

Memorial School



Mrs. Baker's Class Handbook 2017-2018

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Welcome

I have created this handbook so that you will have a better understanding of how our classroom works and what we do daily. I am looking forward to working with you and your child in reaching his/ her full potential. We will have many wonderful experiences and opportunities to learn and grow in the days ahead.

1st Grade School Supply List

- 1 marble composition notebooks: wide ruled: 100 pages
- 3 two pocket plastic folders: Red, Blue, Green
- 3 full boxes of sharpened pencils (1 dozen boxes)
- 3 large glue sticks (Elmer's disappearing purple)
- 4 dry board markers (thick, black-low odor)
- 2 boxes of 24 crayons- no larger
- 3 boxes of tissues
- 1 pair of scissors
- 2 pink latex free erasers
- 1 yellow chisel tip highlighter
- 1 green pen
- 1 large soft pencil case
- Please send a pair of comfortable headphones (and not earbuds because they don't fit well in little ears 😊) in a labeled Ziploc bag for your child to use during Computers.

First Grade Philosophy

The main focus in first grade revolves around reading/language arts, and math. We are using a reading program Journeys by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. All the children are exposed to the same literacy experiences, but individualism takes place with small flexible groups that help meet the needs of each student. The program encompasses a variety of themes that relate to all content areas across the curriculum. These include math skills, science, health and nutrition, social studies and multicultural awareness.

We are also implementing the Wilson Foundations program which provides research based materials and strategies essential to a comprehensive reading, spelling, and handwriting program.

In math, we are using the math series *Go Math* by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. The concept to be encouraged by this series is a balance of computational and procedural skills. Emphasis is placed upon hands-on experiences and step by step models that build conceptual understanding. The use of problem solving skills and strategies is stressed as students learn mathematics by direct instruction.

Writing is taught in conjunction with reading, and children are encouraged to write about what they know. Invented spelling is used so that the young ones are not constrained by the fact that they cannot spell every word exactly. They are directed to write "what they hear," making the connection between the spoken and written language. As times goes on, through practice, teacher modeling, and mini lessons, correct spelling; sentence

structure and story organization will begin to come into focus. Formal spelling lessons are incorporated with the reading program.

Our science program is from Harcourt. The texts will enable us to meet the needs of the state core curriculum standards in New Jersey.

The social studies series is from Houghton Mifflin. Topics will be incorporated with our literature series. We also use Weekly Readers, which includes; science, health, and safety topics.

Library classes have consistently worked along with reading themes on specific projects undertaken in each class. The expertise and knowledge of our school librarian is an important resource for the first grade team. We are able to work together to provide concrete and valid experiences for our children.

Our students continue to experience hands on activities utilizing laptop computers. This includes internet access, word processing and general computer knowledge.

Music and Art are an integral part of our first grade program. They support and enhance our reading themes and provide insight into many multicultural, school and community activities.

Physical education and health are also a very important aspect of the first grade experience. The importance of developing the concept of continuing exercise for life needs to begin early-on. The program offered for first graders attempts to consistently accomplish this in a safe and enjoyable setting.

Class Rules

1. I will allow myself and others to learn.
2. I will treat others the way that I want to be treated - The Golden Rule.
3. I will keep myself and others safe.
4. I will always try my best.
5. I will always be kind.



Behavior Management

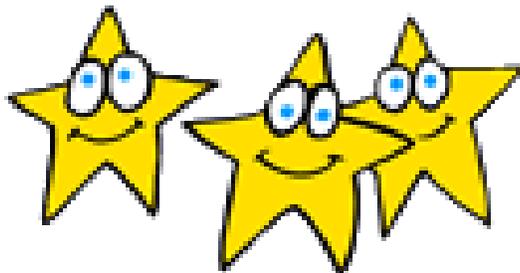
It is important that all students follow the rules of the classroom. When a student violates one of the rules, he or she understands that his or her behavior will be noted. I have created a traffic light to help me track the students' classroom behavior. The traffic light is displayed on the classroom wall and works in the following manner:

- Each student has his/her own clothes pin on the traffic light.
- At the beginning of each day, everyone's clothes pin is on the green part of the traffic light.
- If a student makes a poor choice and does not follow the classroom rules, the student will move his/her clothes pin to the yellow part of

- the traffic light as a warning to slow down and think about what he/she did wrong. They will not receive a point for the day.
- If a student makes a second poor choice and does not follow the rules, the student will move their clothes pin to the red light. If a student is on red they will not receive a point for the day. They will also miss their recess time and a note will be sent home for the parent to sign.
 - At the end of the school day, all students whose clothes pin still remains on green will get a point added to their behavior chart. When a student has earned 20 points he or she will be allowed to choose from the prize bin.
 - Each day all the students stay on green we will add a tally to our green day chart. Once 10 tallies have been earned they all receive a class reward.

