

**Mrs. Tolle
First Grade
Crystal River Primary School**



www.thesharppencils.com



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Welcome Back!

Our first partial week of first grade was great! The focus has been on building community, learning expectations, and practicing routines. We are role playing what a productive classroom should look and sound like. Returning to school is a big transition from a whole summer off. Lunch starts at 11:40 a.m. It is important your child get enough sleep and a nutritious breakfast. This will help them stay more engaged on instruction.

Jitter Juice

The first day of school was one of mixed emotions. We read the book *Jitter Juice* by Julie Danneberg. Sarah Hartwell does not want to go to school the first day due to being nervous. We found out at the end that Sarah Hartwell was not a student. She was the teacher! Afterwards we made our own "jitter juice" from Hawaiian punch and Sprite. Most of us enjoyed it. The jitter juice sure helped take away our jitters! We ended with reading a poem about the jitters.

Class Website

The class website should be updated and ready in a couple of weeks. I hope to share with you a glimpse of the fun we are having in our classroom.

Scholastic Book Club Order

Every month we will be ordering books through Scholastic. They offer a wide range of books for all readers at affordable prices. Being able to order a book is a wonderful incentive you can provide at home. This helps create a love for reading. When several books are ordered Scholastic gives the teacher points to get a couple books for the classroom library. You also have the convenience of ordering online if you like (Please see the attached information sheet). If you choose to participate, the deadline is August 26th. Cash is accepted, however, checks are preferred if you are sending money in

Words are Like a Tube of Toothpaste

The children were given a tube of toothpaste and told to squirt toothpaste out onto a plate. They were then given toothpicks to help them return the toothpaste to the tube. The lesson learned was that once words are spoken, they can never be taken back! We are focusing on treating each other with respect and kindness.

Class Dojo

All parents have been invited to Class Dojo using the cell phone that parents started on Meet the Teacher Night. This is an excellent program that allows you to keep track of how your child is doing behaviorally. You can also send/receive messages as well as view photos of what fun we are having while learning!

Change in Dismissal Plans

It is very important that you send in a note if there is any change in the way your child will be going home. Since these notes are forwarded to the office, please do not write dismissal changes on the parent communication log in the O.W.L. Binder.

"Good Fit" books

The students were introduced to "good fit" books through an analogy with "good fit" shoes. I brought in several shoes that might and might not be good to wear at school. I even brought slippers, pool shoes, and my husband's flip flops. A discussion followed me modeling the shoes one by one. Was it a "good fit" shoe for school? We paralleled this to "good fit" books. What is a "good fit" book for one person might not be for another. A book is chosen based on why we want to read it, the purpose. We also need to consider interest level, as well as our ability to comprehend and read the words.

Birthdays

If your child would like to bring in a treat on his/her birthday, please make sure to let me know in advance. We currently have eighteen children in the class.

O.W.L. Binder

Your child is responsible for a 1 inch binder this year. I will be sharing resources with you as the school year progresses. They will be stored in the O.W.L. binder. I do not anticipate your child should be having to open or shut the three rings at school or home (but just in case we practiced this so that our little fingers are not pinched). The binder includes a behavior calendar, parent communication log, as well as labeled pockets where papers are stored (keep at home and return to school.) Please help your child remember to return the binder nightly.

Specials

This year we will be going to all of our specials in the same week. The days we don't have PE, we will go out to recess. Closed-toe shoes are required daily. *See the schedule below.*

Monday-PE-Mrs. Adams

Tuesday-Technology/Media-Mrs. Rollen

Wednesday-PE-Mr. Hengesbach

Thursday-Music-Mrs. Kelly

Friday-Art-Mrs. Jones

Thank you for all your support!