

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Survival Guide

## Welcome

- I want to welcome you all to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. My name is Mr. Floor and I will be teaching your student math and science. I will also be teaching writing to my homeroom students only. This year I will be partnered up with Mrs. Wilkins. We have worked very hard to be as consistent as possible in efforts to provide your student with the best education this year. We have a lot of fun things planned for this year and the way we can achieve all of them is for all of us, teachers, parents, and students, to be on the same page throughout the year with a positive outlook to the learning taking place. Below you will find various information to help guide you all through the school year. **Please hold on to this handout as it will answer many arising questions throughout the year.**

## Contact Information

- Email: [floor@fultonschools.org](mailto:floor@fultonschools.org)
- At Woodland, we have a 24 hour response time policy for all emails. This means that we teachers have 24 hours to send an initial response to any email. Emails tend to get lost sometimes when the county updates our servers. If you do not hear a response within 24 hours, please send a follow up email.
- Please note that I **do not** respond to emails after school hours have ended or during the weekends unless an absolute emergency or special occasion appears.
- Please review this packet **before** emailing me as your question or concern can probably be answered down below.

## Class Website

- Mrfloor.weebly.com
- My class website is where you can find tons of information throughout the year. On the website are links to break downs of each standard we will cover, useful websites that can be accessed at home, important dates to remember, weekly newsletter link, and more detailed information about certain things on this handout, such as behavior policies.
- My website is also accessible via smart phone.

## Weekly Newsletter

- Each week I will send out a newsletter via email. The email link can also be found on the class website. This newsletter will appear from the site smore.com. This is a safe site that I used last year to send out my newsletters and heard nothing but great response from the parents about it. On the newsletter, you will find information about the upcoming week's material we are covering in class, important announcements, links to download lost homework, important upcoming dates, information on what we are doing in class and school, study guides, etc. This is my **primary source** of communication on a week to week basis. It is **highly recommended** that you read it each week to stay up-to-date on what's going on at school and can be used to answer many questions.

## Daily Schedule & Specials

- Our daily schedule can be found on the class website. In terms of specials, our class will have P.E. on Thursday and Fridays. Please make sure your student has tennis shoes on or brings them to school on those days so they will be allowed to participate. It is also important that we all stress to our students that specials are graded classes and the same rules in my room apply in those rooms.

## Parent/ Guardian Involvement

- Parent/ guardian involvement is so crucial to providing our students with the best learning experiences. This year, I really want all of my students and their families to work towards great communication and support for our young learners. Ways this can happen consist of attending Curriculum Night, attending parent-teacher conferences, working with students on their homework, reviewing grades sent home with students, having an open and positive line of communication between home and school with the goal of providing the best learning experiences possible to the student in mind, volunteering at school, attending school events, etc. All of these things will make the best year possible for your student and make sure we are all on the same page. If you would like to volunteer at the school, you need to go to the Woodland website and fill out the volunteer form online **48 hours before** you plan on volunteering. This does not have to be done if you are just eating lunch with your student.

## Lunch

- We strongly welcome parents/ guardians to come and eat lunch with your student. There are some guidelines with that though. All visitors eating lunch with their student **must** do so at the tables outside of the cafeteria. **No visitor should eat lunch at the table with the rest of the class.** In the interest of safety, **only your student is allowed to eat with you when you come.** No other students are allowed to be at the table. If that student's parent/ guardian is not there, he/she will eat lunch with the rest of the class. Our lunch time is from 11:05-11:35 each day. Students **must be finished** with their lunch by 11:35 if a parent/guardian comes. No exceptions will be allowed. When it is 11:35, I will come to the table and ask the student to return to the line so we can continue with our instructional day. **Parents/ guardians are not allowed to walk the student back to the classroom after lunch.**

## Homework

- Homework is a very important part in helping students take their learning beyond the classroom and have as much practice as possible with the course materials learned. Homework will be provided in a homework folder each week. All homework, unless otherwise stated, will be **due that Friday of the same week.** All homework will be checked and it is essential that it is turned in each week, as our class has some rewards if it is. I strongly encourage parents/ guardians to assist students with their homework when they are struggling. However, I suggest that the student try to complete all of the homework on his/her own using the resources they have (math journals and science materials) and then asking for help. Assistance is the key word here. **No adult writing should appear on a student's homework.** Many useful links to assist with homework, such as learnzillion.com, can be found on my website.

