

Promoting a Positive Learning Environment

The first month of school is an adjustment. I want to provide an environment that is fun and conducive to learning. The goal for all children is for them to feel secure and have positive learning experiences. In order for this to happen, the children must follow the classroom rules. Our basic classroom rules below cover just about everything:

1. Raise your hand for permission to speak.
2. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.
3. Follow directions quickly and quietly.
4. Use inside voices.
5. Make smart choices.
6. Keep your dear teacher happy by caring about your learning.
7. Diamond Rule: Keep your eyes on the target.

Students will learn these rules using whole brain hand motions. When a rule is not being followed, I can just say rule number 4, and the whole class can recite the rule with the motion as a reminder. This is an effort to nurture responsibility and respect. I appreciate all of your support and know that together we can create a positive, safe, and stimulating learning environment.

Communicating Behavior to Parents:

I use a simple red, yellow, and green card system so parents receive daily feedback. All students begin each day on the green light. Each student has two green cards because everyone deserves a second chance when they make a mistake. If a student continues to misbehave, they will either color a yellow or red light on their behavior chart in their folder. A *Kindergarten Think Sheet* will be sent home showing the rules they did not follow. Please take the time to reflect with your child how he or she can do better the next day. Also, if a child is on yellow or red, there is always an opportunity to change that by demonstrating good behavior for the rest of the day. I will allow children to move back to green if I really see their effort to be good citizens in our classroom.

Consequences

1. If a child has a yellow card, he or she will miss 10 minutes of free play.
2. If a child has a red card, he or she will miss free play and color a **Think Sheet**.
3. Misbehavior beyond the red card will be handled by Mr. Matos.

PAX (Raider) Leaders

We will be participating in a school wide positive behavior program called PAX. Its goal is Promoting **An EXcellent** learning environment. We will spend time developing our class vision for an excellent classroom environment. All students can become PAX leaders by cooperating to promote productive learning in our classroom. Eventually, we will play the PAX good behavior game several times per day and PAX leaders will be rewarded with fun activities.

Children tend to be cooperative when immersed in developmentally appropriate activities. Our days will be so full of hands-on learning that children will not even realize how much they're learning! I strive for each child to achieve his or her greatest potential. We will work together to achieve this common goal.

Educationally yours,

Mrs. Kim Massucci and Mrs. Jodi Puhl

