**Disclosure for**

**Mrs. Petersen’s Class**

**2021- 2022**

As we begin a new school year, I am anxious to become better acquainted with you so that we can work together to ensure that your child has the most successful second grade year possible. Please feel free to call or email me whenever you have a concern about your child or if you have a question about anything that is happening in our classroom. I am here by 7:30 a.m. each morning and I usually leave at 5:00 p.m. My email address is:

lpetersen@graniteschools.org

I will usually email you with any concerns or questions I may have regarding your child. I will call or text you if it is extremely important. Please make sure your information is current and legible on your child’s registration card and also, please take the time to fill out and return the information sheet sent home in your child’s Fox Folder the first day of school.

For those of you with Internet access, my classroom website can be found at:

<https://petersenwebsite.weebly.com>

On this site, you can find reminders for upcoming special events, homework reminders, and links to learning activities for math, reading, and spelling.

**WAYS YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD**

* Praise your child often.
* Check papers each night. All corrected and/ or recorded work will be stamped.
* Listen to your child read. Be patient-- reading requires repetition, review, and lots of encouragement.
* Help your child memorize and write his / her phone number & address and tie his or her own shoes!
* Help your child memorize addition and subtraction facts with answers to and from 18.

**BIRTHDAYS**

We will sing to the student on his or her birthday (or the school day closest to it) and I will give them a small birthday treat, but due to COVID restrictions, we are not allowed to have treats sent from homes this year. Maybe next year….

**DONATIONS**

* Kleenex or other brands of tissue… to take care of runny noses throughout the year. (One box per student is requested.)
* Band-aids
* Clorox Wipes
* Hand Soap

**BACKPACKS**

Please be sure your child brings a backpack to school every day. Papers are less likely to be lost if they are carried in a backpack or bag of some sort. Plastic grocery sacks will be supplied for those students who forget to bring one or can’t afford one. Please make it a habit to ask your child to see his or her schoolwork and check for homework and notes every day.

**CURRICULUM**

**Language Arts** will consist of large and small group instruction, fluency practice provided by a para educator, spelling practice, Lexia practice on our Chromebooks, and Writing Workshop. Five years ago, Granite School District purchased a Common Core aligned language arts program called Reading Wonders. I will be utilizing this program this year as my main teaching tool.

Our math program is called “**Go Math!”** This program aligns with the Utah State Common Core Standards. It is taught and practiced utilizing online components. **Math homework will not be sent home this year.**  I have found that students who understand the concept taught during the day finish their homework quickly and usually return it the next day. Students who struggle with new concepts and/or have little home support, never do their homework. Because of this, I have decided to use the Go Math! practice page as the student’s “self-start” for the following day. I will go over the page with students each morning when they have completed it. Those who don’t quite understand the concept will have a chance to practice that specific concept again during math small group time.

**Homework**

Granite School District has mandated that all second graders should do 20 minutes of reading each evening. The only other required homework will be an optional spelling / vocabulary practice page. Homework should last no more than 30 minutes.

#1: **READING**: 20 minutes each night. Monday - Friday and the weekend, if possible.

Public library books, paper decodables that might be sent home (depending on your child’s reading level), and / or books from a home library could be read for the required reading minutes. For those who don’t have access to the public library, if you send a note in your child’s planner requesting reading material on your child’s reading level, I will be happy to lend my books to them. I will give students a new one to take home when the old one has been returned. Please remember that you are responsible for repayment of my books and of library books if they are lost.

#2: **SPELLING:** Spelling homework will be optional this year. It will be sent home on Mondays and students who return it completed on Fridays will receive a “Penny Tag” that can be spent at our school store on Fridays when enough are accumulated.

Also, any work that is not completed during the day may be brought home, finished, and returned the next day for full credit. I will only accept late work with no penalty until the Friday of the week it is due. (This is the day most grades are entered into my computer.) After that, only half-credit will be issued for late assignments unless your child has been ill. If your child is ill, please do what you can to have a sibling or friend pick up the missing assignments and return them within the week if it is an extended illness.

