Welcome to Room 305



Dear Parents,

 Welcome to Room 305! I am very excited about the coming year. We have a lot of fun things planned. I’ve been looking forward to meeting my new (and returning) students. In my classroom your child will be participating in activities that will enhance his/her intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development. Our days will be structured so that your child will be challenged to meet his/her highest academic potential. This year at Canopy Oaks we will continue to use the reading program called “Wonders.” Wonders teaches the Language Arts Florida Standards (Common Core Standards). For Math, we will use the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt called Go Florida Math, Common Core Edition.

 In order to get the year off to a super start please note the following information:

**SUPPLIES YOUR CHILD WILL NEED**2 glue sticks

2 packages of #2 pencils (Ticonderoga preferred)

1 box of 24 Crayola crayons

1 box of freezer bags (quart size)

2 boxes of tissue

1 hard plastic pencil box (approximately 8''x5'')

1 pair child's Fiskars scissors (metal round tipped)

1 pair of headphones

Backpack (no rolling backpacks please)

**WISH LIST**- Packages of stickers
- Items for the classroom “Treasure Box” (Happy Meal toys, Dollar Tree items, etc.)
- Clorox/Lysol wipes
- Individually wrapped candy (sixlets, smarties, tootsie rolls)

- Individually wrapped goldfish, gummy snacks, animal crackers, etc.

**LUNCH**

Kindergarten and 1st Grade will be eating in their classrooms this year. Cafeteria lunch is still available.

**Birthdays**

Birthdays are exciting for 6 and 7 year olds and we love celebrations in First Grade. If your child is celebrating a birthday during the school year you are welcome to send in a treat for your child to share with the class. Cookies are suggested, but small cupcakes are acceptable. Although it is our mission to make learning fun, it is important that we keep disruptions to a minimum. **If your child plans to bring a treat for the class, please bring it in the morning and we will enjoy them during our scheduled developmental play.** If your child is having a birthday party at home and would like to invite students from his/her class we would be happy to slip the invitations into backpacks. However, if you are not able to invite all of the students in the class, please remind your child to be discreet so as not to hurt anyone's feelings. ☺

**MONEY**
Please send all money (fees, book fair, etc.) in an envelope or Ziploc bag clearly marked with the child's name and teacher's name on it and what the money is for. Please ***DO NOT*** send loose money in your child's pocket!

**ATTENDANCE**
School board policy states that a note from a parent, doctor, or dentist is required in order for an absence to be considered an EXCUSED absence. Any absence will be considered UNEXCUSED without a written note or email. Leaving early will be considered unexcused unless a written note (same as stated above) is sent in the following day. Please send the written note with your child so I may give it to the office. It is procedure that the office gets the note so they may then change the absence to excused. I DO NOT have access to change an unexcused absence. ***If you must pick your child up before the school day ends at 2:50, you MUST sign your child out in the front office by 2:35. Then he/she can be dismissed from class.*** It is important that your child be to school on time. The tardy bell rings at 8:30 a.m. Children should be in their seats and ready to begin instruction BEFORE THE BELL RINGS. Occasional tardies due to emergencies are understandable, but a habit of being tardy is VERY disruptive to your child, the other children in the classroom, and to me. Tardy children should be checked in at the office FIRST and get a tardy pass before coming to the classroom.

**CAR PICK-UP and DROP-OFF**
Children should be dropped off and picked up at the driveway in front of the school (Point View Drive). PLEASE DO NOT DROP YOUR CHILDREN OFF AT THE BUS RAMP AREA (Perkins Road). This can be very tempting to do when you are running late, but MANY tickets have been given out for doing this.

**Homework**

-Students will be asked to read daily for 15 minutes. This may be any type of reading...reading signs, recipes, reading their “Reading Bag” book, etc.

-Students will be asked to practice their spelling words for the week as they will have a quiz on Friday.

-Student will be asked to complete a weekly homework page.

**GRADING POLICY**

80% Assessments

20% Classwork/Participation

**Make Up Work Policy** - When a student is absent (excused or not) assessments will be given within a week of their absence.

**ASSESSMENTS & GRADES-** First grade students in Leon County receive letter grades. Report Cards will be sent home at the end of each 9-week grading period. Grades will be reported for Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. I will be contacting you to set up a Parent/Teacher Conference during the first grading period to discuss your child's progress and to further explain the first grade expectations. The Leon County Schools Parent Portal is an information system that gives you the opportunity to view your student's grades and enhance the communication between home and school to help your child to reach his/her educational goals.

**ACADEMIC GRADING SCALE-**

90 –100%= A- Excellent Progress

80 – 89%= B- Above Average Progress

70 – 79%= C -Average Progress

below 70%= N –Needs More Time

**BEHAVIOR/WORK STUDY -**

E – Very Consistent Demonstration

S – Demonstrates Characteristics

N – Inconsistent Demonstration

**APPROPRIATE CLOTHING**
Children often get dirty at school, so please dress them appropriately. Shoes that tie, buckle or snap are best. Students are required to wear sneakers on PE days for safety reasons. We are on a rotating schedule for Special Area so please check the newsletter for days that we go to PE. To make things easier for you, I suggest that your child wear sneakers every day, as we go on the playground each day and it is much more fun to run around without worrying about getting mulch in your sandals or getting your toes stepped on!

**PERSONAL BELONGINGS**
For your child's convenience (and your pocketbook), PLEASE label all coats, hats, sweaters, books, lunchboxes, backpacks, etc. that come to school. You do not want to have to visit the Lost and Found to dig through hundreds of items to find your child's coat.

**MORNING SUPERVISION**
Please be reminded that Canopy Oaks supervision begins at 7:45 a.m. The students may begin coming to our classroom at 7:45. If they need breakfast it will be a “grab and go” style this year. They may eat breakfast at their desk in our classroom. The first bell rings at 8:00 a.m. and the tardy bell rings at 8:30am.

**TRANSPORTATION**
If your child's regular mode of transportation changes, please notify me immediately. The BEST way to get in touch with me during the day is email – **hurstc1@leonschools.net**

***DO NOT LEAVE ME A VOICE MESSAGE!*** I am not always able to check my voice mail during school hours. Also, please do not depend on your child to relay the message! If your child is going home a different way than usual, he/she must bring me a note. I cannot just take his/her word – I must have direct communication from you. It is very important that we communicate effectively regarding your child's transportation so that he/she will be safe!

Once again, I am looking forward to a great year and getting to know you and your families.

Thank you in advance for all of your support this year!

 Sincerely,

 Mrs. Hurst