



August 09, 2019

Hello Frisco Families,

Welcome to a new school year! Starting this year, we will be officially known as Frisco instead of LE2. Below you will find IMPORTANT information that will be helpful throughout the school year.

Contact Info

The Parent/Teacher partnership is extremely important. Because communication is key for your child's success, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. The best way to contact me is through email at rziemann@jeffcoschools.us. I check my email at least twice a day, usually early morning and evening, and typically respond within twenty-four hours. If you would prefer a face-to-face conversation, please email me to set up a time that works best for both of us.

Helping the Class

There are many ways you can volunteer for our class. Parents are needed Thursday afternoons to stuff Thursday folders, administer spelling tests on Friday mornings, and chaperone on field trips. For field trips, I will choose new parents to volunteer each time, allowing everyone the opportunity to join us. We also have our annual Spring Fling in March that will need chaperones and a parent leader. To chaperone or volunteer in the class, **YOU MUST COMPLETE** a full background check and the Volunteer Orientation. Please go to the FHM website and click the volunteering link to get started.

Birthday Celebrations

Each child has an opportunity to celebrate their birthday, or half birthday, in the classroom. Families are encouraged to attend and share in this special day. The week before your child's birthday celebration I will send home a questionnaire for you and your child to fill out together. Along with this form, **we also ask that you take the time to make a timeline with your child.** Please make sure it is a *timeline*, not a collage or a book, as this is a beginning stage in your child's linear understanding of the passage of time. You may want to consider scrapbook paper, one page per year tied together at the corners, to be folded accordion style. This way, only one page will need to be added as your child gets older. The timeline should include pictures and important/interesting details from each year of their life, beginning with birth. Please bring both the form and the timeline on the day of your child's celebration.

Treats are no longer allowed. Please understand this is a district-wide mandate, and there can be no exceptions. However, if you would like to send in something, we would appreciate a book that can be added to our classroom library. There will be a dedication ceremony and a sticker will be placed inside the book so the children will know where the book came from. *This is a suggestion*, as no families are required to donate a book to the classroom.

Celebrations will last about half an hour. Celebrating your child's birthday is a big deal in our classroom. It is important for us to honor each child's life and let them know that we are thrilled they were born.

Snack

Students will be allowed to eat snack when they feel they are hungry, between 8:30 and 10:45. We will have a snack table in the classroom where four children at a time can eat snack together. I ask that snacks please be healthy and quick, taking no more than fifteen minutes to eat. Because snack time

helps to promote independence, please make sure that your student is able to independently open and close any containers that their snack may be in. Students will also need a cloth napkin to place their food upon and a water bottle to drink from as we do not have a drinking fountain in the classroom. PLEASE make sure to write your child's name and classroom on their water bottle in BLACK sharpie.

Absences

Absences affect how and what your child learns in school. Being absent once a month results in a child losing over two weeks of learning. Please, try to plan appointments for after school hours and vacations for days that we are already out of school. These days can be found on the FHM 2019-20 calendar.

Homework Policy

Homework folders will be sent home on *Mondays* and need to be returned the following Monday.

- **Reading Log** – We expect your child to read for a minimum of 15 minutes *every* night and fill out a Reading Log. There is a quick and easy reading follow up to be completed by the student. Also, there is a parent section for parents to leave a comment each week.
- **Spelling**- Every Monday a new spelling word sort will be sent home and students will be given a spelling test every Friday. While students are asked to study their spelling words in the classroom, they are also encouraged to study their spelling words at home.
- **Practical Life** – An engaging worksheet with many different practical life choices to do at home will be sent home at the start of each month. Students are expected to color in at least two boxes each week.
- **Math** – Practicing math facts throughout each week is highly encouraged. There are multiple apps and websites that allow students to be engaged while they learn their math facts. If you need help finding a website or app your student may enjoy, please send me an email.

Curriculum Overview

Along with following the children in math and language, this year we will be focusing our cultural studies on Africa and South America. If you or anyone you know has been to one of these continents and has pictures, objects, or experiences you could share with us, please let me know. In science, we will be studying fish, reptiles, the scientific method, gravity, and temperature in depth this year.

General Reminders

- Please make sure your child has a healthy breakfast. If you are feeling rushed, please know that FHM offers breakfast every morning! Students who want to eat breakfast at FHM need to arrive early at school and buzz in at the front doors.
- School begins at 8:15. Please have your child at school on time so they can be ready to start their day! Remember, car line takes a while during the first few weeks as everyone is adjusting to their new schedules. Please give yourself plenty of time so your child can calmly and peacefully enter the classroom. A child who feels rushed getting to school tends to struggle throughout their day.
- Please be mindful of and follow car line procedures and understand that we will do the best we can to make it as smooth and efficient as possible.
- If you are parking on Nile street and walking your child to school, remember to leave AT LEAST five feet of space on either end of a driveway.
- **Work Plans**- Children will be given a weekly work plan to guide their learning and to assist in making appropriate work choices. These will go home in their Thursday folders so parents can see what works their children have done. Remember, it is not the quantity of work that is done, but the quality of the work. It is better to see fewer works that your student has devoted time into learning, than a bunch of works that your child rushed through.

- **Great resources for information:** the school website, Fox Flash (weekly), Horizon Line (quarterly), **class newsletters** are sent out twice a month. **these are a direct update on our class, events, activities, and any important dates coming up.** Please let me know if you don't think your email is on our newsletter list, and I will make sure it gets on there :)
- **More great resources:** There is the CSN website and Facebook page, Student/Parent Handbook, and Thursday Folders- **While your child may be bringing home completed work in their Thursday folders, please understand that much of the work that is done in class is recorded in notebooks and will not be sent home until the end of the school year.**
- Assessments- Assessments are used to guide our instruction throughout the year. The following assessments will occur this year: MAP, DIBELS, Writing, and CMAS (3rds only)
- Toys/items- **No toys/items in class.** Toys/items can be distracting and have the risk of getting lost or broken. Any toys/items brought into class will be immediately taken and put away in my cabinet. Students will be given back their toy/item when they are released at the end of the day.
- Conferences- Our first round of conferences will be held October 14-18, further details will be notified in our Class Newsletters, and Fox Flashes.
- **Please take all *medicine* to the front desk, both prescription and over-the-counter, to be sure you have all necessary paperwork. Be sure prescription medicine has the pharmacy label on the medication, not on the box.**

It is going to be a wonderful year and I am looking forward to getting to know everyone!

With Kindness,
Mrs. Robin