

Mrs. McBride's Kindergarten Disclosure 2019 - 2020

Welcome to Kindergarten! I hope you had a wonderful summer. I'm excited for this upcoming year and the opportunity to be your child's teacher! As always, the start of a new school year holds the promise of new discovery and learning, as well as the prospect of personal growth in all areas. I have put together some helpful classroom information to help make this year a successful one. Please read this document carefully and make sure you understand everything before signing.

Birthdays

Administration has asked that students not bring in any food-type treats. One suggestion is that a book be donated to our class library in lieu of treats. Please do not feel "obligated" to have your student bring in anything for their birthday. Your child's birthday will still be acknowledged. To avoid any hurt feelings, please mail birthday invitations to classmates' homes. Do not have your child distribute his/her invitations before or after school, as this may also cause hurt feelings.

On your child's birthday, they will be the STAR of the Day. They can bring a poster to hang in the class on the day of their birthday celebration to share a bit about themselves with their classmates. Birthdays that take place when we are not at school, summer, holidays, weekends, etc., will be assigned a different day during the school year. I will have the dates posted on my blog.

School Wide Rules

There are five basic rules in our classroom and school:

1. Silent Movement
2. Raise Hands
3. Self Start
4. Follow Directions
5. 12 Inch Whisper

Dress

Please send your child dressed appropriately for the weather and for the school's dress code. Students who are not in school dress code will be required to call home so that a change of clothing can be brought to him/her. This will include socks and belts. The school dress code can be found in your parent handbook.

Homework

My goal is to create a love and desire for reading with all my students. Research indicates that the best thing that can be done at home to help your child become a successful learner is to READ, READ, READ to your child! Every student is required to read for 20 minutes a night (keep track of your child's minutes on the reading calendar). They are also required to do an added 10 minutes of extra homework. For the added 10 minutes of extra homework, I am still allowing parents to choose which option is most beneficial for your child; but please pick at least one of the homework options below and do it for at least ten minutes every night. At the end of each week please return your child's homework or a note telling me what option you chose. Please remember that homework is a very large part of your child's grade.

Required homework: A far as required homework goes, I send home a reading calendar every month. If your child has lost it, you can find a link to each month's calendar on my blog under the homework tab. Please read with your child every night for at least twenty minutes and write how long they read on the calendar. If your child is bringing home baggy books from school, please have your child read to you. If your child has not started baggy books, then please practice their sounds and reading & writing their letters. This homework counts for a large portion of their grade, so please return them at the end of each month.

I will also be sending home a ring with sight words cards. Please review the sight words on this ring every night (this will count towards their reading calendar minutes). Keep this ring of words until they can read **and** write each word without any help or prompting. When you feel your child is ready you can have them bring the word ring back to school and we will test them on their words. If they pass the test, they will receive the next terms words. If your child does not get new words added to their word ring that will mean they did not pass the test. Every time they pass a test they get a big grand prize out of the treasure box.

Extra homework option #1 (preferred): On my blog under the homework tab, you will find four weeks of homework packets each month. These are excellent reviews of what we are working on in class. Please please have your child return these packets every week.

Extra homework option #2: Every week I will be sending home homework in your child homework folder. Please return this homework every Monday.

Extra homework option #3: If you would like more challenging homework, email me and I will customize their homework to their ability level. Please send a note reminding me each week of what customized homework you are doing and how many minutes you have be spending on this option of homework.

Grading

Grades can be found on Aspire, so please sign up for that through the school. Grades will be updated by Friday of each week. If a child is struggling with any subject, I will work with him/her and keep you informed through parent conferences to provide students opportunities to improve.

Grading in Kindergarten largely involves the child putting forth their very best effort. Evaluations provide us with information about your child's knowledge and identify areas that may need improvement. I want each child to leave my class feeling like they can accomplish anything they set out to do. Please let me know if there is any concern at any time!

Behavior/Rewards

Kindergarten is a chance to learn great social skills. I follow the Love and Logic principles of discipline. Kindergarten children can learn expectations and gain an understanding of following those expectations. It takes some practice for the children to gain the experience, but a classroom set up with clear expectations fosters learning. There are a few rules and dozens of procedures, and we will spend many weeks practicing these. It is important to me that my students love coming to school and feel excited about the new things they are learning. I teach respect by example and I want them to feel loved and respected. It is my goal to teach my students the "good

feeling”, or intrinsic reward, that comes from making good choices. If a child makes a sad choice, there will be a consequence for their choice. Should a situation arise when your child demonstrates extreme behaviors, I will set up a conference with you.

Classroom Supplies

It is important that your child have all his/her classroom supplies. The class supply list is provided on my blog. Thank you for your generous donations! These supplies are vital to making education successful.

Forgotten Items

If your student forgets his/her backpack, homework, etc. PLEASE, do not bring them to the classroom, as this can be very disruptive. Please leave item(s) in the office with your student’s name. Office staff will ensure the items are passed to the student.

School Calendar

Please be sure to check the school calendar for “Early Out” days and “No School” days. You can view/obtain a copy of the calendar from the Quest Academy website.

Contacting the Teacher

Parents may contact me by email or in person after our class is finished for the day. My email address is smcbride@questac.org. I will respond as soon as possible, but please allow at least 24-hours for a response. If your in-person visit with me is expected to last for more than 2-3 minutes, please schedule a time to visit with me, otherwise just stop in, and I will help you as best I can.

Make-up Work

When your child is absent, I will allow them to make up any work they missed, preferably as soon as they return to school so they can keep up with the pace of instruction. If extra time is needed, I can work with you on an individual basis. If he/she misses a test, I will email you so we can schedule a time to take the test.

Extras: I encourage your involvement in your child’s education. I have an open door policy, and welcome your involvement through volunteer work. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer some

of your hours in the classroom or even do work for me at home.

Please refrain from visiting the classroom for the first 2 weeks of school. It is difficult for some children with separation anxiety to see their parents while making the adjustment to being at school.

RETURN THIS PAGE TO MRS. MCBRIDE

As a parent or guardian of a student at Quest Academy Charter School, I acknowledge that I have read and shared with my child the *Disclosure Information for Mrs. McBride's Kindergarten Classroom 2019-2020*. I also acknowledge that I can access another copy on Mrs. McBride's blog if needed.

Date Signed _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____