

## **WELCOME! WELCOME TO OUR FIRST GRADE FAMILY!!**

We're ready to begin a new and exciting year. I want to welcome all of you to our First Grade Family.

I am Mrs. Wedryk, the First Grade teacher. I have 3 wonderful sons and daughters-in-law who have blessed me with 8 terrific grandchildren. I am very proud of all of them. I have been teaching in the Catholic Schools since 1981 and have been here at Sacred Heart since 1995. Catholic Schools are a blessing to education. It is an honor and pleasure to teach and watch your wonderful children develop and bloom into eager thinkers, learners, readers and mathematicians. They are very special to me. Thank you for this privilege.

Below are topics that need to be addressed to make this beginning of school easier.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Please be sure to check your child's temperature daily before coming to school. If they don't feel well please keep them home. School starts at 7:45 A.M. We pray promptly at 7:50. Anyone entering the room after 7:50 will be counted tardy for the day. If your child is ill, please call the office and let us know. Dismissal is at 2:45pm. **Upon return to school, your child must bring a written excuse note and give it to his/her teacher. This is mandatory.**

### **SACRED HEART FOLDERS and WEEKLY EMAILS**

Please **READ** all notes and emails and respond to them by the deadline given. Be sure to follow the monthly calendar in your family folders and remember to sign and return your family folder to school by Tuesday. We appreciate your help and cooperation.

### **ENCOURAGEMENT**

Working with your child is essential in First Grade. Our time in school only begins the learning process. The home practice and review helps to reinforce what has been taught in school. Allow your child to become independent in dressing himself, tying her shoes, opening and eating his lunch, and doing and returning her homework. These are all skills each child must master. Please remember to praise your child for his/her accomplishments. What seems easy to us might have been an insurmountable task when he/she began it.

### **MASS ATTENDANCE**

Participating in Mass is an integral part of our Christian Faith. All children are expected to attend weekend Mass with their families. As we begin our preparation to receive Jesus in Communion, we need to be closer to Him through our Saturday/Sunday Mass attendance. Please take this responsibility seriously.

### **RELIGION**

Praying is an important part of our daily school and home worship. We are learning The Sign of The Cross, Hail Mary, Our Father, Angel of God, Grace and Glory Be. Please pray these prayers at home, too.

### **SUPPORT OF THE SCHOOL and FIRST GRADE WEB PAGE**

Please be supportive of all our endeavors. If a problem arises, see me so a solution can be reached. I am available before and after school and you are always welcome. My email is [jwedryk@shschool96.org](mailto:jwedryk@shschool96.org). Check out our web page on the Sacred Heart School Web Site.

### **PROPER FOOD AND REST**

A good breakfast is needed every morning. Lunches must be brought from home in the morning or provided through the Archdiocesan Hot Lunch Program. Our lunch period is from 11:00 to 11:25. Parents may not bring

fast food lunches to school for their child at lunchtime. Proper rest is also essential for good scholastic performance. Please be sure your child has the amount of nighttime sleep he/she requires.

### **HOMEWORK AND HOMEWORK FOLDERS**

Any incomplete papers found in the homework folder are homework. Daily practice of Reading Words and Spelling Words is homework. Oral reading is also daily homework. Your child will know which story to practice. Please be sure readers are returned back to school each day. Homework folders and Word Lists travel to and from school daily. Check them each day to keep up with your child's progress. Word Lists belong with the homework folder when they are not in use. It is each child's responsibility to have his/her materials in school each day.

### **SWEATERS AND SWEATSHIRTS**

Uniform sweaters and sweatshirts **must be marked with the child's name on the label** inside. Navy blue school sweaters will be necessary during the change of seasons and during the winter.

### **SHOES**

**Shoes must be tied at all times.** It is the child's responsibility to keep his/her shoes tied at all times. If your child cannot tie his/her own shoes, please purchase velcro closing shoes. **Gym shoes are only permitted when gym uniforms or school dress shorts are allowed.**

### **POSITIVE DISCIPLINE**

In order to foster good behavior in class, we will have a token reward system. Our goal is to teach our children valuable social and life skills for building good character and we invite them to discover how capable **they** are, to use their **personal power**, to work and play in constructive, kind and cooperative ways. Each child is asked to adhere to the expectations of the class and school. If your child tells you that he/she got 2 pieces of "black gold" please praise him/her and encourage that good behavior. We also have "Crusader Cash" that can be earned by each student by using their personal power to create a super learning environment for not only themselves but for everyone. So, our students can earn rewards for being good, kind and helpful while following all our regulations for health and safety.

### **SUPPLIES and REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES**

Thanks for sending the supplies on our supply list. I am color coding our folders and separating our notebooks to organize our desks. All first graders need **2 Sacred Heart pencil pouches** and their own headphones to keep in school for our i-Ready work. THANK YOU for sending your child with a reusable water bottle every day. Each child will be rewarded 3 pieces of black gold for using his/her reusable water bottle every day. Our First Graders are being Super Heroes in Sacred Heart School by using their reusable water bottle. God Bless You and Thank You.

I hope this helps to answer some of your questions. I am looking forward to an exciting year. I am very grateful to you for sharing your precious children with me. May the Lord bless us with a healthy, safe, and fruitful year. Thank you for your cooperation. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you on Wednesday, September 7th at 5:15 pm or 5:45 pm for our Back to School meeting before the FSA meeting. See you then!