**Grades** **and** **Grading**

Report Cards**:** Students will receive letter grades on their report cards in first grade as well as numerical grades. The following grading scale will be used:



A=90-100

B=80-89

C=70-79

D=60-69

F=Below 60

*\*At the end of the year there will be an Award’s Day. For a student to be recognized for all “A’s” or ”A/B” the student will have to have earned those grades in every subject every nine weeks period.*

Report cards are sent home four times per year. Please remember to sign and return the report card. In addition to report cards being sent home, mid nine weeks progress reports will be sent home for you to review. Sign up for Power School to receive a username and password to view your child’s grades online.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have a question about a grade on any assignment. I am happy to explain.

**Curriculum**

**Reading and Language Arts**: Our Reading Program is Phonemic Awareness and Phonics based. We utilize the Brain Springs Phonics First Curriculum as well as Open Court. The implementation is strategic with the end result being that students read and comprehend text independently.

**Math**: Our Math Program is Envision Math and Reagan Math. Students are taught number sense to transpose and compose numbers while adding and subtracting simple to more complex digits.

**Test/s and Grades:** Grade averages are comprised of 60% Major Grades and 40% Minor Grades for each nine weeks.

Reading Test/s will be administered on Friday/s with some exceptions (These exceptions will be noted on the weekly newsletter.). The Reading Test is composed of the High Frequency Words (usage in sentences), Phonics-based on the weekly skills, Comprehension-answering questions about the story that’s on the test, and writing answers to questions that are open ended.

Spelling Tests as well as Language Tests are on Thursdays.

Math Tests will be administered when skills have been taught. Tests can fall on any day of the week. Some Math Lessons are shorter than others with the amount of skills. These will be sent home immediately after being graded for you to review. If you should need to ask questions, please contact me using the contact information on the cover. (Please Observe the Newsletter for when tests will be given.)

**Science/Social Studies:** Grades are S (Satisfactory), N (Needs Improvement), or U (Unsatisfactory). They are composed of verbal assignments, discussion, written assignments, and projects.

\*Academic Lessons are structured similar with each one beginning with whole group instruction with introducing learning targets/modeling/practice, and then small group with hands on activities. Technology is incorporated as much as possible. Intervention groups aid students who need extra help. Also, within the class we incorporate cooperative learning as well as some one on one practice to help everyone achieve “Their” academic potential.

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**Additional Information**

**Weekly Papers/Binders:** Weekly Papers are sent home inside of binders. Please keep all papers sent home. There isn’t a particular day that I send graded papers home. Please look for them either the same day as a test or graded assignment or the day after. I try not to hold papers for extended lengths of time. Please check for papers “Daily”. **Please do not throw away papers that should be returned to school**. **Also, everyday students should have their binders at school due to various word lists that we go through and check them off as they are learned.**

**Newsletters:** These will be sent home usually on Friday/s with the weekly homework attached. (If the newsletter doesn’t come home on Friday, it will be sent on Monday due to days out of school, etc.) It will also be uploaded on my webpage.

**Birthdays:** You are welcome to send in individually wrapped snacks from the store. We will sing your child Happy Birthday and enjoy the snacks during our classroom’s scheduled snack time. Students will also choose from the Treasure Box on their Special Day.

 **Field Trips:** Field Trip information will be sent usually 2 weeks before a trip. Tentative-please adhere to deadlines, no money will be accepted late.

**Money:** Please send all money in an envelope labeled with your child’s name, homeroom teacher’s name, and the purpose for the money. Students lose money envelopes regularly and this will help it get to the right place.

**Lunch:** Parents will receive information on days to join their children for lunch. The cost of student lunches is $2.75. Visitor lunches is $4.25. Lunch forms can be accessed online: [www.schoollunchapp.com](http://www.schoollunchapp.com) to complete for free and reduced lunch prices. Lunches can be paid for on PayPams or a check/cash can be sent to school.