Homework

- Homework will require some parental involvement at this level. Your cooperation is essential in developing a positive homework habit. First and foremost, you can encourage your child by showing interest and demonstrating helpful attitudes toward homework. Please sign your child's assignment pad each night after reviewing your child's assignments.



- Homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday nights.

Each student has been given a *Go Home Folder* (green) which is to be brought home with him or her every night. Please check the folder each day. It may contain important announcements, homework assignments, or completed work. If the work is on the keep home side, please keep those papers at home. If there are papers on the bring back side please make sure they come back to school the following day. This will help to create a routine and continue the communication between home and school.



Check the school website for daily homework at:

www.Maywoodschools.org Mrs. Baker's Site and then check Homework.

Good Homework Habits

1. Provide a noise-free, well-lit place to work.
2. Establish a regular "homework time" in your home and have a special place free from excessive noise.
3. Help your child organize adequate time to complete activities neatly and carefully.
4. Encourage your child to ask for help when he/she doesn't understand something or is frustrated. Teachers, like parents, can help only if they know there is a need.
4. Decide if it becomes too frustrating of a task to stop and take a break. Any work done under duress or frustration is not a positive or healthy learning experience.

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:25- 8:35					
8:35- 9:10	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics
9:15 - 9:50	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
9:55-10:30	Gym	Snack	Snack	Gym	Snack
10:35-11:10	Snack	Language Arts	Guided Reading	Snack	Library
11:15-11:50	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
10:50-11:20 11:20-11:50 K – Lunch					
11:55-12:22 Lunch Grade 2	R	E	C	E	SS
12:22-12:50 Lunch Grade 1	L	U	N	C	H
12:55-1:30	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
1:35-2:10	Language Arts	Computers	Guided Reading	SS/Science	Language Arts
2:15-2:50	Language Arts	Language Arts	Music	Art	SS/ Science/ Weekly Reader

- ❖ We will have snack mid-morning every day. Please send your child with a healthy snack.
- ❖ Gym/Health is rotated on Monday and Thursday, make sure your child is wearing sneakers and dressed appropriately for physical activity.
- ❖ Library is on Tuesday; please return books for class each week.
- ❖ Tutorial hours- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 2:55-3:15



Birthdays



We love to celebrate birthdays! Please let me know in advance if you plan on bringing in a **non-edible treat** for your child to share with the class, but make sure you bring in enough non-edible treats for all 23 students. We do have summer birthdays, which may be celebrated on their half birthday.

In order to not hurt any child's feelings in our classroom, please do not distribute party invitations in our classroom unless every classmate is invited to the party. This ensures that children will not be placed in an uncomfortable situation or get their feelings hurt.

****We are a NUT FREE Classroom, so NO NUTS**

please!!!!

Book Orders

Scholastic Book orders will be sent home every month, but there is no obligation to buy anything. The selection of books that is offered each month is perfect for our 1st grade reading level. They are  offered at great prices as well. If you do wish to purchase books, please log onto www.scholasticreadingclub and use code **MWLYG**. The orders will be shipped to the classroom and I will send them home with your child.

Absences

Attendance is important in first grade. What we do in class involves active participation, it is very important that your child attends each day. However, I do realize that sickness, family emergencies, and doctor's appointments do occur.

Whenever possible, your child's schoolwork will be saved for him/her to complete upon their return to school. If your child is sick and absent from school for more than one day, I recommend that a phone call be made requesting that your child's missed work be sent home.



Picking Your Child Up From School Early

If there is a need for your child to be picked up from school early, please send him/her to school with a note. This note should indicate what time your child will be picked up. This will enable me to have your child ready when you arrive for pick up. Your child will be sent home with any work that will be missed during the day.

Star of the Week

We will take turns having each student be our Star of the Week. Your child will bring home a poster to complete. The poster should be returned to school the following Monday. They will share their poster with the class. At the end of the week the poster will be sent home.



Class Parents

Our class parents are . They will be contacting you with party reminders.

