

WELCOME

Volunteers

Something I feel strongly about is that students are more successful in school when they have support from their families. Consequently, our room is always welcoming of visitors. There are also many opportunities for families to contribute in our classroom. All volunteer opportunities can be scheduled through the school's bloomz's app! It you have questions on how to use the app, please let me know. (If the options provided are not feasible, please let me know and we can come up with an opportunity for you to help that meets your schedule and abilities!)

** All volunteers in the school district are required to pass a criminal background check which will be done for free by our district's human resources department. The check must be completed before someone can volunteer in any school & you can complete the form online at the school district website. This screening is required to help ensure the safety of all children & questions regarding the screening can be directed to the Human Resources Department at 714-8888.

Contacting Ms. Duval

If you need to contact me, the best way to do so is through bloomz. During the day, I am busy teaching our class and do not have opportunities for parent conferences. If you wish to schedule a conference outside of student hours, please ask and I am happy to set up a time to meet with you!

Snacks and Birthdays:

Students should bring a healthy snack from home to eat mid-morning. I will provide a snack time for them to eat their snack.

While we don't have time for birthday parties in the classroom, you are welcome to send a healthy snack or other simple treats with your child in the morning of your child's special day. During snack, your child may share a treat with their classmates. Please contact me to coordinate your birthday snacks.

****Please refer to the school policy on passing out birthday invitations at school.****

Classroom Rules:

In addition to Sterling's goals to be SAFE, RESPONSIBLE & Respectful, our classroom has 4 rules that are posted in our room:

1. Listen and Raise My Hand to Speak
2. Follow Directions the First Time
3. Keep Hands, Feet and Objects to Myself
4. Say and Do Nice Things to Everyone

I have found that these 4 rules are fairly all encompassing. We will go over our class rules daily for the first few weeks of school to allow students the opportunity to understand them thoroughly.

Classroom Rewards

We also have positive consequences when the class follows our class rules. Our class can earn pom-poms by following directions the first time, being productive learners, being good citizens and using our time wisely. This is in conjunction with our school's Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports program where students can earn a pom-pom for following the school's expectations. When our class jar is full, we have a class party! (For more information on PBIS, please see the school handbook.)

Consequences

In addition to teaching the rules of our classroom we will also learn the consequences of not following the rules.

If I do not follow the rules, the following consequences may happen:

The class will be reminded of our rule.

The teacher will remind me of the rule.

I will miss part of my play time to talk to a teacher about how I can follow the rules better.

I will fill out a Stop and Think form.

I will call home and explain why I was not following the rules.

I will go to the principal's office.

Optional Items to Bring to School:

- <A change of clothing in a gallon Ziploc bag to be left at school, just in case.
- snack or gallon sized Ziploc baggies

Storage of School Supplies

In our classroom we sit at tables, on top of the tables will be tubs containing the supplies students will need for the day, pencils, liquid glue and tissue. Other supplies will be available to students in the classroom and as needed for special projects.

Homework

I recognize that family time is important. This year, homework for our class will provide opportunities for your family to engage in learning opportunities together and provide your child with the responsibility for returning their homework to school. The homework will consist of the following:

Weekly- Spelling List (Beginning the middle of September)

Baggie Books (Beginning after 1st Quarter)

Monthly-Homework calendar with after-school challenges for you to complete as a family. Please do as many challenges as you are able to do!

Reading Log for your child to document the days in the month that they have read or are read to.

Monday Folders

Your child will have a red Monday Folder this year. Important notes and school information will be sent in your child's folder, so please check your child's backpack Monday evening! I will do my best to make sure that all important papers will be sent in the Monday folder, so you will be able to easily find that information. Please make sure that your Red Folder is returned by Friday of each week.

