

SECOND GRADE HANDBOOK

MS. DAVIS

ROOM 213

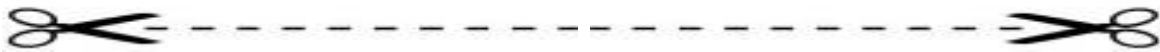
Parents,

Welcome to the 2nd grade! I am so delighted to have your child in my class this year. This will be a dynamic year of growth and learning. It will be a year filled with fun, adventure, and challenges. There is so much to learn and every minute will count. I am looking forward to an exciting and educational experience with your child.

Let me take a minute to tell you more about myself. I am Je'Lisa Davis. I graduated from Pearl High School and then received my Bachelor's Degree at The University of Southern Mississippi. This will be my first year teaching at Richland and I am very excited.

Please note that attached is important information that will make the transition to 2nd grade an easy one for you and your child. I hope these notices will help answer many of your questions. Please be sure to keep this handbook as a reference all year. Also, please read and discuss this entire handbook with your child. Sign and return the bottom portion of the letter by Monday, August 13, 2012. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me here at school at 601-939-4375 or email me at jelisa.davis@rcsd.ms

Ms. Davis
2nd grade teacher



I have read and understand the information, rules, and classroom policies in 2nd grade. By signing below, I accept and promise to adhere to the procedures to the best of my ability.

Parent signature _____ Date _____

Student signature _____ Date _____

CLASSROOM RULES:

1. Follow directions quickly
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak
3. Make wise choices

ATTENDANCE:

Your child's regular and prompt attendance at school is VERY important to their success. I can't emphasize this point enough! Please view school as a priority, and that your child attends every day except in cases of illness or emergency.

- Notes for excused absences must be received on the day the student returns back to school
- After 3 parental notes, a doctor's excuse will be required in order for the absence to be excused.
- Unexcused absences will be turn into the truancy officer when 5 are accumulated.

RSCD's policy on attendance can be found in the student handbook.

TARDY POLICY:

The tardy bell rings promptly at 7:40 a.m. Any student entering the building after the bell has sounded is considered tardy and must be signed in by an adult.

- 1-3 tardies- warning notice
- 4 tardies- 1-day suspension
 - This policy continues in this manner throughout a 9- week period
 - When a new 9-week period begins, each student starts over with 0 tardies.

DISCIPLINE:

The students are taught all 3 of the classroom rules at the start of the school year. During the first few weeks of school, we will talk about how we make our own choices on how we respond to things at school. When we make the wrong choice there are consequences that follow.

Discipline in our class is denoted by a color scale. Each child in the class starts each day with a "green" card. When a child misbehaves and/or breaks a class/school rule, the child will "pull" a card. (However, it is possible for a student to redeem themselves and be moved back to green when they change his/her behavior). I will mark the color your child is on at the end of the day in their planner. Please initial beside the color **each day**. The color progression and the consequences for each color are indicated below:

Green: Great Day!

Yellow: Oops! 5 minutes time-out from recess

Red: 15 minutes time-out from recess

Blue: No recess. Discipline note sent home to parent.

Note: The behavior which results in being in the blue has a high degree of intensity. This could be from causing injury to others or causing severe disruptions in class. Excessive misbehavior and color change of blue may result in the loss of privileges on Fun Fridays. Please remember that corporal punishment is a last resort.

GRADING POLICY:

Tests are given on Thursdays and Fridays (with exception of a few.) Please try and make sure your child is at school and on time for test days. All graded papers are sent home on Monday. Please take the time to go over these tests and discuss them with your child. If test papers are not signed and returned to school, I will call you to see if you are aware of the situation.

HOMEWORK POLICY:

Homework will be written on the board daily for your child to write it in his/her planner. I will initial your child's planner as a way to make sure that he/she copied down the correct homework assignment. Please initial your child's planner also in the space provided each night. Also, please help your child get into the habit of putting his/her homework in the "Return to School" side of the folder to assure he/she will have it the next morning.

I only give homework that is beneficial to your child's learning; therefore, it is very important that it be done. It is helpful to glance over your child's homework each night to check for accuracy and mistakes, but I ask that you not complete it for them. Homework should only take your child about 10-20 minutes to complete.

READING STREET:

Reading Street is our main reading program. It is designed to correlate with the Common Core Standards. It is a great program in that it helps build readers with a strong emphasis on differentiated instruction. It is also home friendly. Students and parents can practice skills at home online. More information about this program will be sent home at a later date.

