

Welcome to First Grade!

Mrs. Padgett's Class

Dear Families,

Welcome to first grade at Hollywood! I am so thrilled to be your child's teacher and I know this will be an awesome year! A quick introduction of myself: my name is Mrs. Padgett. I graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education in 2014. This is my third year teaching at Hollywood and I love being here! I love putting fresh new strategies into practice! In my free time, I enjoy reading lots of books, spending time with my husband Brandon, our daughter Kirkley, and our dogs.

For your child's journey to be successful, it is essential for me to understand that each child is a unique individual with special qualities and needs. With the support of students and families, we will create a classroom environment that will recognize and respect individuality. To support each student's learning, I will create a classroom that offers a variety of meaningful teaching styles so that each child will have the opportunity to succeed. The children will grow and learn at their own rate. I invite you to play an active role in your child's education by talking with your child each day about their learning, reading together every night, and communicating with me. 😊

I want there to be open communication between us. If at any time you have a question, I will be happy to talk with you. Either, write me a note in your child's agenda, give me a call, or email me and I will try to respond as soon as possible. I want you to feel well informed throughout the year. Each day your child will bring home his/her **Homework Folder, agenda, and R.E.D. (read every day) folder**. Please check your child's backpack daily for important letters and notes. This can be a hard habit to get started, but well worth it! Thanks in advance!!

Additional Information

Weekly Newsletter: Every Monday, I will send home a class newsletter and a school newsletter. There will be reminders about upcoming tests and events at school. Please be sure to read this!

Completed Work/Homework: Your child will regularly bring completed work in his/her folder throughout the week, Reflection on completed work is very valuable; spend some time with your child looking at things he/she has accomplished!

Dismissal: Children will be put on their typical mode of transportation unless we have been notified in writing (agenda or note in folder) that there is a change. For security reasons, we ask that you wait by the office area after you have signed out your child.

Birthdays: Birthdays will be celebrated the same throughout the year. If you would like to send a birthday treat for our class, you may do so. We currently have 15 students in our classroom, be sure you have enough for each student in our class. The snack will be passed out at lunch. The school will also announce birthdays on the Hollywood Rock Show every morning! Summer birthdays will be celebrated towards the end of the year. 😊

Subjects Taught: In our classroom your child will have Reading (whole group, guided reading), Spelling, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies! Science and Social Studies are typically integrated into our Reading block.

Homework/Agendas: Student behavior will be communicated to you inside of your child's agenda. Students will have a colored face or stamp in their agenda daily. Please check and initial the agenda daily indicating that you have reviewed your child's homework, daily behavior, and checked for any notes from the teacher. Agendas and folders are a great way for parents and teachers to communicate with each other because they will be checked daily at home and at school. Along with the agenda, the folder will include completed work, homework for the night, and school announcements. By signing your

child's agenda, you will be indicating that you have checked your child's homework folder. Each night, for homework, your child will have a spelling activity, math review, and to read for 15 minutes.

Once we get settled into our routines your child will have a Guided Reading Folder that they will bring home daily. This will have an activity or a book inside to complete for homework. It is very important that your child completes the assignment and writes it in their reading log each night!

Reminder: Please be sure that your child brings their agenda, homework folder, and guided reading folder back to school every day!

As a first grader, **your child** will be responsible for unpacking his/her homework folder (notes, money, etc.) and checking his/her agenda for notes from home each morning.

Read! Read! Read! Read with your child as much as possible. This special time is critical to successful literacy development Welcome again to a wonderful year!!!!!!!!!!

Behavior

Here are some things we do to create and maintain a classroom environment where all **students succeed** and **feel safe** and **valued**:

I have a few basic rules form my classroom. I feel it is important for students to know why rules are important. We will, as a class, make a list of rules. I feel that if students help me create rules, they feel responsible for following the rules.

I focus on good behavior rather than negative behavior in my classroom. I use a clip chart in my classroom promoting good behavior. The following is the colors your child will be sent home on: green-Ready to Learn each student begins here each day. If a student makes great choices, they can move up to blue, purple, or teal (Great effort, Outstanding, and Excellent). If a student makes a negative choice, they will move down to yellow, orange, or red. Students get two warnings before moving their clip down. If your child is on yellow, they will walk 3 laps at recess, orange: 5 laps at recess, and red: 8 laps at recess. If negative behavior arises, then I will deal with it with each individual student privately. If negative behavior continues, I may contact parents by note home or phone call or proceed to contacting administration, but I know it won't come to that!

I can't wait to have a GREAT school year!

Sincerely,

Hailey Padgett
First Grade Teacher
Hollywood Elementary School

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