

2023-2024

Bible Buddies - These were adopted at the beginning of the year to encourage reading of the Bible (or any book)!

Communication - The majority of classroom communication will take place through email. My email is loren@nebocrossingelementary.com.

Dietrich Dollars - Dollars can be earned for a variety of things such as having a clean desk when the Desk Fairy appears, earning House Points, good grades on tests, being spotted with kindness or good behavior, completing homework, etc. Money can be saved or spent. They may be spent on a variety of rewards such as bringing a stuffed animal to school, sitting next to a friend, Show and Tell, having lunch with Mr. Likins, etc. Tickets are redeemed on Friday's of each week.

Epic Books - You may have heard of the website/app called Epic books which as thousands of quality literature books at the touch of a finger. Books are able to be read by students, can be read aloud to students, and are in audiobook version. Every student in our class has a free account that is able to be used Monday through Friday 7AM to 3PM. This makes it accessible for a little bit before the school day starts and on our school breaks. If you are interested in being able to use it outside of the 7-3 window or on weekends you are welcome to go to www.getepic.com/connect/xmt8122 It will save you 43% on a membership. THIS IS NOT REQUIRED.

Freddy - Freddy is our "class pet". He is a sixteen year old stuffed frog. He will go home with one student each day and weekend. Freddy should return every day. Freddy comes with a notebook that is to be written in. Student's will share about their adventure. The purpose of Freddy is to encourage writing and public speaking while also hopefully encouraging fun and creativity while he is visiting your home.

Field Trips - We will most likely have four field trips this year - one per quarter. More information will be sent out as the time comes. Parents/grandparents are welcome on these trips.

Grades - Grades will be posted into Gradelink ASAP and physical tests will be sent home in the school Take Home Tuesday folder.

Homework - A "Red Hot Homework Folder" will be sent home each day. There will be no homework the first two weeks. Homework is listed in your child's planner and should be signed nightly. More homework information will be sent home at a later date.

Lunch - Our lunch time is from 11:15 to 11:45. Parents are welcome to attend lunch with their child. School policy is to sign in at the office before walking to the lunchroom. Please then MEET US AT THE LUNCHROOM BUILDING. You may sit with your child at their lunch table. When lunch concludes, please TELL YOUR CHILD GOODBYE AT THE LUNCHROOM BUILDING.

Money - Any time money needs to be sent to school (field trips, pizza days, book orders, etc) please send the money inside of a sealed envelope or closed bag LABELED with: 1) child's name, 2) amount of money, 3) what the money is for.

Morning Routine - Students are able to come into the classroom between 7:30 and 8:00. When they enter the classroom, they will hang their jackets/backpacks and place their lunchboxes/water bottles in their cubby. Activities in between this time include: working on a Morning Box, playing a learning game, working on unfinished work, drawing/coloring. Work during this time is meant to foster both independence and teamwork depending on the activity chosen. We will begin our Morning Meeting and Bible time at 8:00.

Newsletter - I will send home a weekly newsletter via email on Monday's.

PE - We will have PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PE uniforms must be worn on those days.

Photos - I try to take as many photos as possible throughout the week. A link to these photos will be included in the weekly newsletter on Mondays.

Red Hot Homework Folder - This folder will be in your child's folder every day along with their planner. If a sheet is needed for homework, it will be in here and should be returned in here.

Schedule - You will find our daily schedule posted outside our classroom, sent via email and posted on my webpage. This is a rough schedule of our day and will change on any day due to special trips, school functions or activities.

Social Media- I do not mind being friends with parents on social media but this is not to be used as a means of communicating about classroom topics.

Snack - We will have TWO snacks (morning and afternoon). Snacks may be placed in a small pocket in their backpack but will be placed in a common place once they arrive. Labeling snacks is not required but could be helpful if your child does not remember what they brought. I highly recommend a healthy snack such as fruit, pretzels, cheese sticks, etc. Since we are eating in the classroom, I would appreciate no messy snacks such as fruit cups (they spill so easily) or chips if your child tends to get crumbs everywhere.

## Volunteer Opportunities

- Mystery Reader A surprise guest is always a hit! Our class read aloud time at the end of the day. Mystery Readers are welcome to bring their own book to read to the class or read a story picked out by myself. If you choose to be a Mystery Reader, don't tell your child and ruin the surprise!
- Cut-and-Paste Helper We play many games in class...which all need to be created at some point. This job can be done here at school in a separate room or taken home.
- Student Helper There are times when children need extra one-on-one help. Oftentimes this extra help will be in the form of additional reading practice, educational games or help on a worksheet. Once a time is determined for this. I will reach out for volunteers.
- Field Trip Chaperone We will have four field trips this year and will need parent volunteers to chaperone small groups of children.