

# Welcome To First Grade

Bowie Fine Arts Academy



## **Course Overview**

We would first like to welcome you to First Grade. We are excited to be given the opportunity to get to know you and your family this year. This first semester will be an exciting time for your child. Before we begin our journey through First Grade we would like to give you a short overview of our classroom expectations. Students will gain the skills to become fluent, proficient, capable readers, writers, and communicators. Students will be introduced to foundational academic concepts in math, as well as explore science and social studies.

## **Contacting Me:**

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## **Classroom Expectations:**

Our classroom is a safe learning place, which encourages teamwork, positive feedback, and academic achievement. All students will be respectful to others. We will be good listeners to the teacher and to others' ideas. All students will be hard working contributors in the process of getting their education in order to be successful and reach their full potential.

### **Expectation 1: Be respectful**

- Use appropriate voice level in the classroom and hallways
- Raise your hand for permission to speak or leave your seat
- Listen to all instructions and directions and follow directions quickly
- Always Make Smart Choices
- Take Care of Classroom Materials

### **Expectation 2: Be responsible**

- Complete all assigned tasks
- Be prepared: Have all necessary materials

### **Expectation 3: Be safe**

- Always keep your hands and feet to self
- Walk at all times
- Report problems to an adult

### **Expectation 4: Be ready to learn and try your best every day**

- Come to class on time
- Prioritize daily attendance

Our positive reinforcement, and clear routines will help students learn and meet these expectations. If expectations are not met, the teacher will first reteach and remind the student(s) of expectations. If a student continues to fail to meet expectations, they will be given a Rule Card, and a parent will need to sign and return the following day. If a student is unable to meet expectations after these preventative measures, an office referral will be made.

### **Attendance:**

Daily attendance is very important to your child's education. Our curriculum moves very quickly, and it is very important that your child be present every day in order to be successful. Students must be in class ready to work by the 7:45 tardy bell. **Please notify the school if your child will be absent.** When your child is absent, they must bring an excuse. Any missed work will be sent home with the student the next day.

### **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the first semester, students will be able to:

**Using UFLI for Phonics Instruction and Amplify Knowledge for Reading, students will develop literacy skills such as:**

- Decoding words with short and long vowel sounds and words with digraphs sh, ch, wh, and th.
- Recognize and Read High Frequency Words
- Listen to, think about, and discuss a variety of texts including fables and stories, Human Body, Different Lands and similar stories, Early American Civilizations, and Astronomy: Space Exploration.

**In Math, students will develop mathematics skills such as:**

- Unit 1: Data and Graphing Analysis
- Unit 2: Adding and Subtracting Numbers within 10
- Unit 3: Compose and Decompose Numbers to 120
- Unit 4: Compare and Order Numbers to 120
- Unit 5: Adding and Subtracting Numbers within 20
- Unit 6: Time

**In Science, students will develop knowledge about science concepts such as:**

- Unit 00: What is Science, Who is a Scientist, Science Tools
- Unit 1: Properties of Objects
- Unit 2: Heating and Cooling Energy
- Unit 3: Force and Motion
- Unit 4: Weather and Seasons

**In Social Studies, students will develop understanding about social studies concepts such as:**

- Unit 1: Communities
- Unit 2: Government and Citizens
- Unit 3: Economics

### **Course Resources:**

- Chromebooks (provided by Midland ISD)
- Journals and writing utensils (part of the school supply list)
- UFLI Materials (provided by campus)
- I- Ready

### **Grading Policy:**

*According to Midland ISD Grading Policy:*

Approved grading guidelines for first grade will be communicated to students and their parents by the classroom teacher. These guidelines establish:

- The minimum number of assignments, projects, and examinations required for each grading period
- How the student's mastery of concepts and achievement will be communicated (for example, letter grades, numerical averages, checklist of required skills, and the like)

- Circumstances under which a student will be allowed to redo an assignment or retake an examination the student originally failed
- Procedures for a student to follow after an absence

District Assessment results such as MCLASS, MAP Test, and I Ready will be sent out to parents. Teachers will also share assessment results with parents during parent-teacher conferences.

**Class DoJo (School-wide System of Communication)**

Our campus uses ClassDojo to communicate with families. Please ensure you join our class for important updates.

Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns that you may have. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning in First Grade!

This packet provides important information regarding the procedures of our classroom. Your understanding and support will help us have a successful school year. **Please sign and return the lower portion of this note.** Thank you so much for your support. We are looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

First Grade Teachers

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We acknowledge that we have read and that we understand the expectations in First Grade. We agree to contact the teacher should we have any questions or concerns regarding this instructional plan.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_