

# Memorial School



## Mrs. Paulson's Class Handbook Grade 1 2022-2023

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## Welcome

I have created this handbook so that you will have a better understanding of how our classroom works and what we do daily. I am looking forward to working with you and your child in reaching his/ her full potential. We will have many wonderful experiences and opportunities to learn and grow in the days ahead.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade School Supply List

- ✓ 1 marble composition notebook: wide ruled: 100 pages
- ✓ 1 two pocket plastic folder: Blue
- ✓ 3 full boxes of sharpened pencils (1 dozen each)
- ✓ 6 large glue sticks (Elmer's disappearing purple)
- ✓ 8 dry erase whiteboard markers (thick, black-low odor)
- ✓ 1 dry erase board eraser
- ✓ 2 boxes of 24 crayons- no larger
- ✓ 3 boxes of tissues
- ✓ 1 pair of scissors
- ✓ 2 pink latex free erasers
- ✓ 1 yellow chisel tip highlighter
- ✓ 1 green pen
- ✓ 1 large soft pencil case
- ✓ Over the ear headphones.

## First Grade Philosophy

The main focus in first grade revolves around the Common Core Standards. We are using the reading program Journeys by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. All the children are exposed to the same literacy experiences, but individualism takes place with small flexible groups that help meet the needs of each student. The program encompasses a variety of themes that relate to all content areas across the curriculum. These include math skills, science, health and nutrition, social studies and multicultural awareness.

We are also implementing the Wilson FUNdations program which provides research based materials and strategies essential to a comprehensive reading, spelling, and handwriting program.

Writing is taught in conjunction with reading, and follows a writer's workshop approach where children are encouraged to write about personal experiences. Invented spelling is used so that the young ones are not constrained by the fact that they cannot spell every word exactly. They are directed to write, "what they hear," making the connection between the spoken and written language. As time goes on through practice, teacher modeling, and mini lessons, correct spelling, sentence structure and story organization will begin to come into focus. Formal spelling lessons are incorporated with the reading program, and words that are taught are constantly displayed on the Word Wall.

In Math, we are now using Savvas Envisions Math Common Core. Envisions helps students engage with the Standards and Practices in new ways. Lessons begin with problem-based situations and then build to more abstract problems. All along the way, students use multiple models, manipulatives, quick pictures, and symbols to build mathematical understandings. There are many chances to incorporate technology, differentiation, and hands on learning.

Our science program is generated from the Next Generation Science Standards. The information taught will be implemented in a variety of ways. We will also be implementing STEM each week for a more hands-on experience with Mrs. Briones.

The social studies standards include many topics that will also be incorporated within our literature series. We also use Scholastic Weekly Readers, which includes; science, health, and safety topics.

Library classes have consistently worked along with our reading themes on specific projects undertaken in each class. We are able to work together to provide concrete and valid experiences for our children.

Our students continue to experience hands-on activities utilizing Chromebook computers with our technology and computers teacher. This includes internet access, word processing and general computer knowledge.

Music and Art are an integral part of our first grade program. They support and enhance our reading themes and provide insight into many multicultural, school and community activities.

Physical education and health are also a very important aspect of the first grade experience. The importance of developing the concept of continuing exercise for life needs to begin early-on. The program offered for first graders attempts to consistently accomplish this in a safe and enjoyable setting.

## Class Rules

1. Follow directions quickly.
2. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.
3. Raise your hand to ask a question or share.
4. Make smart choices.
5. Respect everyone and everything at school.
6. Try your best and have FUN learning!

## Behavior Management

It is important that all students follow the rules of the classroom. When a student violates one of the rules, he or she understands that his or her behavior will be noted. I have created a ClassDojo point system that is displayed on the computer a few times throughout the day as a reminder.

- Each student has his/her own avatar that they are able to change when they log in to ClassDojo.
- If a student is positively participating, helping out, making good choices, and staying on task they will be rewarded a point.
- If a student makes a bad choice and does not follow the classroom rules after a warning, the student will lose a point.
- Every 50 points, students have the chance to pick from the treasure box, and will receive a Homework Pass for one assignment.
- Any choices that warrant a parent contact will take place either at pick up, or through after school communication.

## Homework

- Homework will require some parental involvement at this level. Your cooperation is essential in developing positive homework habits. First and foremost, you can encourage your child by showing interest and demonstrating helpful attitudes toward homework. **Please sign the homework page or assignment pad each night after reviewing your child's assignments.**
  
- Homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday nights. Each student has been given a homework folder, which is to be brought home with him or her every day. Please check the folder carefully each day. It may contain important announcements, homework assignments, or completed work. If the work is on the **keep home** side, please keep those papers at home. If there are papers on the **bring back** side please make sure they come back to school the following day. This will help to create a routine and continue the communication between home and school. **Please double check the papers in case there was a mix-up during pack up.** On weekends we ask that first graders practice their shoe tying, jacket zipping, address, and phone number.



