick, I need a note from your doctor excusing and explaining why your child was absent.

Field Trips- We will be going on 2 or 3 field trips this year. I will let you know in advance when and where we are going so you may come along with your child, if you would like! Some potential field trips are- Pumpkin patch, Puppetry of Arts, Atlanta Zoo and the Legacy Theatre.

Homework-All students

-should be read to or read for 20 minutes, 5 times a week. A monthly reading log will be sent home that must be filled out and sent back to school on the last day of the month. The first reading log will be sent in September!

-will memorize a memory verse- each week. Each child will be expected to memorize our weekly bible verse. I will put the bible verse in my weekly newsletter. The children will say their memory verse to me on Friday mornings.

-study for our weekly spelling test and be prepared to take the spelling test on Friday. I will provide spelling words for all students in our classroom newsletter.

-can practice math problems and concepts on IXL- an educational website where your child can practice several math problems and concepts at their grade level.

Label, Label, Label!!!! Please label everything your child brings to school. This includes clothing, backpacks, lunch boxes and school supplies.

Lunch money- if your child would like to eat hot lunch, please deposit money in your child's hot lunch account. Each lunch is \$4.00. You can deposit lunch money in our FACTS account program.

Lunch time- will be 30 minutes, and we will eat in our classroom. Please make lunchtime easy and enjoyable for your child. Please send healthy foods that your child likes and will eat. Please limit the amount of sugar that is sent and please do not send drinks that have caffeine in them.

Parent Teacher Conferences- Parent Teacher Conferences will take place at the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters. If you want to meet with me at anytime, please contact me, and I will be happy to talk to you. We are a team, and I am here for you and your child!

Parents are welcome! You are welcome to visit our classroom at any time, especially when we have our holiday parties (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's and last day of school), your child's birthday or field trips. If you would like to visit the classroom at any other time, please let me know ahead of time.

Show and Tell- Periodically, students will have an opportunity to participate in Show and Tell periodically. Please help your child find one item to bring to class. The purpose behind show and tell is to give your child an opportunity to share with others and to practice speaking before a small group. Please no pets unless special arrangements have been made.

Snack time- We will have snack time each morning. Please send a small, healthy snack in your child's backpack. Snack ideas- fruit, veggies, crackers, granola bar, cheese cubes.

Special Diets-I completely support parents and children who may have a food allergy or special diet. However, I do have a classroom full of students with differing needs. If your child has a special diet, you will need to supply the appropriate food choices for your child.

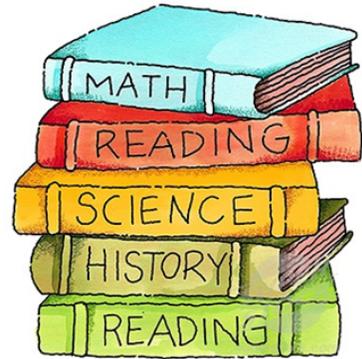
Teacher Assistant- Mrs. Aimee Arrington will be assisting in our classroom each day!! She is awesome, and I look forward to having her in our classroom again this year!

We are a Team! My goal is to make this a terrific school year! My prayer is that we will work together in peace and unity. I find this is done by prayer for all teachers, parents and students and by being in constant communication with each other. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to speak with me. I am here for you and your child! I want the best for your child and take my role as your child's teacher seriously. It is a calling and a privilege to serve!

Curriculum

Bible-Using the Adventist Bible curriculum, we will be learning several Bible stories and memory verses.

Language Arts-We use the Chall-Popp Phonics program, Raz-Kids and Learning A-Z reading program and we will read and discuss many books, poems and songs. The series will introduce all the letters of the alphabet and their sounds. We will learn that sounds stand for letters and words are made of sounds. The children will have an opportunity to work at their level and participate in small group activities to strengthen their emergent reading skills. We will also learn sight word vocabulary to prepare for their next grade.



Math- All of our students will use our GO math series uses manipulative to teach basic concepts. We will order numbers, learn about shapes, put objects into sets, act out story problems, and learn addition and subtraction!

Handwriting-In Kindergarten, your child will learn the basic handwriting strokes and practice making all the upper and lower-case letters and numbers. Their small motor skills are still developing and we will see much improvement as the year progresses. If your child does not write with a dominant hand yet, most likely they will establish one during Kindergarten.

Science/Social Health-Many of our centers and themes will cover topics in science, social studies and health.

Art-Art is taught by our teachers here at Shoal Creek. We will experiment with different art materials and processes. Some art projects are good lessons for following directions. Remember, it's the process that matters, not just the product!



Physical Ed. and Music-The children will have Physical Ed. each day that they come to school. Music will be taught on Fridays, along with many opportunities to sing throughout the week.

Computer-The class will have a chance to use the computers each day. I will be teaching them basic computer vocabulary. Each child will use the computer for websites such as Go Math, IXL, Raz-Kids, Storyline online, StarFall etc.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Beginning of the Year Expectations

The activities that we spend time on at the beginning of the school year will incorporate these important areas:

- Social skills (caring, sharing and getting along)
- Classroom management plan and appropriate school behavior
- Readiness skills (color and shape recognition, coloring, cutting skills, learning about letters and numbers)
- Increasing attention span
- Listening and following directions
- Learning proper handwriting techniques - strengthening fine motor skills





IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO FOR THAT FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:

- 1) Go over the Discipline Plan with your child.
- 2) Get their book bag filled with their school supplies.
- 3) Have them wear tennis shoes.
- 4) Send one snack and a lunch.