August 1, 2019

Dear Parents,

My name is Ms. Monique Goosby and I will be your child’s homeroom teacher for the 2019-2020 school year. I have worked as a Chicago Public School teacher for the past twenty years, in both secondary and elementary levels. For the last fourteen years, I’ve been a teacher at Bret Harte Elementary School, where I’ve taught grades 2nd through 6th.

As always, summer flew by and now it is time to get back into the swing of things. I am looking forward to an exciting and productive school year. To begin on the right foot, I want to share some general information with you.

There are many concepts your child will have the opportunity to explore throughout this school year. The classroom will be literature rich with many chances to read aloud, read with a partner, read independently, and write for different reasons. Each child is expected to read at least 20 minutes every night. To build on their comprehension and fluency, I implore you to read with your child, asking questions before, during and after reading the text. This not only increases their comprehension and fluency, but strengthens the bond between parent and child.

This year, your child will learn & explore math through an interactive curriculum, called Envision, as well as playing various math games in small groups. I will use each student’s recent reading/math data to assist in meeting their individual goals while applying the Common Core Standards. It is vitally important that your child understands how to add and subtract, as this is a precursor to learning multiplication. Please spend 15 to 20 minutes each evening reviewing basic math facts. Our science curriculum will be hands on and there will be several class projects in social studies as we immerse ourselves in learning about our community.

A homework folder will be sent home each day. Assignments are due the following morning, unless otherwise noted. Each assignment is considered independent work. You may help your child by providing a quiet work space and setting a specific time each evening to do homework. If you have questions or concerns about the homework assignment, please make a note on the paper so I can review it with your child. Good readers and writers practice these skills daily. I will be sharing ideas with your child on how to choose different books. Once we’ve identified their reading levels, the students are expected to read regularly to increase their comprehension and fluency skills. Please initial each evening to confirm that your child has read and completed all assignments. Students who turn in homework with a parent signature will receive 3 extra points to their work.

If your child is absent from school, please provide a written note explaining their absence, along with your name and number. Without this documentation, your child will have an unexcused absence, which isn’t favorable on their report card. If your child is absent, he/she will have that many days to complete any missing work, once they return. For example: Sally was absent two days; therefore, she has two days to finish and turn in her missing work.
This year we will be participating in the Scholastic Book Club. We will order books from Scholastic on a monthly basis. If you would like to purchase books for your child, you may order them on-line or with the other classmates. If you prefer to order with the class, please place the order form and cash or check made payable to Scholastic Books in an envelope with your child’s name on it. Once the order has been placed, it usually takes two to three weeks for delivery.

Proper communication is necessary to ensure a productive school year. It is extremely important that I have accurate information for your child. I will send weekly emails and/or calls to keep parents abreast of their child’s progress. Every week, I will email a weekly bulletin which will inform you of the skills our class will be working on, along with a home learning sheet and reading log. This is where I’ll place important information regarding Harte School and Room 105. Please review this information regularly.

We will be participating in a school-wide discipline program, called Class DOJO. Every day the students have an opportunity to display positive behaviors, in which they will earn points towards the school’s store. If students choose to refrain from following the established rules, they will receive a negative point. Parents are directly notified of their child’s performance once a teacher has entered it into the system. Harte School also uses Class DOJO to keep the entire school community informed on current events throughout the school year.

If at any time during the school year you have questions or concerns, I will be available for conferences after dismissal, Monday through Friday. If you need to reach me, you can send a message via Class DOJO, call the school at (773) 535-0870 and leave a message or e-mail me at megoosby@cps.edu. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. If you are requesting a conference, please call, email or send a note with your child at least a day in advance as to avoid scheduling conflicts.

Thank you in advance for being concerned about your child’s education and development. I know that TOGETHER we can help the students continue on the road to success.

**TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK**

Sincerely,
Ms. Monique Goosby
(Room 105 – 2nd Grade Teacher)
Supply List for 2019-2020 School Year

- Box of (48) #2 pencils
- Package of erasers
- (3) glue sticks
- Box of crayons
- Hand-held pencil sharpener with a cover
- Homework folder
- (2) Plastic folders with fasteners
- (2) Black & White composition notebook
- Ruler (Inches & Centimeters)
- (1) box of Ziploc bags (gallon size)
- (2) boxes of tissue paper (per semester)
- (1) roll of paper towels
- (1) bottle of hand sanitizer
- (2) bottles of Clorox or Lysol disinfectant wipes
- (2) reams of regular white copy paper (per semester)
HARTE’S SCHOOL BASED WEBSITES

Attached, are a few school-based websites to assist in improving each child’s grades, scores and reaching their individual goals. Please allow your child as much time as possible to practice. Majority of the websites listed have games to engage the students throughout their learning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME / WEBSITE</th>
<th>STUDENT LOGIN INFO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freckle</td>
<td><a href="http://www.student.freckle.com">www.student.freckle.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khan Academy</td>
<td><a href="http://www.khanacademy.org">www.khanacademy.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envision Math</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pearsonrealize.com">www.pearsonrealize.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary Workshop</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vocabularyworkshop.com">www.vocabularyworkshop.com</a></td>
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