August 29, 2016

Dear Fifth Grade Families,

I am very excited about the new school year and have many exciting lessons and activities planned to keep students engaged in learning. During our first week of school students will take a learning style inventory, create a class mission statement, and begin creating a class culture, just to name a few activities.

To ensure a smooth transition for the start of the school year, here are some important details specific to our class:

* **Special Classes (semester 1)** – follow a six-day cycle

Day 1 – Gym Day 2 – Art Day 3 - Music

Day 4 – Library Day 5 - Gym Day 6 – Art

\*In semester 2, Day 1 will switch to Music and Day 2 will switch to Library.

* **Snack** – Since 5th grade students have the last scheduled lunch, I will permit students to bring a healthy snack to eat mid-morning in our classroom. Choosing to bring a snack is optional, and all students will continue working while snacking. (I will provide a snack for any interested students on the first day of school.) In addition, students may bring a bottle of water (no juice or sports drinks due to our carpeted classroom) to keep at their desks during the school day, if desired.
* **Friday Folders** – We use the Reeceville-issued folders as our “Friday Folders”. Starting next week, students will bring this folder home every Friday with all graded work and any school communication. There will also be a stapled paper in the folder that indicates your child’s successes that week (and any areas needing improvement) as well as a place for you to sign. Please be sure to check your child’s Friday Folder, remove all papers, and sign the signature page every Friday evening.
* **Assignment Book –** All students use the Reeceville-issued assignment book to write their homework each day. Writing down the assigned homework is part of our morning homeroom activities. Homework is also posted on our classroom calendar. Please ensure that your child is referring to the assignment book at home each evening.
* **Homework –** Students typically have Word Study and Math homework Monday-Thursday and are required to read and complete a reading log every night. (This will begin next week.) There are occasional larger assignments (culminating book activity, for example), but students are always given notice, resources, and a suggested timeline.

I look forward to a successful year and seeing many of you at our Back-to-School night on Thursday, September 15th.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Vogel