2HZ Classroom News

Dear Second Grade Families,

Our names are Breanna Zanolli and Petra Hynes and it is our absolute pleasure to welcome your child into our classroom! We look forward to all that this year entails and to the educational journey that we are embarking on together.

Our goal this school year is to create a safe and welcoming atmosphere to meet the individual needs of every student in our classroom. As your child’s teachers, we dedicate ourselves to encouraging a love for learning and to empower your child to reach their fullest potential and to be successful in their academic endeavors. Our classroom environment will consist of participation, hands on involvement, inquiry, self-reflection and respect for one another! We strongly encourage each child to do their best and also to feel pride in being a unique individual in our classroom community. We truly feel that communication and teamwork between parents and teachers is vital to each child receiving the best education possible. We will do our best to keep you informed and involved in your child’s classroom life through letters home and agenda messages regarding upcoming events and important information.

*Important Note:* Please read the attached packet, sign the bottom portion and send it back to school with your child. Our aim is that the information contained here will answer many of your questions and put your mind at ease as our year of learning and fun begins!

Sincerely,

Breanna Zanolli & Petra Hynes

First Day of School Information Packet

*Birthday Celebrations*

We welcome you to send treats for your child’s birthday, but please avoid sending items with peanuts, as the safety of our students with allergies is extremely important! Additionally, we would greatly appreciate letting us know in advance, as then we can plan a “treat break” into our daily schedule. We will also be recognizing each student’s birthday and those who celebrate July and August birthdays will be recognized in June. If birthday party invitations are to be distributed at school, please encourage your child to be respectful of those children not being invited and to distribute the invitations in a private manner to avoid hurt feelings. We thank you for your cooperation in advance!

*Scholastic Book Orders*

Each month we will be sending home optional book orders. A wide variety of books are offered at many different reading levels and special holiday themed books are also offered prior to major holidays. With every monthly order, all purchases help our class earn points that will go towards free books and resources for our classroom!

*Agenda*

As your child has now moved up to the second grade, he/she will also be receiving their very own agenda. Each afternoon we will write a message regarding news or important reminders. Any school notes will also be sent in the front pocket of the agenda. Please encourage your child to share their agenda with you, as this is a stepping stone in developing good organizational habits and in becoming responsible for their own schoolwork! Please sign or initial the agenda every night, as we will be checking each morning and rewarding stickers for signed agendas. Additionally, you may write notes to us as well, as we will check them each day.

*Water Bottles*

In order for students to learn to the best of their ability, they need to be fully hydrated at all times. We encourage students to bring water bottles, although they must be plastic and labeled with their name. Water bottles will be kept at your child’s table, but please ensure that the lid is spill proof to avoid a mess. Pop and juice are not acceptable in the water bottles; as they leave a coloured mess if an accident occurs and they do not follow our healthy eating initiative. Please ask that your child bring their water bottle home each night to be washed and fresh for the next school day.

*Very Important Person*

Every student will have a week to be highlighted as a “Very Important Person”. During the first week of school an “All About Me” poster will be sent home. Here the students will showcase some important and interesting facts about themselves and share these with the rest of the class. Your child’s “All About Me” poster will be displayed in the classroom throughout the week.

*Absences*

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent, please let us know! However, we do understand that children get sick quickly and obstacles happen that are unforeseeable! If requested, we are willing to gather homework for your child to do at home if they are sick or away for another reason. Please know that while some missed work can be caught up, many hands on lessons and activities cannot be made up as homework.

*Home Transportation*

In order to keep your child safe, please let us know if he/she will be going home a different way than normal. Also, if you will be picking your child up early and know this in advance, please write me a note so I can help to prepare your child for early departure.

*Behavior and Expectations*

As our goal is to provide the best possible experience and education for each child in our classroom, there are also many rules and expectations that must be followed in order for this goal to be met! We believe in positive reinforcement as a means to achieve positive behavior, and try as much as possible to encourage the positive, rather than focus on the negative. In order to encourage this type of acceptable behavior we will often remind students of their job in the classroom and what is expected of them.

*Classroom Website*

**This year, our class will be maintaining a website. On this web site you will have access to important information such as current learning outcomes, curriculum related pages & links and our class newsletter. Student work and photographs of classroom activities can also be found here. Most of the activities and information will change weekly so keep checking for new things to see, do, and learn! 2HZ can be found at:**

[www.secondgradestars.weebly.com](http://www.secondgradestars.weebly.com)

***Contact Information***

**If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email us at the school. If a face to face meeting is necessary, we would be happy to schedule one.**

**You can contact us through email:**

breanna.zanolli@wrsd.ca

petra.hynes@wrsd.ca

**Or by phone:**

**780-542-5535**

**We thank you for your assistance and cooperation in your child’s education!**

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**Please sign here stating that you have read and understand the contents of this package. Detach this section and have your child return it to school. Thank you!!!**

**Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Getting to Know Your Child**

**In order for us to get to know your child better, please fill out the following. Also, if you would like, you can add any additional information about your child on the back of this sheet. Please return this page by September 9th.**