



# Hello and Welcome to the 2010-2011 School Year!



My name is Mrs. Lambert and I am so excited to be your child's teacher. Your child is going to discover so many new skills this year and you, as parents, play a very important role in your child's education. Your attitude toward reading, homework, and school in general is reflected to your child daily. As you talk with your child and supervise his/her homework on a daily basis, you will be leading them toward a successful second grade year and many years after! I am looking forward to an exciting year and the opportunity to get to know you and your child!

If you have concerns throughout the year, please don't hesitate to contact me at school. The phone number is 936-5782. I check my messages daily. You can also email me at [jllamber@iusd.org](mailto:jllamber@iusd.org). I communicate a lot via email and I will always be posting new information on our website. It is very easy to email me via our class website ([www.MrsLambertsClass.com](http://www.MrsLambertsClass.com)). Just click on the email link and type your message.

## IMPORTANT TIMES TO REMEMBER

(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

8:00	School Begins
10:10-10:30	Recess
11:45-12:25	Lunch
1:58	Dismissal

(Wednesday)

8:00	School Begins
10:10-10:30	Recess
11:45-12:25	Lunch
1:20	Dismissal



**\*Please make sure that your child is on time each day. If your child is tardy, then they will miss critical instructional time.**

## Homework

Homework will be explained in detail at Back to School Night. Some homework items will be posted on our class website, so please check back regularly for more details. If I send home things before Back to School Night, please send it back ASAP.

## Technology

Your child will be learning a lot of technology this year, including, but not limited to: Power Point, Microsoft Word, and podcasting. These programs are not needed at home, but it is important that you, the parent, have access to the Internet. Please let me know if this is a problem. I will be happy to work something out.

Since I e-mail important information frequently, it is crucial that you notify me if your e-mail address changes. Please notify me of the change via e-mail. If you do not have an e-mail account, it is free to create one and I will also be happy to assist you with it. You will need an email address to receive information from the school, your child's RtI teacher, and me. Thank you!

## "Take Home Folder"

The "Take Home Folder" is a plastic two-pocket folder with a white cover sheet that goes to and from school with your child each day. It is extremely important that this folder returns to school *every single day*. Please reinforce the importance of keeping all loose papers in this folder. Two essential life skills we will be focusing on this year are Responsibility and Organization. This daily routine will help practice both these skills. If I have anything to send home to you, it will be in that folder. Likewise, if you have a note or material for me, please put it in the "Take Home Folder." This way we will both know where to look for information. ☺

## Materials & Supplies

Students are welcome to bring in their own school supplies (pencils, erasers, crayons, glue, scissors, etc.), but it is not required. Please refer to our wish list on our school and class websites.

These items are appreciated *throughout the year*. Especially with the budget crisis, supplies will need to be replenished around midyear...especially glue sticks, baby wipes and Lysol wipes. Please see our Wish List on our class website. Thank you!

We will be working on a lot of projects this year, so we will be collecting PAPER TOWEL HOLDERS (the cardboard cylinder in the center of the role) and LARGE PINECONES. You may send these items in as you find them. Thank you!

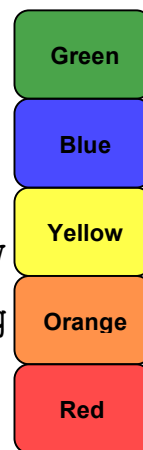
### Birthdays

Please see the Birthdays Page on our website. Birthdays are an exciting day for many of us and if your child would like to share their special day with the class, they are more than welcome to bring in healthy treats to celebrate. If you do decide to bring in treats, please plan on enough for 32 students. Please **DO NOT** bring in cupcakes or other sugary treats. Great ideas for treats are fruit kabobs, fruit pizza, small goody bags, or any other healthy alternative that you may have in mind. The Internet is an excellent source for healthy and fun treats. *I do ask that we are sensitive to those that may be allergic to peanuts and not have treats that contain nuts or made in a facility that "shares equipment that processes nut products."* So please check the label.

Instead of a treat, many families choose to donate a book to the class. The book will be read on your child's birthday and their name will forever be on the inside cover. We also read digital and audio books in class via an iPad or iPod. So you may also choose to donate a book via Kindle/iBooks. Again, we will read the digital book to the class on your child's birthday. The children love it!

### Stoplight Behavior Management System

This is our Classroom Management Plan that the students are expected to follow while at school. An effective plan is essential to create a safe and successful learning environment for your child.



The bulletin board in our classroom shows a modified stoplight with five colors: green, blue, yellow, orange, and red. If a school or classroom rule is broken, the student receives a caution and is asked to move their clothespin DOWN to the next color. If a student is going above and beyond by demonstrating our school values, then they are asked to move their clothespin UP to the next color. Everyone begins each day on yellow for neutral (or a “mellow yellow” day). Students are able to move up and down the chart throughout the day, depending on their behavior.

Everyday, students will bring home a colored slip of paper in their “Take Home Folder” indicating which color they earned for the day. “Green Team” means your child had an excellent day and went out of their way to demonstrate our school values! “Blue Team” means that your child had a great day and showed some of our school values throughout their school day. “Yellow Team” means your child had an A-Okay mellow day! “Orange Team” means your child made some poor choices and these choices have been discussed with the teacher. The “Red Team” means your child made some very poor choices and an appropriate consequence was provided for your child.

Please do not return any of the slips signed EXCEPT for the “Red Team” notes. *Students are welcome to “recycle” their colored slips by returning them to class the next day.* They will be paid one Bear Buck for each slip returned. Please praise your child for all those “Green Team” and “Blue Team” notes, it’s quite an accomplishment! More information is located on our class website.



