

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I want to welcome all the new families and the returning families to my classroom.

I'd like to begin with behavior expectations for my classroom. In the room, and school, we follow the 49 rules that are found on the Kansasville web site: <https://kansasvilleschool.org>. Many of these rules follow the idea of treating others as you would want to be treated.

Students who follow these rules and demonstrate the character traits we reinforce each month will get punches on their "Be Your Best" cards. If they get nine punches on their card, they will be able to attend a monthly event. If students do not get nine punches, they will not participate in the BYB event. Reasons for not getting punches include, but are not limited to:

- Not following the 49 rules.
- Using inappropriate language.
- Fighting.
- Picking on others/bullying.
- Having missing assignments.
- Not being prepared for class 2 or more times in one week. This includes not having chromebooks charged for the full day or not having it at school.
- Not having an assignment notebook signed 2 times in one week.

Each student is given an assignment notebook. The assignment notebook is a way for you to know what is being done in our classroom each day and what your child's homework may be. It is to be signed by parents only. I will not accept the signature of a sister or brother. Students are expected to fill out their assignment notebook each day.

So what is homework? Homework is defined as any assignment your child does not complete during the day. There may be times I assign something specifically as homework, but that is rare. All assignments are due the next day that we have that class at the time of the class. If you have a question about assignments, a calendar with the day's assignments is on the school website.

What will your child be learning this year?

In reading, we will be practicing reading for comprehension. We do this using the Journeys reading series. Students will also practice reading skills such as sequencing, phonics, interpreting, and understanding viewpoints and biases to name a few. Each Friday the students will take a test that deals with comprehension of the story they read that week, as well as the

skills that were practiced. Students will also have assignments to practice their vocabulary words on Vocabulary A-Z.

Each trimester students will have to complete 2 book reports from books of their own choosing. Upon completion of the reading, students will take the AR test on that book. As in the past, the students will be participating in the AR Points Challenge for in class incentives..

In language, both grades will be covering the various parts of speech, as well as an emphasis on writing; both fiction and nonfiction.

Spelling is completely online. All spelling assignments are on Vocabulary A-Z. The units focus on various ways to decode words, phonemic awareness, and recognition of spelling patterns.

Mrs. Ryan teaches Math to the 5th and 6th grade students.

The students will be studying United States geography and history in social studies. They will have a research project in the spring in which they will research a state.

In science, the students will be concentrating on all of the areas of science: physical, Earth, and life. This year is also the Science Fair year. Students in grades 5-8 will be required to do an experimental project. Projects will begin in the middle of September and are due in December.

Don't forget that you can monitor your child's progress through the year using Family Access on Skyward.

If you have any questions about anything please contact me at ronbrandt@kansasvillegss.org or phone 878-3773