Welcome to Mrs. Murbach’s

Fifth Grade Class!

We will be working hard and having fun this year in 5th grade. Here are a couple of things that will help you be successful in the upcoming year. If you need to contact me, I can be reached at nmurbach@hawthornacademy.org or on my website at [nmurbach.weebly.com](http://nmurbach.weebly.com/uploads/8/4/1/0/84106814/nmurbach.weebly.com).

**Rules:**

We follow the school rules, which are…

1. Follow Directions
2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
3. Speak appropriately
4. Always be safe
5. Be honest and kind to all

**Behavior:**

It is important to me that my classroom is a positive atmosphere, and that every child feels safe and cared for. The classroom should be a place where all students feel valued and where learning is maximized. In order to accomplish this, students will be responsible to follow all rules appropriately. I will reinforce good behavior by utilizing positive comments. Students will be able to earn tickets for a drawing every other week. Students can also strive to receive the “cone of excellence” for our IB Learners that will sit on their desk for that day.

**IB Learners:**

Hawthorn Academy is an International Baccalaureate or IB School. Since we are an IB School, we focus on understanding that there is a world beyond our community. Students have an opportunity to reflect on their actions in the world, make a choice on how to make a difference, and then take action. They will have an opportunity to use this action cycle this year though their Exhibition Project at the end of the year. This is a project they will work on in class and at home and will present to the school and parents at the end of the year. It will be a wonderful experience!

At Hawthorn, we are IB learners in our classroom. IB learners are inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk takers, balanced, and reflective. We will be working to develop these traits throughout the year. We will also work on developing IB Attitudes, which are appreciation, commitment, confidence, cooperation, creativity, curiosity, empathy, respect, and tolerance. We feel that these profiles and attitudes will develop internationally-minded people who recognize their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

**Attendance:**

It is critical for your child to be punctual and present in school. Tardies and absences can have a huge effect on your student’s success. Tardies will be given after 8:30 am. Multiple tardies will result in the loss of a dress down day and will require contact from the school administration.

**Grading:**

Your child’s work will be graded with points awarded, percentages, or stars. Quizzes, tests, homework, and a portion of daily work will determine grades.

**Planners:**

Planners will be sent home daily and need to be returned daily. Students will be recording important information in them. Parents should check planners daily. This is one way that we can communicate and parents can be kept up-to-date.

**Homework:**

Students will have math homework typically four days a week, and will be due the day after it is assigned. Students will need to study their spelling words and complete three spelling assignments each week. The spelling homework will be due each Friday. There may occasionally be other assignments to reinforce concepts learned in the classroom. Students who complete all of their homework each week will be eligible to play Homeworkopoly. Homeworkopoly is similar to Monopoly, but is based on the classroom. There are many fun rewards and prizes associated with the game.

**Nightly Reading:**

This is very important for the success of a student. Please help your child complete their 30 minutes of nightly reading five days a week. Students should log their minutes read on Road to Success.

**Birthdays:**

In order to follow the school’s policy, please do not bring in any type of birthday treat, edible or not.

**Parent Volunteers-**

Parent volunteers are wonderful and always welcome. I will need parents for help in the classroom, making copies, and other items outside the classroom. It is best if you set up a time to come in, but I am always flexible if you drop in.

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Thank you for your time. I look forward to getting to know you and working with your child!

Please sign that you have read Mrs. Murbach’s disclosure document and understand the information contained.

Student Name

Parent Signature Date