## Good Homework Habits

1. Provide a noise-free, well-lit place to work.
2. Establish a regular "homework time" in your home and have a special place free from excessive noise.
3. Help your child organize adequate time to complete activities neatly and carefully.
4. Encourage your child to ask for help when he/she doesn't understand something or is frustrated. Teachers, like parents, can help only if they know there is a need.
5. Decide if it becomes too frustrating of a task, stop and take a break. Any work done under duress or frustration is not a positive or healthy learning experience.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning Meeting/ STEM	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting/
Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
RTI Response to Intervention	RTI Response to Intervention	RTI Response to Intervention	RTI Response to Intervention	RTI Response to Intervention
L	U	N	C	H
Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
Media Center	Art	Writers Workshop	Music	Science/ Social Studies
Science/ Social Studies	Computers	Physical Education	Writers Workshop	Physical Education

### Specials

**Monday- Media Center**

**Tuesday- Art & Computers**

**Wednesday- P.E.**

**Thursday- Music**

**Friday- P.E.**

- ❖ We will have snack late-afternoon every day. Please send your child with a healthy nut free snack. **WE ARE A NUT FREE CLASSROOM!!**
- ❖ Physical Education is on Wednesday and Friday, make sure your child is wearing sneakers and dressed appropriately for physical activity.
- ❖ Media Center is on Monday; please return books for class each week.
- ❖ Tutorials- Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings 7:55-8:15am by appointment only.



## Birthdays



We love to celebrate birthdays! A crown, badge, birthday certificate and pencil will be given, and as a class we will sing and clap. As per our new school policies, please don't bring in any food related items. ABSOLUTELY NOTHING EDIBLE. We do have summer birthdays, which may be celebrated on a chosen day in June.

In order to not hurt any child's feelings in our classroom, **please do not distribute party invitations in our classroom unless every classmate is invited to the party.** This ensures that children will not be placed in an uncomfortable situation or get their feelings hurt.

## **Book Orders**

**Scholastic Book orders** will be sent home occasionally, but there is no obligation to buy anything. The selection of books that is offered is perfect for our 1<sup>st</sup> grade reading level. They are offered at great prices as well. If you do wish to purchase books, **please order online.** When you place orders online, you'll help earn free books for our class and you also get a \$5.00 Free Book Pick Coupon to use on your next online order. Just register at [www.scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs). The activation code for my class is: **QCJLH**.

## Absences

Attendance is important in first grade. What we do in class involves active participation, it is very important that your child attends each day. However, I do realize that sickness, family emergencies, and doctor's appointments do occur.



Whenever possible, your child's schoolwork will be saved for him/her to complete. If your child is sick and absent from school for more than one day, I recommend that a phone call be made requesting that your child's missed work be sent home.

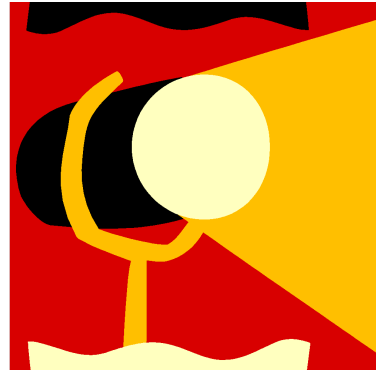
If your child is quarantining because of exposure or a positive test to COVID-19, we will discuss the options for at-home learning. However, if voluntary travel requires quarantining, the virtual option will not be available and students will need to pick up missed work.

## Picking Your Child Up From School Early

If there is a need for your child to be picked up from school early, please send him/her to school with a note. This note should indicate what time your child will be picked up. This will enable me to have your child ready when you arrive for pick up. Your child will be sent home with any work that will be missed during the day.

## Star of the Week

We will take turns having each student be our Star of the Week. Your child will bring home a poster to complete. The poster should be returned to school the following Monday so they can share their poster with the class. At the end of the week the poster and any additional items will be sent home.



## **Contact Information**

I believe that it is very important to keep the lines of communication open between home and school. If you need to contact me for any reason you can send me a note or email me at [kpaulson@maywoodschoools.org](mailto:kpaulson@maywoodschoools.org). I try to check this email account every day and I will get back to you as soon as possible. I also will answer on Class Dojo if something requires more immediate attention from 6am-4:30pm.

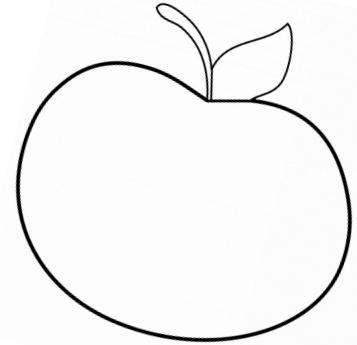
## **Our School's Website**

The Maywood School District's website is [www.maywoodschoools.org](http://www.maywoodschoools.org). On this website you will find the following information:

- ❖ Our school's calendar
- ❖ School closings due to inclement weather
- ❖ Grade level information
- ❖ Links for Memorial School PTO website
- ❖ Memorial School Handbook
- ❖ And much, much more!!!



# Mrs. Paulson's 2022-2023 Class List



Hayden
Siena
Luka
Julia
Marcos
Joseph
Yonatan
Julia Elize
Simon
Jacob
Olivia
Ashley
Melissa
Stella
Skyler
Vincent
Maxwell
RaeShon
Aarvi
Aaryan