**Transportation:** If your child’s mode of transportation needs to be changed on any given day, such as a child who usually rides the bus will be a car rider, please send a note to school letting me know this. We cannot deviate from the designated method of transportation unless we have it from you in writing. As I receive these, I send them to the office for approval. School dismissal is as follows:

* 1st Load Bus Riders: 3:00
* Car riders: 2:45
* YMCA 3:05/Daycare: 2:45
* 2nd Load Bus Riders: 3:05
* Walkers: 2:55

\*Dismissal times are tentative! At the beginning of school, it takes longer to dismiss.

**Organization:** First grade is a very important year as new skills are covered. Keeping up with class work and homework is extremely necessary. Daily assignments will be kept in your child’s binder. Students will be asked to take out this binder frequently to place papers in a designated area inside of it. Please reinforce the importance of this at home following directions when they are first given.

**Homework**: Homework is important because it teaches responsibility and helps the student develop good study habits. Homework is not “busy work”. It is given to reinforce skills and concepts taught that week. Homework helps the students prepare for upcoming lessons and tests**.** It should take approximately 20 minutes, give or take, depending on each individual student. Homework should be a time to reinforce skills learned during the school day. Students will receive Reading homework once a week. The homework can be completed in one night or spread throughout the week. However, Spelling words and High Frequency words should be practiced nightly. Students returning their homework by Friday will receive a sticker or an opportunity to move up on the clothespin chart. Completing homework helps to prepare students to become more responsible and independent workers in the future. Math homework will be given as needed on an individual basis and before a test as a class. Science and Social Studies projects will be given occasionally.

**Attendance Policy:** It is important for students to attend school every day except for sickness.

If a student is absent for any excused reason as defined below, the student shall be allowed to make up schoolwork and/or examinations missed during said absence or absences. For kindergarten through sixth grade students, the teacher shall be responsible for providing the student with a written list of missed assignments within three (3) days after the absence (s). The student shall be responsible for completing all make-up assignments within a reasonable length of time, not to exceed two (2) weeks.

**\*Please make every attempt to send in a written excuse the day your child returns to school. Do not email the excuse or place it on ClassDojo.**

**A satisfactory note from parent or guardian meets the following State guidelines:**

1. Illness; 2. Death in the immediate family; 3. Inclement weather (as determined by the principal) which would be dangerous to the life and health of the child; 4. Legal quarantine; 5. Emergency conditions as determined by the principal; and 6. Prior permission of the principal and written consent by the parent or guardian. • The note or doctor’s excuse must be sent to school within three (3) days of the student’s return to school to be counted as an excused absence. Excuses will not be accepted after three (3) days. Please note that teachers are not obligated to provide make-up work for unexcused absences. • A written note from parents or guardians, as described above, will excuse absences for up to but not exceeding ten (10) absences during the school year. Further absences will require a written excuse from a medical doctor or court official. All excuses must be presented within three (3) days of the return to school.

**Check-ins:** Students are required to report to school no later than the official

beginning of the school day and to be on time for all classes during the day. Each school will devise procedures that will ensure compliance with this regulation. A check-in is excused for the same reasons as absences. Check-ins for any other reasons is unexcused and may result in disciplinary action. No make- up work is allowed for unexcused check-ins.

**ANY CHILD ARRIVING AFTER 7:55 AM, MUST BE SIGNED IN BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN**.

**Check-outs: No check-outs after 2:30. Valid picture identification is required.**

Welcome to Daniel Pratt Elementary

First Grade, Mrs. Boykins

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“Education must, be not only a transmission of culture but also a provider of alternative views of the world and a strengthener of the will to explore them.”

-Jerome S. Bruner

Contact Information:

Email: tammy.boykins@acboe.net

School Phone: 334 361-6400

In matters of transportation changes, non-urgent

Questions/concerns, absences, excuses, etc. Please send

a note to school by your child.