ACCELERATED READING:

Accelerated Reading (AR) is a program that helps students improve their reading fluency and comprehension. It is a big part of our curriculum. It provides reading practice on each student's reading level. Each student's reading level will be determined by a STAR test on the computer. Students then read books on his/her level and answer 5-10 comprehensive questions on the computer.

Most students find using AR motivational. They get to do work on the computer, read books of interest, and earn points for each test that they pass. The points accumulated are spent in the AR store at the end of each 9 weeks.

Please make sure your child is making advances in their book. It is essential that the students read these books and comprehend the material. The AR program includes several certification levels. These are: independent reader, super reader, advanced reader, and STAR reader. The more tests your child takes and passes the better chance that he/she will have achieving one of these levels. We will set class goals and individual goals each nine weeks.

MONDAYS:

On Mondays, the students will take home the weekly newsletter and graded papers from the previous week. Please sign and return these graded papers with your child the next day. The newsletter informs parents on any upcoming events, what's happening this week, spelling words (also found in the planner), and vocabulary words.

FUN FRIDAYS:

Fun Fridays will be scheduled at different times during the year. During this time, the students will participate in fun activities such as cooking, science experiments, or big art activities based on a unit of study or skill being taught. Make sure to watch the newsletter (or email) for things students may need to bring for the activities. Keep in mind that, if a student has poor behavior, it is possible for your child to lose the privilege of fun Friday.

EVERYDAY MATH:

Every day your child will bring home his/her student planner in their 3-ring binder. Located in the planner will be behavior information, homework assignments, spelling words, etc. Please initial in the student planner each night in the colored square on the line that has P.I. (parent initials), so I will know you've seen this. Please help your child remember to put his/her homework in the front pocket of the binder and put the binder in his/her bookbag.

BATHROOM PROCEDURE:

Students will be allowed to go to the facilities during class if they **need** to use it. Please understand that I am responsible for the safety and well being of your child while they are in my care. There may or may not be a staff member in the bathroom area to insure their safety so it is important that all students use the restrooms during our scheduled restroom breaks. **NOTE:** If your child has a medical condition that requires the student to use the restroom more often, please let me know so that I can make appropriate accommodations for your child.

SNACK:

Your child is allowed to bring a snack to eat mid-morning. You may send a healthy snack for your child. Healthy snacks do not include candy or soft drinks. You're also welcome to send a snack for the class. When it is hot outside, we would enjoy popsicles! Your child can also bring a water bottle with water, tea, or Gatorade.

LUNCH MONEY:

When you send lunch money to school please place it in an envelope with your child's name, my name, the amount enclosed, and your child's lunch number on the outside of the envelope. Lunch is \$2.25 a day for a regular and \$0.40 for reduced. Please make sure your child has the correct amount of lunch money. I am not aware of how much lunch money your child brings because this goes to the cafeteria.

MONEY:

When you send money to school please place it in an envelope with your child's name, my name, the amount enclosed, and what the money is for on the outside of the envelope.

BIRTHDAYS:

When your child has a birthday, you are more than welcome to bring cupcakes or cookies, etc to the classroom. Just send me a note to get things lined up. The birthday will be celebrated during lunch where we will enjoy the item you bring for the class. We are not allowed to send home birthday party invitations due to hurt feelings when everyone is not invited. You may pass out invitations after school hours or mail them to students' homes.

TRANSPORTATION:

We look on the registration form to get your child's afternoon transportation. If for some reason this needs to be changed you will need to send a note or come by the office and change this in person. We CANNOT take transportation changes over the phone or after 1:45 in the afternoon. This is for your child's safety.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Your child uses the school supplies that he/she brings to school, so if we send a note home asking you to replenish please do so as soon as possible.

HEAD CHECK:

We are required to do head checks. We check every child's head. We do this as discretely as possible. If you receive a letter/phone call from us stating that we have found something please take care of it immediately. We try to keep a close eye on this because we are looking out for every child in our classroom.

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

Richland Elementary has a website at <http://www.rcsd.ms/~web58/> Please use the website often. The school website will also lead you to our class website.

CLASS WEBSITE:

Be sure to check out our class website for class pictures, important information, additional copies of the newsletter, educational websites, and more!

CONTACTING THE TEACHER:

If you need to contact me, you may reach me at school at (601) 939-4375. If you need to reach me during class, call the office and leave a message. I will not be able to answer phone calls during class because this will interrupt instruction. You may also email me any time of the day at jelisa.davis@rcsd.ms. I check my emails periodically throughout the day and email often!