**VOLUNTEERS**

I usually love to have volunteers in my classroom. This year, however, due to the pandemic, it is best that we forgo adding extra bodies to our classroom. This will be very difficult for me, as parents are a great help when it comes to individualized attention for the students. When this pandemic has passed, I will once again invite parents into my room.

**Recess**

Whenever possible, **your child should go out for recess**. I will keep students in when it rains or when it is very cold and/ or snowy. If a child must stay in because he/ she has been ill, I will need a daily note from home. Please keep in mind that I am obligated to stay in my classroom when there are students in my room. This means I cannot use the restroom myself, run off missing work, or check my box at the office when your child needs to stay in. Please send notes only when absolutely necessary and **please be sure your child is properly dressed for the weather!**

**Student Folders**

Fox Hills Elementary will provide each student with an orange Fox Folder. This folder will be used to carry daily work home and will have a pocket dedicated for the homework packet. It will also be used as a home communicator for student behavior. It can also be used for you to send information that I may need to know, such as upcoming Dr. appointments or vacations. The folder is to be taken home every day, current work removed, and an empty folder returned to school the next day. (Unless you choose to keep the spelling homework and reading tracking paper in the left-hand pocket.)

* Lost folders can be purchased from the office as long as the supply is available.

**Behavior**

I use a colored behavior tracking chart in my classroom that corresponds with Fox Hill’s Behavior Plan. Students earn a colored card according to his or her behavior.

* Blue is VERY GOOD.
* Green is good. The student has just had one warning at this point.
* Yellow is the second warning… a student must sign the behavior log and loses a penny tag at this point.
* Orange is two warnings with consequences… The student loses another penny tag, signs the book, and misses 5 minutes of his recess.
* Red is “bad”. If your child receives a red card, you will be contacted via email or text. (Whichever you write as your preference on the information sheet sent home with this packet.) Your child will lose another penny tag, they must sign the book again, and they lose the entire following recess.

**Snacks**

The 2nd Grade lunchtime is at 12:00. As it can be difficult for some students to eat lunch later than they may have during the summer break, If your child needs a snack, you will need to send a **small**, **healthy** snack for them. (A string cheese stick, granola bar, a snack sack of apples slices or grapes, etc.) Please help your child eat a good breakfast each morning to help them stay focused on our morning work. Rumbling tummies seem to always take precedence over learning!

**Scholastic Book Orders**

I will periodically send home Scholastic Book order flyers for you to order books from, if you would like. There are many low-priced books offered, with many for $1-3. You may order online using our class code, which will be at the top of each flyer, should you choose to do so. I will also accept the order form with the exact amount of cash or a check made out to **Scholastic Book Club.** I will use the points earned through these book orders to enhance our classroom library.

**Grading**

Granite School District has transitioned to PBL. (Proficiency Based Learning) 2nd graders are now graded on a 1-4 scale.... with 3 meaning “Proficient”. A grade of “4” is only for those students who have gone above and beyond mastery. Very few 4’s will be awarded with this new system. If your child receives all 3’s, they are doing fine and have met all their requirements for that subject for the term. Both Math and Language Arts will be graded utilizing the PBL system this year.

I grade all student tests in all subject areas. Tests account for the majority of your child’s grade. Homework is no longer a part of the grading system. Scores on assignments done in school make up the remaining portion of the grade.

I DO NOT grade the majority of student’s in-class work because we often do it together. I record assignments as completed or not. If your child brings home an assignment with a stamp on it (other than the HOMEWORK stamp), this means it was recorded. If your child brings home unstamped papers, they were not recorded and should be completed and returned the following day for full credit. Half credit will be given for assignments turned in more than a week late. If a poor score is obtained on a test, and the student wishes to improve his or her grade, they may retake it with a note from home, stating that the student has practiced the content and would like another try. (Usually form B.)

I am looking forward to another great year. If you have any questions about the information in this packet, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Petersen