



E4's

Parent
Handbook

2014-2015

Ms. Soares

Hale Kula Elementary

3rd Grade

Dear Third Grade Families,

Welcome to a thrilling year in third grade! I'm really looking forward to getting to know all of you. The students are going to be adjusting to new routines, schedules, etc... so I thought it would be helpful to give you this packet that briefly outlines my classroom routines and procedures.

My goal as your child's teacher is to ensure a happy, safe, and well-rounded learning environment. In doing so, I plan to provide each student with the necessary experiences and knowledge so that they may develop themselves to their fullest potential. Students tend to perform their best when both their parent and their teacher encourage them.

Along with this concept, I strongly believe that parents should share a positive attitude towards school with their children in order to promote a love of learning. This positive attitude begins with simple things such as: getting your child to school on time and making sure your child has the materials they need each day.

One of the first things that we will be focusing on this year is the use and integration of technology. The goal of integrating technology more often is to help prepare students for the real world. In today's world and work place understanding, using and applying technology skills are a necessary expertise. Along with technology, we will be investigating new math concepts, reading strategies, language skills, writing, science inquiries and more.

Please read the attached booklet with your child and keep it in a convenient location to use as a resource throughout the year.

If you have any questions, please email me at jessicaksoares@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Ms. Soares

Student Responsibilities in E4

Students need to be aware of and fulfill their responsibilities in order for them to have a successful year. I expect my students to take pride in their work and do the following.

1. Be at school on time and ready to begin the day.
2. Keep notebooks, book bags, and cubbies organized and neat.
3. Be involved in all class lesson.
4. Complete all classwork and homework assignments.
5. Copy homework assignments in planner daily.
6. Deliver all notices to parents.
7. Have all supplies on a daily basis.
8. Have your planner signed daily by a parent or guardian.

Dear Students,

I want this school year to a special year for you! It begins with you making the choice to take on these responsibilities and continuing with them throughout the year. I am sure that all of you can do very well and make your parents, your teacher, and yourselves very proud. Remember that you are the person who chooses how well you will do. You are the person who chooses what actions you will take. Together with your parents, we will always help you, but you must make the right choices. Let's get ready to have a fabulous year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Soares

Please return the bottom half.

Students, if you have read this page and you understand all of your 3rd grade responsibilities, please sign here:

X _____

Classroom Management

This year we will be using a colored “clip chart” to monitor our behavior and classroom choices. Your child will have a clip in each classroom that they will physically move up or down the chart, depending on their choices. Please keep in mind that you child may not move every single day! In order to move up, students must go above and beyond in their behavior choices. The chart below explains how the clip chart works.

Best in Show!	Students who reach the outstanding level will be rewarded for their positive choices by adding a jewel to their clip and receive a special certificate of recognition.
Tail Waggin Good!	Students who continue to make positive choices move up to this level. They are one step closer to having outstanding classroom behavior!
Hot Dog!	Students who make positive choices will receive recognition as they move up the chart.
Ready to Learn!	Everyone starts the day “Ready to Learn”! Students will “clip up” or “clip down” throughout the day depending on their behavior choices.
Dropping The Ball	Students who are continuously being reminded will move to warning.. This serves as a reminder to students to think about the choices they make.
Barking Up the Wrong Tree	Students who continue to make poor choices, will move to this level. This will result in a loss of 5 minutes of recess.
In the Dog House	Students who move to this level will miss recess in its entirety. During that time, students will complete a behavior reflection log to be signed by a parent. Parents will be contacted via email.

I believe that this system will be a positive way for students to monitor their choices and will give them behavior goals to strive for!

Student Planners

The school has purchased planners for students in grades 3, 4, and 5. Students are responsible to copy down their homework and reminders in their planners each school day. Once all homework for the evening has been completed, parents or guardians are to initial that planner each night. As a teacher, I firmly believe that communication between parents, teachers, and students is crucial to a successful learning experience. Each day, as a class, we will fill out the night's homework in our assignment notebooks. *Please check that your child has completed the assigned homework and sign/initial that day.* I will check for signatures and any notes that you want to send me on the following day. *Students will receive a stamp for bringing their notebooks back to school signed, or they will be charged a ticket if the assignment notebook is not signed.*

Homework

Homework is an extension of classroom instruction. Helping your child to have a positive attitude about successfully completing his or her homework can help them have the same attitude towards school and learning. Your child is responsible for completing and returning homework promptly.

“Homework Packets” will be assigned on Monday and will have to be completed and turned in by Friday or the last school day of the week. This will give your child plenty of time to work on his/her homework.

This year, I will be adding an online component to our homework schedule. More information will be coming out as soon as the program is up and running. Please inform me in writing, if your child does not have access to the internet.

Grading

Your child will be assessed according to grade level benchmarks or standards. Their progress will be reported quarterly on the standards-based report card. Grades will be based on a variety of evidence such as projects, presentations, tests, observations, and conversations. Students will be graded on formative (on-going) and summative (end of unit) assignments.

Grading System

ME	Meets with Excellence. Student demonstrates excellent achievement of the targeted benchmarks.
MP	Meets Proficiency. Student demonstrates acceptable achievements of the targeted benchmarks.
DP	Developing Proficiency. Student is approaching acceptable achievement of the targeted benchmarks.
WB	Well Below Proficiency. Student does not demonstrate acceptable achievement of the targeted benchmarks.

Any questions about our class handbook, please feel free to email me at

jessicaksoares@gmail.com.

