

Mrs. McManus 5th Grade Parent Information



Welcome to fifth grade. I am very excited about the coming year, and I am so pleased your child is going to be a part of it. This is my 20th year teaching fifth grade at Seven Oaks. I graduated from Boise State University and I also received my Master of Education from Lesley University with an emphasis in technology. I enjoy incorporating technology into the classroom as much as possible.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned Monday-Thursday. Each month students will receive a homework calendar. Students should read for 20 minutes each night, study their spelling words, and complete the daily assignment and any work that wasn't completed in class. Assignments should take no more than 40 minutes to complete, not including studying for tests.

What are your child's homework responsibilities? I expect students to do their best work on homework assignments. I expect their work to be neat and completed on lined notebook paper or typed. I also expect homework to be completed and finished by class the following morning. Students may complete homework assignments in advance.

Behavior Management:

The behavior management plan in our classroom is a system designed to help students manage themselves. We created a class constitution and all students signed it agreeing that they would follow the rules. For each offense in class, they are asked to "sign in" on their weekly behavior slip. Reasons why a student would be asked to "sign in"

1. Didn't complete homework
2. Forgot to bring agenda to school
3. Off task
4. Not listening to the speaker
5. Excessive use of the hall pass
6. Inappropriate behavior in specials, playground, or hallway

At the end of each week I will pay the students with McManus Money. The amount they earn is based on how many times they had to "sign in" and reasons they had to "sign in". You will know how much McManus Money your son/daughter earned each week on his/her Friday Update form in the FYI section on the binder. Students will use their McManus Money at our class trading posts.

Agendas:

Students will fill out provided agendas every day. They will write the day's activities and lessons as well as the homework assignment. Agendas need to be signed every night and returned the following day. My goal is that students will get in the habit of using their agendas, and later in the year, will no longer need nightly parent signatures.

Binders:

One of the most important skills students need to be successful is the ability to stay organized. My goal is to provide each child with tools to become an organized student. With the use of the binders, students will be responsible for keeping track of assignments, homework, graded papers, newsletters, and handouts. ***All papers should stay in the binders except for the papers in the FYI section.*** Every Friday parents should look through the binders and initial the Friday Update. By looking at the Table of Contents in each section you will have an idea of how your son/daughter is doing in each subject.

Binders should be divided into these sections: math, language arts, social studies, science, and FYI (For Your Information, this is like a Friday Folder)

20 Book Challenge:

Students are keeping track of books they read this year in their reading folders. I am encouraging students to read different genres of books this year. When students finish a book, they will write it down on their reading log and then come and have me initial it. Each student has set a goal for the number of books they will read this year. We will have an end of the year celebration for the students that meet the 20 book challenge!

Birthdays:

We will celebrate birthdays in the classroom with a game. Because of allergies in the classroom and the wellness policy we will limit treats to class parties for Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day.

Make-up Work/Absences: Students have one day for every day absent to make up missed assignments. If a student is going to be absent, please remember to call the office to let them know. District policy is that students will receive the work they missed when they return.

Extra Credit: I do not give extra credit. If students want to improve their grades, they can redo daily assignments.

Snacks: Students should bring a healthy snack to eat during first recess. Water bottles are allowed in the classroom.

Volunteers:

Parents are an integral part of the classroom. I believe parent volunteers help enhance the ambiance of the classroom. By helping with special projects, grading papers, working with students, or supplying materials from home, volunteers provide me with the opportunity to spend as much time as possible working with students. If you are available to volunteer in the classroom, please let me know.

Fifth Grade Projects/Tests

These are the projects and tests that will be completed this year. More information will come home when we start working on each project

1. Colonial Project
2. Science Fair
3. Direct Writing Assessment - December
4. PowerPoint Book Report - December
5. Social Studies Research project, write a report, make a PowerPoint, and give an oral presentation. - Feb/March
6. ISAT- April

Specials Schedule:

Monday	10:45 Music	Tuesday	10:45 PE
Wednesday	10:00 PE 10:45 Computers	Thursday	10:00 Library
Friday	9:30 Health 10:00 Music		
*10:30-10:45 Morning Recess	12:20-1:00 Lunch	2:30-2:45	Afternoon Recess

Communication:

I feel that communication is vital to a child's success. I provide many opportunities for communication; agendas, FYI, class newsletters, and I can be reached by email, phone, and voice mail.

Email- mcmanus.courtney@westada.org

Phone- 350-4095 ext. 1128

Website - <https://www.westada.org/Domain/2875>

Parent To Do List

- Sign planner every night
- Remove all papers from your child's FYI section in his/her binder every weekend
- Sign and return the Friday Update (in FYI section)
- Communicate with Mrs. McManus