



## **Welcome to First Grade at Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School!**

I am thrilled to have your child in my class this year. My name is Megan Hughes and I have the pleasure of being your child's first grade teacher! I have been teaching at Saint Rose since 2005 and was in the public-school system before that.

We will do many fun things in our classroom and will learn A LOT!

### **CLASSROOM GOALS/EXPECTATIONS/HOMEWORK**

The primary goal in first grade is to become responsible Christians and citizens of our community. We will work on enhancing our listening skills, becoming independent and responsible workers, and being good citizens and neighbors to our classmates.

Our academic goals for students in the first grade are forming a firm foundation in early reading skills, number sense, science and social studies.

#### **Reading**

Have your child read at least 15 minutes a day (Monday through Thursday) and keep track on the reading log sent home on Mondays. A completed reading log with a parent signature needs to be returned on Friday.


#### **Families should work on reading:**

**TO** their first graders,

**WITH** their first graders or listen to their first graders read

**BY themselves.**

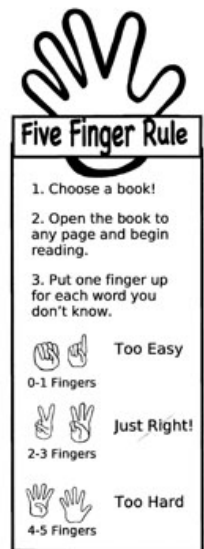
Your child should try to choose the book they want to read aloud.

Use the Five Finger Rule to help them. 

(they can always borrow books from my collection as well!)

#### **Math**

Math homework will go home on Wednesdays. Please help your child complete this page and return it on Thursday.



## **RULES/GUIDELINES**

1. Listen carefully and follow directions.
2. Raise your hand to talk.
3. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
4. Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

Inside each daily folder I will attach a *Daily Behavior sheet*. At the end of the day, your child will color the space by the color code depending on how their day went. Please review this with your child each night and return the folder the next day.

- Each day your child will begin the day with a green behavior card on the chart. Your child will get one warning about not following a rule and still remain on the **GREEN**.
- Then, if your child is reminded again, they will be asked to move their card to the **YELLOW** card and will be asked to take a break (time-out).
- If they receive another reminder, they would move their card to **RED**. Your child would then miss a privilege such as free time, recess or show and tell.
- I will ask them to write a number on the **RED** color on their behavior sheet to identify which rule or rules they had difficulty following.

If at any time you would like to discuss your child's behavior report, please contact me at school

## **CLASSROOM COMMUNICATIONS**

### ***Daily Folders***

Each of your children should have sent a folder to school as part of their supplies; this will be their daily folder. Papers, art projects and any school news will be sent home in their daily folder. Please remove the information every night and send the folder back to school the next day. Also, please replace the folder if it seems to be overly loved!

### ***Daily Behavior Report***

Behavior management is vital to creating a classroom where learning is the focus. I expect good behavior from all of the children. I expect each child to be the best person he/she can be. We have four basic classroom rules and these rules become an integral part of our behavior management system.

### ***Friday Folder***

Every Friday your student will bring home a Friday Folder. The folder will not only contain items from first grade, but also important information from the school office. I ask that you read the information carefully and sign anything needed and return the folder to school on Monday.

### ***Redhawk Report***

Every Friday each family will be sent, by e-mail, a copy of the Redhawk Report. This is a newsletter sent out by Saint Rose School and is filled with information and important dates. Please read this thoroughly and mark down any important dates. If you do not have access to e-mail, a hard copy will be sent home at your request.

## **SNACK**

We will have a 10-minute snack break every day. The snacks will be provided by you for your own child each day. Sending a snack with your child is optional, however I find that they need a little something mid-morning! **Please note that we do not provide community-style snacks as previously experienced in Kindergarten.** The snacks should be brought from home and left inside the child's backpack until snack time.

If a utensil is required, please send one along with your child. The snack should be nutritious. Please do not send cookies, chips or candy. We will also have about 15 minutes of recess or free choice following snack.

The following is a list of ideas of acceptable and healthy snacks you may send with your child:

Fruit	Vegetables	Bagels	Muffins	Yogurt Tubes
Crackers	Applesauce	Raisins	Popcorn	Cheese Sticks
Pretzels	Granola Bars			

## **CELEBRATIONS**

If your child has a birthday during the school year, we will have a celebration at snack time. If you choose to send a birthday snack, please remember that State Health Laws prohibits homemade treats in the classroom. **You may only send a store-bought snack with your child. Also, please send a treat that does not need any special cutting or dividing. (no cakes, cupcake cakes, etc.)** Our time is limited, and I do not have a sink or knife in my room. We have **10** students in our classroom.

If your child's birthday falls on a weekend or over a school break, we will celebrate on either the Friday before or the Monday after. If your child has a summer birthday, we will celebrate their half birthday. For example, if the birthday is July 23, then we would celebrate on January 23.

## **STAR STUDENT**

We will be choosing a Star Student once a week. The Star Student will take home a form, sent out on the Friday before, to fill out and return on the Monday of their special week. You may then send in up to 6 pictures to hang on our board for the week and one of their favorite books. The pictures will be sent home after two weeks.

## **OTHER/EXPERIENCES**

We take 1-2 field trips a year. We have visited The Children's Theatre, The Apple Orchard, Minnesota Science Museum, Works Museum and various farms throughout the years.

Every year, as a culmination to our money unit in math, we host The First Grade Store. The students will earn money at home. They are able to purchase items for the store as they count out the exact change to pay for their item. All of the money the children earn will go to a charity of their choice. Some of the charities we have chosen are Keystone Community Services, Catholic Charities, and the Animal Humane Society.

**Mrs. Megan Hughes**

Grade 1 Teacher

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