

# The ABC's of Our Class



**Please read the following packet. If you have any questions during the year, please refer back to this packet. As always, if you still have questions, please feel free to contact me.**

**\*Some things will be subject to change. At that time, the information will be sent home in the class newsletter or in a formal letter for your signature.**

**\*\*Please refer to The Shelby County Board of Education Code of Conduct.**

**Agenda-**We will not use agendas this year. All communication will come home in the Communication Folder.

**Box Tops for Education-** We will be collecting Box Tops in our classroom this year. Please be on the lookout for those on some of your favorite grocery items. Please ask family and friends to collect them for our class.

**Bullying-** We have a “0” tolerance for bullying. If your child reports this to you, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Celebrations-** If your child would like to celebrate their birthday at school; you may make special arrangements with me to provide a special snack for the whole class. **Invitations to parties may not be handed out in the classroom unless the whole class is invited.** **We have to take everyone’s feelings into consideration.**  
**(\*\*Remember, we do have a peanut allergy in our classroom.)**

**Class Book-** Starting in January we will be working on a class book. We will take this book through the publishing process. It will actually be published in hard back and each student will have the opportunity to purchase one.

**Classroom Economy-** We will use a classroom economy this year. This will be our behavior system in the room. Students will earn credits (positive behavior) and debits (negative behavior). At the end of the week students will cash in their credits and debits at the classroom bank. Every other month they will visit our classroom store to purchase “goodies”. Occasionally, we will hold an auction in the class for students to “spend” their money. I will have each parent sign up to help provide “goodies” for our store. Thank you in advance for your help.

**Communication Folders-** All children will have a gold, vinyl folder as their Communication Folder. The folder is labeled on the outside as the Communication Folder. This is to be returned to school every day. Make sure you check the folder on a daily basis for important letters home. Each pocket is labeled with “Return to School” or “Keep at Home”. Also, your child will be commenting everyday about their

behavior in class. Please review this with them and encourage their continued positive behavior.

**Conferences-** Please call or e-mail me to set up a conference. My conference time will be Tuesday-Thursday from 2:10-2:40. The after school conferences will be scheduled around my school duties and my personal schedule.

**Donations-** Donations of money can be made to the classroom. We ask that every parent make a donation of \$25.00. The money goes towards cleaning supplies, class projects, ink cartridges, literary magazines, books for our classroom library, and other needed classroom supplies. Thank you in advance for your help.

**E-Mails-** I have a break every afternoon at the end of the day and on Tuesday and Friday morning. I will try and respond to your e-mails in a timely fashion. Please be patient with me. I value my instructional time.

**Field Trips-** The third grade will be going on several field trips this year. Right now we have scheduled Moundville in October and American Village in February. Additional information will be sent home as soon as it is available.

**Folders-** All graded classwork, test, and projects will go home in the Communication Folder every **Wednesday**. The signed folder with the papers in it, will need to be returned on **Thursday**. Occasionally there will be exceptions to the papers being sent home on Wednesdays. If this happens, a note will be in the weekly newsletter.

**Homework-** Homework will be limited this year. All students will be required to read for **20 MINUTES**. Please allow your child this time to improve with their reading. Feel free to read with them...The students are allowed to check out books from our school library. There will be the occasional project that will need to be completed. The information will always come home in the Communication Folder and on a project assignment sheet.

**Late Projects** - All late projects will be accepted under a penalty of 25 points per day.

**Leader in Me-** I will be using the program **The Leader in Me** in my classroom. This program works with students on 7 Daily Habits. If you hear your student talking about one of the 7 habits, be sure to ask them what they have learned. By using this program, I hope my students will become problem solvers who are self thinking and can work well with others. We will also be working on a class project this year to help others. More information will come home at a later date.

**Lunch-** Our lunch time is 11:20-11:40. Please feel free to come and eat lunch with your child.

**Make-Up Work-** Please refer to the Shelby County Code of Conduct with regards to make-up work. **Children will receive all make-up work when they return from an absence.** It is hard to give assignments ahead of time because our schedule and plans are always subject to change.

**Math-**As the math curriculum is ever evolving, please feel free to ask me for help if you do not understand what we are doing in class.

**Mystery Readers-** We will have a Mystery Reader every other week. A sign-up sheet will come home later for volunteers. When you volunteer, bring in any book of your choice to share with the class. When it is your week to read, I can offer suggestions of topics we are discussing or possible books to read. Feel free to do an activity with the students or bring in a special snack. (**\*\*\*Remember, we do have a peanut allergy in our classroom.**)

**Poetry Café-** In accordance with the Mystery Reader, we will also be performing poems in the classroom. The students will have a poem to learn (not memorize) and then act it out accordingly. They may use props, etc. We will also be performing some poems in the auditorium on a stage.

**Reading-** Reading is very important in our classroom. My students will be required to read for 20 minutes every night for homework. Students will be able to check out books from the school library or read books available at home. Also, remember there is a public library around the corner from the school with fabulous resources!

Please visit our local, Calera library and get your child a library card. It will mean so much to them!

**Responsibility-** Please help me with making your child a responsible third grader. I want every child to be responsible for their own actions in our classroom. Turning in projects and getting information to and from school are very important as a third grader. My goal is to have every child be successful in this area later in life.

**Shoes-** Please make sure your child is wearing appropriate shoes for P.E. each and every day **There will not be time or space for your child to change shoes during the day.**

**Snack-** Our snack time will be in the morning during reading. Your child may bring a snack from home or purchase one before the morning bell from the lunchroom. **Children are not allowed to bring a carbonated drink to school for snack.** Your child will be putting their snack in a bucket with other friends at their table. Make sure the snack is labeled. It is always a good idea to put it in a bag that can be thrown away. **Please make sure the snacks are in a sealed container that does not leak. I feel as if organizing it this way will cut down on “missing” or messy snacks. (\*\*Remember, we do have a peanut allergy in our classroom.)**

**Supplies-** Students will keep many of their supplies in a plastic shoebox. This will be a way that all students can keep their supplies together. I will combine all notebooks and folders and pull for use as needed. **These supplies will stay at school so; students will need pencil, paper, and project supplies at home for homework.** Also, please remember through the year supplies will need to be replenished. Now is always a good time to buy extra supplies while they are at a lower price.

**Tests-** The material will be reviewed daily in class. Studying should only require a quick nightly review. Some tests will have a study guide. All tests will be listed in the newsletter.

**Transportation-** If for some reason the way your child is to leave school changes, please write me a note and have your child bring it to school. If I do not receive a note about a change in transportation, your child will continue home in the usual manner.

**Volunteers-** Please be sure to contact me if interested in volunteering in the classroom or school. I welcome parents' help in our classroom.

**Web Page-** I have a class Web Page. You can find a copy of our weekly newsletter, along with other class information.

**Wish List-** There are several things our classroom needs: popular books for our classroom library, subscriptions to children magazines, electronic pencil sharpeners, color copy paper, Model Magic, Magic Erasers, and trinket type toys (like Oriental Trading Company) for our monthly store for good behavior.

**Word Work-** -There will be a word work test every Friday. Words examples along with the pattern will be in the newsletter every Monday. Study the pattern. Do not memorize the spelling.

**Writing-** Writing is very important in the third grade. Students will have assignments in class and at home. Students will be graded according to a predetermined grading rubric. By the end of third grade your child should be able to write a 5 paragraph, narrative story.