### Bear Bucks



Bear Bucks are our classroom currency that can be earned in a variety of ways. Students earn them by successfully doing their classroom job for the week or by ending their day on green. I also give out Bear Bucks when homework is turned in completed and on time. Students are given the opportunity to buy items at our classroom store. This system is to help the students enforce such skills as counting, skip counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's, and making change. It also encourages responsibility and allows students to see the consequences of good behavior.

## Attendance and Absences

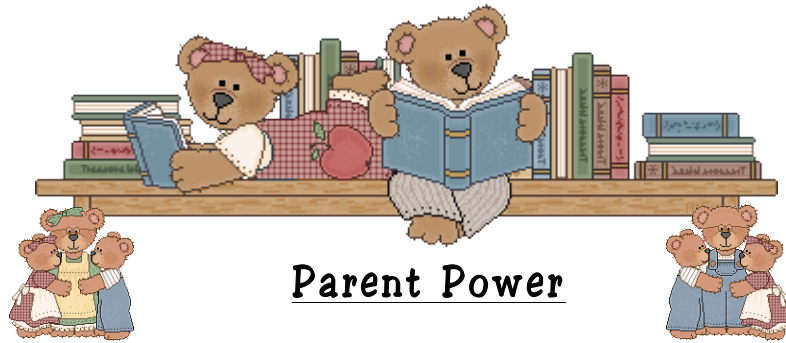
If your child is going to be absent, please call the attendance line. When students are tardy, they must go to the office to obtain a tardy slip in order to be admitted into class. In order to ensure maximum educational instruction time, students need to arrive at school on time. Also, if your child becomes ill, please keep them at home to prevent the rest of the class from getting sick as well. I will be happy to leave your child's missing work in the office for you to pick up. Contact me if this is your request. If you know ahead of time that your child will be missing school, please e-mail me as early as possible so I can provide the work that will be missed. This will make it much easier on your child so they won't return to an overwhelming pile of missed work! ☺

## Sleep and Breakfast

Kids, ages 6 to 9, need about 10 hours of sleep a night. Adequate sleep is crucial to proper brain function. Any amount of sleep deprivation will diminish mental performance. Research supports the function of rapid eye movement (REM) sleep in memory formation and studies have shown that sleep-loss affects learning and memory. During sleep, particularly the REM phase, the brain integrates information it took in during the day but couldn't process at the time. So please, make sure that your little one has a set bedtime and that the schedule is consistently followed.

For children, a good breakfast is very important. Children who do not eat a good breakfast become tired in school and have shorter attention spans, especially late in the morning. In one study, test scores of children who did not eat breakfast were generally lower than those who had eaten a well-balanced morning meal. Another good reason to make sure that children have a balanced breakfast is that four out of five children do not get enough vitamins and minerals from lunch and dinner alone. By adding breakfast, children are more likely to get the vitamins and minerals they need. Also, children who don't eat a good breakfast tend to eat more junk food during the day - snacks that are high in fat and sugar and low in nutritional value. Breakfast helps improve mental

performance and concentration during morning activities. So please encourage your child to eat a LOW SUGAR and well-balanced breakfast EVERY morning. Thank you!



## Parent Power

1. **Be a reader yourself!** Read books, magazines, and newspapers in the presence of your child. Show your child that you love to read!
2. **Set aside a specific place and time for homework.** Daily reading and continual practice of sight words, spelling words, and math facts will increase your child's performance.
3. **Take time to listen to your child and see how he or she feels about the work being done in school.** Show an interest in their school activities.
4. **Limit the amount and quality of your child's TV viewing.**
5. **A child that is rested and well nourished is more apt to have the stamina to concentrate for prolonged periods of time during the school day.**
6. **Keep in touch with your child's teacher!** Show an interest in what your child is learning. Be ready to help and praise when needed.



## Classroom Wish List



Here are some small things we could always use in our classroom to help things run smoothly. Items from this list are **optional**, but we do use them routinely for various activities. Please keep us in mind and feel free to send in any of these items ***throughout the year***. The budget is extremely tight this year. So we appreciate any donations to our class! Thank you!

### \*Baby Wipe Refills

### \*Kleenex

### \*Lysol Disinfectant Wipes

### \*AA Batteries (regular or rechargeable)

### \*C Batteries

*We will be using a lot of technology in our class this year. Our classroom is equipped with LeapFrog Leap Pads, Turbo Twisters, and battery operated listening centers. These learning tools have proven to be invaluable assets for our classroom, but they do go through batteries quickly. ☺*

### \*\*Zip-Lock Storage Bags

*We use every size for various activities: Sandwich Size, **Snack Size**, 1 Gallon, 5 Gallon, etc.*

### \*\*Magnetic Strips

*Found at any office supply store and used all the time in our classroom. Magnets used for business cards also work wonderfully!*

### \*Thin Black Expo Markers (Please no low-odor. They do not erase well.)

### \*Glue Sticks

### \*Box Tops For Education

*These small white squares can be found on all General Mills products and earn us money for our classroom. Thanks for your support!*

### \*Campbell's Soup Labels

*These also earn money for our classroom. Again, thank you!*

### \*Aluminum pull-tabs (pop tabs)

*Aluminum pull-tabs (pop tabs) from beverage cans are 100% aluminum and are easy to recycle. We have a special collection "House" in our classroom. 100% of the funds raised support Ronald McDonald House operations and helps to keep their doors open to families.*