Contact Information

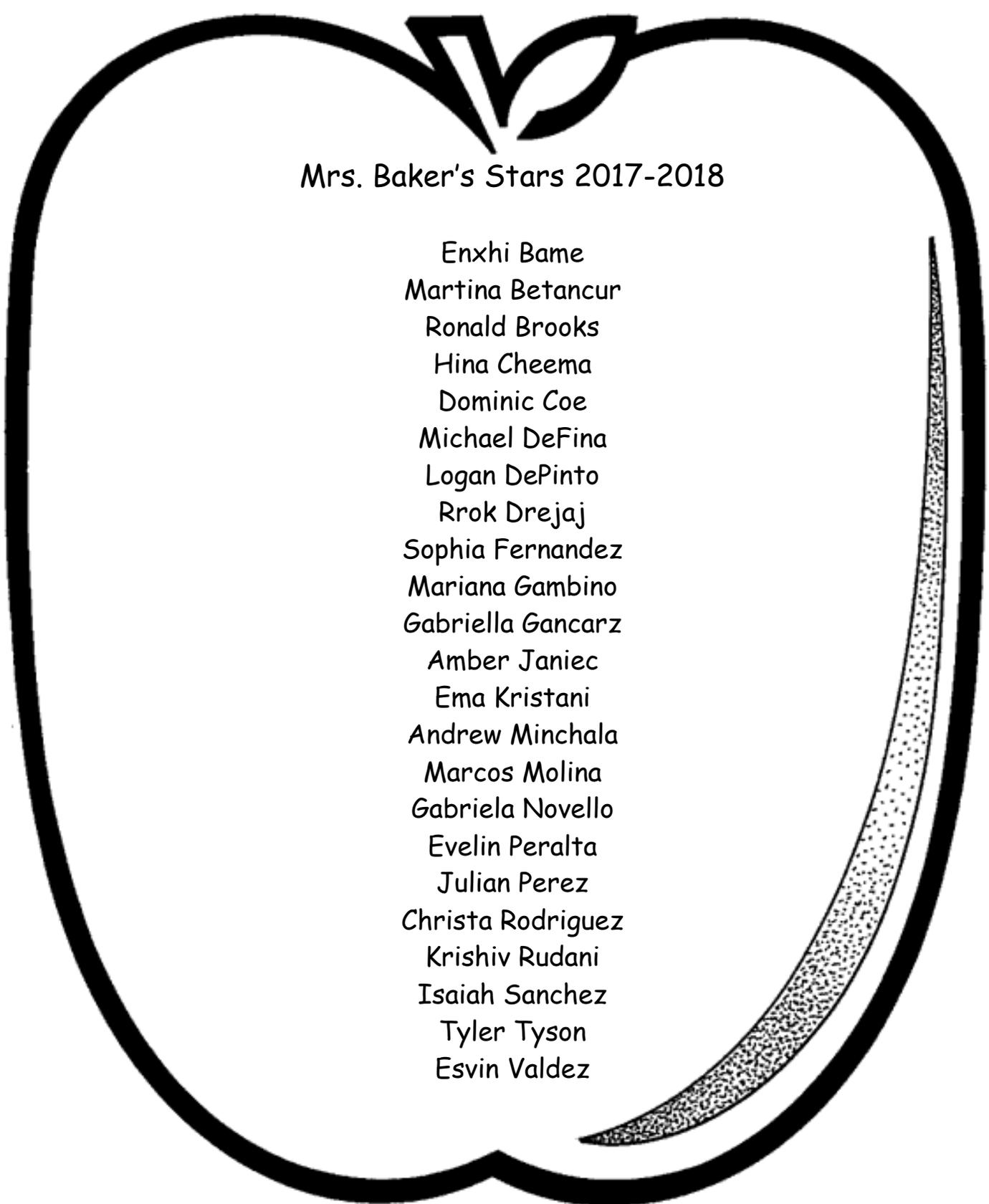
I believe that it is very important to keep the lines of communication open between home and school. If you need to contact me for any reason you can email me at ebaker@maywoodschoools.org. I check this email account every day and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Our School's Website

The Maywood School District's website is www.maywoodschoools.org.
On this website you will find the following information:

- ❖ Our school's 2017-2018 calendar
- ❖ School closings due to inclement weather
- ❖ Grade level information
- ❖ Links for Memorial School PTO website
- ❖ Memorial School Handbook
- ❖ And much, much more!!!





Mrs. Baker's Stars 2017-2018

Enxhi Bame
Martina Betancur
Ronald Brooks
Hina Cheema
Dominic Coe
Michael DeFina
Logan DePinto
Rrok Drejaj
Sophia Fernandez
Mariana Gambino
Gabriella Gancarz
Amber Janiec
Ema Kristani
Andrew Minchala
Marcos Molina
Gabriela Novello
Evelin Peralta
Julian Perez
Christa Rodriguez
Krishiv Rudani
Isaiah Sanchez
Tyler Tyson
Esvin Valdez