## Agendas

- Agendas will be used a little differently this year. As our students are growing up, it is essential that they know how to plan out a schedule and work a calendar to their advantage. We will be using our agendas as a calendar and planner for all upcoming events. I will teach the students how to input information, plan ahead, and properly manage their days so they are always on top of what is going on with their education. I **strongly encourage** parents/ guardians to check your student's agenda each day as things may be added. However, I would like you to ask your student if he/she can explain his/her calendar and schedule to see if he/she really knows it and understands it. **Agendas do not need to be signed each day and I will not use agendas to communicate behavior as stated on the website.** This agenda will be used so students know when things are due and know how to plan out their time line of doing work, studying, etc. This will be a great resource for them to learn in preparations for the real world.

## Grading

- Grading is a key part to promoting student success. We use grading in two forms. The first form will consist of grading assignments to understand how the student is progressing through the material and identifying who might need more guidance. The other form of grading will consist of overall grades for specific standards covered throughout the year to assess the student's mastery of the material. **All work will be graded**, however, **not all grades will be reflective on the report card**. The first form of grading will be the majority of the work in class and will usually not be reflective on the report card. This is merely to determine how the student is doing during the course. Tests, quizzes, projects, homework, and certain class assignments **will appear** on the report cards. **Please note, anything done in class or at home has the potential to be a report card grade** so it is important that each assignment's importance, no matter how small, should be stressed. **The grade level** will decide what grades we deem fit to put on the report cards to really show how your student has mastered the material taught. Details on grade weights can be found on my website.

## Behavior

- Behavior will be **very strict** this year. 5<sup>th</sup> grade is a very important grade with a lot of in depth material that needs to be covered. This cannot be done without our behavior being the best it can be. I believe in students following behavior guidelines without being bribed or working towards rewards. I teach my students that the rules should be followed because that is merely what is supposed to be done as is with laws in the real world. With that being said, **no rewards or reward system, such as Class Dojo, will take place for students following the rules and doing what they are already supposed to do**. There will be consequences for rules that aren't followed though. A full breakdown of my behavior system can be found on my class website. I **highly recommend reading it**.

## Snacks

- Snacks are a great thing to have during a school day to help keep the students energized during long class periods before lunch, however, they are **not a requirement or mandatory to have** by the school. With that being said, there are some rules that need to be followed or snack will not be allowed for that specific student. As part of our health lessons, we want to promote healthy choices for students to eat so all snacks must be healthy to be able to eat them in my class. **This means no chips, candies, chocolates (including granola bars), gummies (yes, even fruit gummies), sodas, juices, sports drinks, etc.** The reason behind this is that all of those snacks bring in ants and disrupt the class from students who are trying to share. Snacks I would recommend are Nutra Grain bars, fruits, veggies, cheese, water, etc. Snacks are meant to be eaten quickly and easily without causing any distractions. **Lunchables and having multiple snacks will not be allowed**. If a student brings a snack that is not allowed, they will be asked to leave it in his/her backpack and will not have snack that day. Students who bring multiple snacks will have to choose only one and **no sharing of snacks is allowed**. Students are allowed to bring and eat whatever they choose during lunch as it is in the cafeteria. These rules pertain only to snack time in my room. Numerous students in the school and in the classroom have numerous allergies to nuts. With that being said, **no nuts or any nut product of any kind will be allowed in the classroom no matter if it is healthy or not**. In terms of lunch, students who bring foods with nuts or nut products are asked to eat them at a designated table so no one has an allergic reaction.

## **Birthdays**

- Birthdays are a wonderful time to celebrate being another year older. If it is your student's birthday, you are more than welcome to celebrate it at the school. However, all birthday celebrations **must take place during lunch time in the cafeteria**. Any foods or treats brought to celebrate must be **store bought**, contain **no nut products** (it usually says it on the label), and contain **enough for every student**. Along with that, if a treat is brought, **the parent/ guardian must be there to pass them out**. Teachers are not present during lunch time and will not be able to pass the treats out. **No in class celebrations will take place** as we don't want to interrupt the limited learning time we have.

On behalf of all of the teachers in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, I welcome you to this wonderful and monumental year we are going to have. Anything that is not explained or cleared up on this packet, please feel free to reach out.