

Welcome to Mrs. Meadows' Class!

2015-2016

Welcome to Mrs. Meadows' 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade class! I am looking forward to getting to know all of my wonderful families. We have an exciting year planned that I know you will enjoy. The creative energy of the intermediate team produced thoroughly engaging units, and our theme for the year is adaptation as it relates to plants and animals as well as the human condition here in North America.

I am delighted to be back for my seventh year in Corbett. After completing my student teaching in both the grade school and middle school, I substitute taught throughout the district for a year. I then taught for Corbett Charter School as an intermediate teacher for three years. I am pleased to be starting my second year working for Corbett Grade School alongside an energetic team that is solely focused on making each experience for every child the best it can be. I graduated from Marylhurst University in 2007 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and then in 2010 from Concordia University with a Masters in Teaching. This is also where I met my husband, Alec. We both are outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy hiking, canoeing, and anything else outdoors with our beloved dog, Kujo. We are welcoming a new addition to the family this year, a little boy who is expected in very early October. At this time, I will be taking leave to care for our little guy and will return full time in January. Ms. DeMott will be my substitute, and I have full confidence in her qualities as a teacher and nurturer for the months I will be gone.

My teaching goal is to help your child to become a responsible, respectable, knowledge loving human being. Parents, I invite you to email if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I believe clear communication is the best way to reach my teaching goal and your own goals for your child. I think that you will find that I am very approachable and support parent participation in and outside of the classroom. I encourage you to play an active role in asking your son or daughter about their studies in school, as they will be bursting with interesting tidbits to share with you. I look forward to the many days ahead that will be spent exploring, learning, discussing, and creating with your child!

Sincerely,
Jenny Meadows

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HELPFUL HINTS TO ENSURE SUCCESS!

Brought to you by Mrs. Meadows :)

As for classroom logistics, I will give a basic breakdown of what to expect. School starts promptly at 7:55 am every day. Students can arrive in the room after 7:40 and work quietly until the school day begins. Please make sure students enter the classroom by 7:55 to ensure our day stays on schedule. The bulk of work that we do in the classroom is seen through discussions, group work, and independent projects. The nature of this work does require your child's attendance and participation on a consistent basis.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS AND PROBLEM SOLVING:

Our classroom follows three basic rules:

- 1. Be Kind**
- 2. Be Safe**
- 3. Be Productive**

Students should always attempt to solve their own problems before asking the teacher, unless there is a safety issue.

GENERAL CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:

Bathroom: Students are allowed to use the bathroom one at a time when they choose. They do not need to ask but they do need to put the bathroom pass on their desk and take a pass to go out to the hallway. There are times that are not appropriate to leave for the bathroom and we will decide these times as a class (not during teaching time or before breaks). Also, one girl at a time, one boy at a time.

Class Jobs: Every student in class has a job. They will choose their job and have the opportunity to switch with another student after at least a week. Negotiations are made, and kindness and fairness is practiced in this activity.

What To Do When You Are Done: There is almost always a line item list on the white board that lets students know what to do if they finish something before the rest of the class. Silent Reading at your desk is always a good choice if the list is missing, or if all tasks are complete.

Class Meeting: Class meetings are a way to help our class as well as individual students solve problems. Students are encouraged to try several problem-solving strategies on their own before consulting the teacher or present the problem at a class meeting (there is always an exception if it is an emergency or someone has been physically threatened or harmed). Also, a part of class meeting is encouraging students to write compliments for each other that can be shared.

HOMEWORK:

Students are expected to read each night for at least 30 minutes. The more they read the better reader and writer they will become. For math, students should have enough time to complete their lesson each day in class, however, what does not get finished will be sent

home for homework. Since I do not send anything extra home, I encourage students to be active learners while at home by doing research, reading, reviewing what we have done in class or finishing work that was not completed at school.

OTHER INFORMATION:

SUPPLIES: Please refer to the district provided classroom supply list. No need to put your child's name on anything except their back pack and lunch box. We share supplies.

BIRTHDAYS: Birthdays are wonderful. We ask that you do not send treats with your child. Students get to use a special chair on their birthday and get special privileges to use an iPad during silent reading to read articles, watch educational videos or play an educational game. If your child has a summer birthday, we celebrate their half-birthday :)

NOTES: Please send a note to school or contact me by email/phone if you have anything that needs to be communicated (ride home, injury, etc.).

OUR SCHEDULE:

Start Time: 7:55am

End Time: 3:35pm

Morning recess is 9:20 to 9:35am. Students will then go to **snack from 9:40 to 9:55am.** It is a long morning so I encourage students to bring a healthy snack, such as an apple, carrots, crackers, etc.

Students will have **Music or Intro to Band on Tuesday & Thursday from 10-10:45.**

PE will be on Monday and Wednesday from 10:15am to 10:45am. Please be aware that I ask all students to participate in P.E. Students who choose not to participate will be asked to walk around the gym or track. Also, please make sure your child wears gym shoes on those days.

Recess & Lunch will be from 12:35-1:25. Your child is welcome to bring a water bottle to school to keep in their cubby as long as it has a lid to drink from.

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Please sign and return this portion of the paper to me.

My child, _____, and I have read and discussed Mrs. Meadows' Helpful Hints. We understand the expectations for the 2015-2016 school year.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Student

Date

COMMENTS? A NICE NOTE FOR YOUR TEACHER?