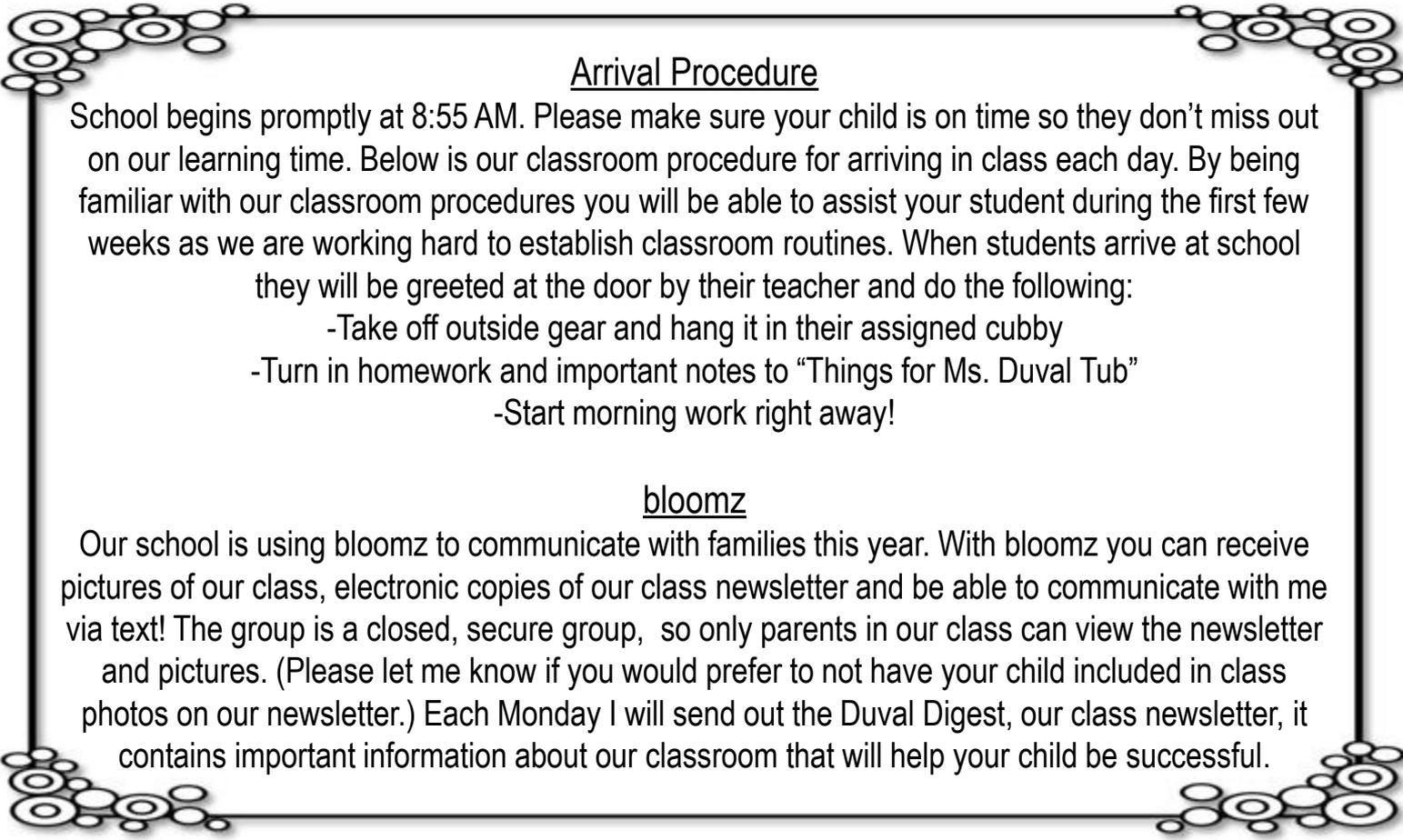
**If you have things to return to school, completed homework, lunch money, permission slips, notes for me, please remind your child to put them in the "Things for Ms. Duval tub" right by the classroom door. I do not have time to check each student's backpack each day, so it is my hope that by setting this routine, I will be sure to find those important things.

Seating Arrangements

For the first week of school students may sit at any seat they would like. This allows your child to sit by familiar faces and make the adjustment to the full day of school. The second week of school, the teacher gets to make seating arrangements. After seeing how the class gets along the new seating assignments allow me to better meet the needs of our class, providing seats in the front for students who need them and placing students in productive learning spots. If you have any concerns about your student's seat, please do not hesitate to let me know!

Class Meeting Space

In the front of our classroom you will notice shapes on the floor. This is our classroom meeting spot. One of the great things about kindergartners and first graders is that we like to share everything, especially germs! By designating seating on the floor we are able to allow the students personal space to provide the best learning environment for everyone.



Arrival Procedure

School begins promptly at 8:55 AM. Please make sure your child is on time so they don't miss out on our learning time. Below is our classroom procedure for arriving in class each day. By being familiar with our classroom procedures you will be able to assist your student during the first few weeks as we are working hard to establish classroom routines. When students arrive at school they will be greeted at the door by their teacher and do the following:

- Take off outside gear and hang it in their assigned cubby
- Turn in homework and important notes to "Things for Ms. Duval Tub"
- Start morning work right away!

bloomz

Our school is using bloomz to communicate with families this year. With bloomz you can receive pictures of our class, electronic copies of our class newsletter and be able to communicate with me via text! The group is a closed, secure group, so only parents in our class can view the newsletter and pictures. (Please let me know if you would prefer to not have your child included in class photos on our newsletter.) Each Monday I will send out the Duval Digest, our class newsletter, it contains important information about our classroom that will help your child be successful.