

Neptune News

September 6th, 2016



Dear Parents,

A New Beginning

Welcome to Neptune. We have completed the first exciting week. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with your child.

This letter is coming home in your child's Homework envelope. Each Monday you should expect to find this envelope in your child's Take Home folder. The Homework envelope will include the Neptune News newsletter, any returned papers from the week before and notes from the school. The envelope should be returned the day after it comes home. The take home folder is for daily written communication between class and home. It can be kept in your Neptune's backpack to help their organization. I am using the yellow folders the school used for paperwork on Open House night. If you have not yet returned the yellow folder please do so. If that isn't possible any folder will do. Your child can let me know which folder they want and we will dedicate it as their Take Home folder.

Communications

Communication between class and home is an essential part of a successful school experience. The ClassDojo is the most consistent means to do this and the ClassDojo Messenger is the easiest means for us to communicate. Email is the second most convenient method for me. Thank you parents that have already signed up with the Dojo. Those that haven't, please consider it and I encourage you to make an account. If you prefer email, please email me at ferguss@gowcs.net so that I can more easily make a parent address book. I try to respond to calls, notes and emails as quickly as possible, tho' due to the hectic pace of this first week there are some emails I have not yet responded. Until I respond to an address the email may be routed to junk mail, so if you do not hear back from me within a day, message or call in-case I missed the email in junk. Once I've responded to your email it will always go to my primary inbox.

We have a class webpage to help keep you updated as to class activities and to make it easier to get to internet resources related to our class. Check it out at <http://neptunewcs.weebly.com/>. The webpage will have a pdf version of this newsletter, information about our current objectives in class, class schedule, ARC rotation, class calendar with current deadlines and events, and posted schedule of student presentations.

We are also keeping a class blog on our webpage. It is the plan to have every student contribute to the blog once a week. These entries are taken from their daily writing journals. We read our entries to the class daily to help make the connection between reading and writing, as well as to provide an audience for our writing. You are encouraged to checkout our blog and post comments. I approve all posted comments before they appear on the blog. Neptunes are encouraged to read their parents comments to their classmates. They are also welcome to post comments themselves to our blog from home if you allow.

Feel free to contact me via ClassDojo Messenger, email; ferguss@gowcs.net, or leave a message on the classroom phone 655-2855x4350.

Expectations

Each Neptune is expected to bring a water bottle for drinks during class and a healthy snack for mid-morning. I don't allow them to get drinks from the hall fountain to minimize class disruption. They can refill water bottles during any work times or break times. If anyone would like to donate bottled water it would be appreciated.

Toys from home are not allowed in class except when expressly permitted for special occasions. If a Neptune does bring a toy to class I will confiscate it and send it home at the end of the day. If the toy comes back again I will send it home at the end of the week. If a toy needs to be confiscated a third time, I will send it home only after I have had a chance to talk to you. There will be special occasions later in the year when toys will be invited. I will let you know ahead of time.

If there is a change to your child's transportation plans, please **call the office** as soon as possible. If you email me PLEASE also **email the office**. If I am unable to check email or if there is a guest teacher we would not be aware of the change. **All transportation changes** are by policy to **go through the office**. This will facilitate my being sure your child gets home to you safely.

Finally, please label all personal property that comes to school, books, shoes, clothing, coats, in order to avoid any confusion about ownership.

Food Allergies

Please be aware before sending treats or snacks that Discovery is an allergy awareness school and no food that may contain peanuts or tree nuts are allowed to be consumed in classrooms. These foods can be sent for lunch, but cannot be given as snacks. This is for the safety of our students with severe allergies to certain foods.

Birthdays

Please do not feel obligated to send treats for your child's birthday. We do acknowledge birthdays in class, and I give a birthday treat bag on the school day closest to the birthdate. For those Neptunes with summer birthdays I acknowledge ½ birthdays in order to give some individual recognition for those Neptunes instead of lumping all summer birthdays together. If you do send treats, our daily snack time, 10:50, is best.

Homework

Homework will come home every Monday and is intended to reinforce learning that has taken place in class. Please use these activities to engage with your child and help them see the importance of learning. Please sign and return the homework sheet attached each week.

Discipline Procedures

If the classroom rules are broken we follow the school's RTC (Responsible Thinking Classroom) procedures. On the first offense the student is asked to consider their behavior by being asked a series of questions and a RTC green sheet is started. On the second offense the student is again asked to consider their behavior and it is recorded on the RTC form. On the third offense the student is asked to go to the RTC to discuss their behavior with our behavior coach and make a plan to help them correct their own behavior. Additionally I will mark the behavior in the Dojo and if your Neptune is sent to RTC I will message or email you when possible. RTC is intended to be a learning process making the assumption that the student is behaving disruptively because they have not yet learned the correct behavior for the classroom situation.

ClassDojo

The ClassDojo is a communication tool that allows me to keep you informed of your Neptune's classroom behavior in real-time. Explanations of behaviors were in the yellow folder at open house and is also posted on the class webpage. Thanks you parents that have already signed up. If you need your access code resent to you please contact me.

Class Rules

We spent a lot of time this week talking about class expectations and our class rules. The rules the Neptunes agreed to are to be;

1. **Kind**
 - We help.
 - We play with everyone.
 - We tell if someone could get hurt.
 - We use nice words.
2. **Safe**
 - We sit flat in our chairs.
 - We walk in class.
 - We keep our feet on the floor.
 - We keep all chair feet on the floor.
 - We use tools the right way.
3. **Cooperative**
 - We follow the directions.
 - We help our friends.
 - We do what we are asked to do quickly.
4. **Respectful**
 - We look at the person who is talking.
 - We listen to the person who is talking.
 - We wait our turn to talk.
 - We share with everyone.
 - We take turns.
 - We say please and thank you.

