

August, 2019

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to 5T! I hope that your summers have been relaxing and fun. However, the summer is winding down and the school bell is getting ready to chime once again.

I cannot wait for this school year to begin! My goal for this school year is to ensure that each student comes to school every day to an environment where they feel safe, where they are comfortable, and where they are motivated to learn. In order for these things to be true, the classroom will be run based on the principles of the three R's: Respect, Responsibility, and Readiness. *Respect* must be shown to all throughout the school, especially within the classroom, to ensure comfort and safety for everyone. *Responsibility* will be a major focus this year and each student will be expected to stay on top of their assignments and tasks given to them during school hours or at home. *Readiness* to do their best each day of school is a must. Students will need to be ready and prepared to learn and give their best effort each and every school day. As we know, 5th grade is such an important year for opportunities and privileges, but also because the other students in the school will be looking for the 5th graders to be leaders. And just as 5th graders are expected to lead by positive examples, I will be leading by example, as well. Everything I expect of the students in the principles of respect, responsibility, and readiness, begins with me. Please know that I am always available for any questions or concerns that may come up; so never hesitate to come see me about anything. The most important thing that I will ask of you this year is quite simple: be you! Whether we're learning something new or something old; something you love or don't love; or, something challenging or simple, just give it your best. School and learning is as fun as we make it and a positive attitude is the key!

Do you want to know why I love teaching? No? Well, I will tell you anyway. I love it because I love to learn. As your teacher, I learn so much with you and from you. To me, there is nothing more exciting than learning and creating. So, get ready for a year where each day will be packed with all sorts of projects, activities, inquiries, discussions, laughter, teamwork, and challenges. Get ready for a place where the learning never stops. I look forward to meeting every one of you and celebrating the special people you are.

But before I let you go, **I do have one assignment for you.** We are going to be doing quite a bit of writing and creating this year, and I want to get things rolling right now. So here is your writing assignment:

If you were in charge of school, what would the first day of school be like?

In your supply list you will see that I have asked you to bring composition notebooks. One will be your writing notebook for the year, and this is going to be your first entry. This is my first impression of you as a writer. This is due the first day of school. I look forward to reading what you have to say.

See you in September.

Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Tavani
tavanim@lmsd.org

→