

MS. MORRIS
5TH GRADE
2012 - 2013

READING
LANGUAGE ARTS
SOCIAL STUDIES



August 20, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to 5th grade Reading & Language Arts, at Pinecrest Academy North Charter School! I hope that you and your child share my excitement and enthusiasm as we begin a new school year in this amazing learning environment. I believe that students perform their best when parents and teachers work together. I encourage you to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have throughout the school year.

When parents share a positive attitude towards school with their child, they also promote a love of learning. This "positive attitude" begins with simple things such as: getting your child to school on time, making sure that your child has his/her necessary materials, providing a quiet space for your child to complete homework assignments, and letting your child know that you openly communicate with the teacher.

Attached you will find your "homework assignment!" Please read the packet of information, sign all necessary papers, and return them to me as soon as possible.

I am very happy to be your child's 5th grade Reading & Language Arts teacher at Pinecrest Academy North Charter School, and I look forward to a productive year!

Sincerely,

Megan Morris
missmorris1216@hotmail.com
<http://new.schoolnotes.com/5thGradeReading/>



Ms. Morris's Classroom Procedures, Expectations, & Information

Home Learning Policy:

- Homework will be assigned daily.
- Students are responsible for copying the homework assignments from the board into their agendas.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments on time (most homework assignments are due the following day unless otherwise noted).
- If homework is not completed **10 times** a detention will be issued. After three detentions the student will receive a referral.
- Parents must sign your child's agenda each night to acknowledge that you have seen their work

Absences:

- Your child must bring a note from home explaining the reason for the absence the day he/she returns to school. Students may only make up work missed due to an **excused** absence. If your child does not bring a note, the absence will be unexcused. Any work missed due to an unexcused absence will result in an F.
- Absences will only be excused do to student illness, a death in the family, or observance of a religious holiday.
- It is the **student's responsibility** to ask the teacher about work that needs to be made up. Work that is not made up in the time the teacher allows will result in an F.
- To ensure that your child does not fall behind when he/she is absent, I recommend that you call and arrange to pick up any work your child may have missed. In addition, your child may also phone a classmate to inquire about his/her missed assignments.

Ways to Contact Me:

- The **best** way to contact me is through e-mail (**missmorris1216@hotmail.com**). I will make every effort to respond the same day, but no longer than two days after I receive your email.
- You may also communicate with me through your child's agenda - just write me a note and remind your child to show it to me.
- Additionally, you may phone the school and leave a message.
- I also have a class website where I will post important class announcements, information about class projects & other general information. The web address is **<http://new.schoolnotes.com/5thGradeReading/>**

Electronic Gradebook:

If you would like to track your child's progress between progress reports and report cards you will be able to access your child's grades through the electronic gradebook system. Here you will have the ability to monitor grades as I enter them. To gain access to this system, please register an account at www.dadeschools.net through the **Parent Portal**. If you have any questions about setting up your account, please contact the main office.

Grading Scale:

- **Reading:**
 - Cold Reads – 40%
 - Vocabulary Tests – 20%
 - Comprehension – 30%
 - In-Class Activities – 10%
- **Language Arts:**
 - Spelling Tests – 15%
 - Writing Tools/Grammar – 15%
 - Writing Sample – 70%
- **Social Studies:**
 - Tests – 70%
 - In-Class Activities – 20%
 - Projects – 10%

Classroom Discipline Plan

Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to welcome your child to my class, and I look forward to a very exciting and rewarding school year. In order to provide students with the safe and excellent educational climate they deserve, I have developed the following Classroom Behavior Agreement.

Rules:

1. Listen carefully and follow directions the first time.
2. Raise your hand when you wish to speak.
3. Do not leave your seat during instruction.
4. Respect the school, teacher, and other students.
5. Give your complete attention to the speaker.

Rewards:

1. A good feeling inside
2. Praise
3. Treat
4. A note home to parents
5. A call home to parents

Consequences (If a student chooses to break a rule):

1. Verbal warning
2. Move card to yellow
3. Move card to red
4. A note to parent in the agenda
5. Detention

In cases of severe misbehavior the student will receive a referral on his/her permanent record and be sent to the office. Your child will also receive a referral if they are given three detentions. Three referrals will then put your child on a waiting list for registration for the following school year.

I have discussed the plan with the students, but I ask that you review it with your child to ensure that he/she understands it completely. And understands the importance of following the rules of the classroom.

Sincerely,
Ms. Morris

5TH GRADE SUPPLY LIST 2012-2013

Please label all supplies with your child's name.

- 2 reams of copy paper
- 4 Composition notebooks
- 1 inch 3-ring binder
- 5 dividers
- 1 plastic folders with pockets
- 1 3-subject notebook (8 1/2 x 11)
- Highlighters
- 1 pack of index cards
- 2 packs of pencils (sharpened)
- Protractor
- 1 personal SMALL stapler
- 1 personal pencil sharpener with cap
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 pencil pouch
- 4 packs of lined paper (2 packs per teacher)
- 1 box of crayons
- 1 box of markers
- Eraser
- Glue stick
- 1 box of dry erase markers (Expo)
- 1 tissue box
- 1 bottle of hand sanitizer
- 1 box of regular Band-Aids (no Neosporin)
- Book bag (no wheels)
- 1 set of head phones
- \$10 cash for Pinecrest Academy's agenda and folder
- \$35 cash for the Media Fee (includes subscription to Time for Kids, Brain Pop, and a grade-level library book)

MS. MORRIS'S WISH LIST

2012 - 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You may purchase items from this list to donate to the classroom to contribute to your required 30 volunteer hours. For every \$3 you spend, you earn 1 volunteer hour (30 hours = \$90). However, you are not required to purchase any of these items. Please let me know if you are planning on donating an item so I may mark it as received on my classroom website. Make sure to check the website frequently for updates to the list and to see if an item has already been donated. Also, please remember to send the receipt for the item so that you are credited for the correct amount of hours.

- Printer ink (HP TouchSmart D110 Series Photosmart)
- Corkboard/bulletin board (2 boards; measuring 6ft x 5 ft; can be found online or in any office supply store)
- 20-gallon storage bins (2; Target or Walmart)
- Novels (4th to 6th grade level; new or used)
- Label maker
- Step ladder
- 3M Thermal Laminating Pouches (for machine, NOT self seal; Target)
- Headphones for laptops
- Chairs for Small Group instruction table
- Copy paper
- 3-shelf bookshelf (Walmart; color – Espresso)