Class Schedule

Below is our general daily schedule.

8:20 AM	Attendance Lunch Count
8:30 AM	Morning Meeting Calendars - Weather/Math
8:45 AM	Go Math
9:45 AM	Math Journal / Snack
10:00 AM	ARC 10:03 - 10:48
10:50 AM	Recess
11:15 AM	Reading
12:00 PM	Writing
12:20 PM	LUNCH 12:23 - 1:05
1:10 PM	Journal / Blog
1:20 PM	Blog Reading
1:30 PM	Calendar Weather / Read Aloud / Presentations
1:40 PM	Daily 5 Small Group
2:30 PM	Science SS
2:45 PM	Clean Up
2:55 PM	Recess
3:15 PM	Line Up
3:20 PM	Dismissal

Star Neptune

Tuesday I introduced the class to a weekly activity, Star Neptune. Each week I'll send home a packet of 8 pages with one of the children to complete. This is an "all about me" sharing activity. These pages can include photos, or drawings and any writing your child will want to include. I'll include a picture of the example board to help make this activity more clear. The intention is for each child to have the opportunity to make a visual and verbal presentation about themselves. They will bring the completed pages back on Friday, share about themselves to their classmates and then their pages will be put on the Star Neptune bulletin board. The Star Neptune has additional responsibilities around the class like helping to run the SmartBoard. The schedule for this project is attached.

Academically Related Curriculum (ARC) Class Schedule

Monday	No School → Labor Day
Tuesday	Expl. FFL (gym shoes)
Wednesday	Creative Arts
Thursday	Disc. FFL (gym shoes)
Friday	Music
Next Monday	Spanish
Next Tuesday	Expl. FFL (gym shoes)

This is a rotating schedule. When we have a short week due to a scheduled day off we will continue in order of the class regardless of the day. I will update the posted schedule accordingly.

Coming Events

Sept. 9th – Begin Star Neptune Schedule

Sincerely,

Sean B. Ferguson

Homework Week of September 6th

Monday

No School → Labor Day

Tuesday

Review the contents of your take home envelope with your parents. Return the **empty** Take Home envelope tomorrow.

Share a book with someone

Wednesday

Count and collect or record 20 things. (The things do **not** need to be sent to school.)

Thursday

Find and write down one noun (thing) for each letter below.

M _____

S _____

T _____

A _____

C _____

P _____

N _____

Your homework is due Friday.

Additional resources are coming home with the homework. These are suggestions for extra study but are not required homework. Use them as you see fit.

Child's Name:

Parent Signature:

Star Neptune Presentation Schedule. Presentation pages will come home the Monday before the presentation date. They are also available on the website. Please return the presentation pages and folder on or before the presentation date.

Fri, Sep 9, '16 → Chloe B
Fri, Sep 16, '16 → Coraline C
Fri, Sep 23, '16 → Austin E
Fri, Sep 30, '16 → Ava G
Fri, Oct 7, '16 → Ayden G
Fri, Oct 14, '16 → Grace G
Fri, Oct 21, '16 → Jacob H
Fri, Oct 28, '16 → Faye H
Fri, Nov 4, '16 → Arabella H
Fri, Nov 11, '16 → Michaela J
Fri, Nov 18, '16 → Mady K
Fri, Dec 2, '16 → Jeremy M
Fri, Dec 9, '16 → O'Malley M
Fri, Dec 16, '16 → Payton O
Fri, Jan 6, '17 → Henry P
Fri, Jan 13, '17 → Blake P
Fri, Jan 20, '17 → Jayjune R
Fri, Jan 27, '17 → Michelle S
Fri, Feb 3, '17 → Jackson S
Fri, Feb 10, '17 → Brennyn T
Fri, Feb 17, '17 → Teddy W
Fri, Feb 24, '17 → Tillee W
Fri, Mar 3, '17 → Addison W
Fri, Mar 10, '17 → Ayden Y



Shop Online: scholastic.com/readingclub
One-Time Class Activation Code: HCDV4

Dear Families,

Encouraging reading is one of the most important things we can do to help your child succeed. It can be tough finding the right books to keep them interested, which is why I am so excited that our class will be participating in Scholastic Reading Club this school year.

With Scholastic Reading Club:

- Every book you buy earns FREE Books for our classroom library
- You can choose from handpicked, grade- and reading-level-specific books for your child
- You'll find the best values on a variety of formats

Each month, your child will bring home Reading Club flyers. Together you can choose from books hand-selected by teachers and experts, and then order online or send your order form and payment to me. The preferred method is online orders. Online orders will be submitted the **first Saturday** of every Month.

I'd also love some help growing our classroom Reading Club. If you'd like to help out, please let me know! I'm excited to get our class reading!

Thank you for your support,

- **VISIT** scholastic.com/readingclub
- **ENTER** the one-time Class Activation Code (top of this letter)
- **SHOP** from a carefully curated selection of the best books and value packs
- **SUBMIT** your order and earn FREE Books for our classroom
- All book orders will be shipped to our classroom so we can celebrate the joy of reading together!

Unit R Week 1 Word Lists

Sam

High Frequency Words

a
green
l
see

Consonants M, S, T;

Vowel Short A

am
at
mat
Sam

sat
Tam

Amazing Words

cozy
furniture
middle
straw

tidy
unwind
yawn

Unit R Week 2 Word Lists

Snap!

High Frequency Words

like
one
the
we

Consonants C /k/, P, N

can	nap
cap	pan
cat	pat
man	sap
map	tan
Nan	tap

Amazing Words

adult
childhood
depend
entertain

gallery
portrait
scurry