

HORSE Folders

Happy Organized Ready Students Everyday

...everything you need to know...

This year in first grade your child will be given a very special HORSE folder. They are to bring their HORSE folder to school every single day and take it home each night.

The HORSE folder will be an important tool to help your child learn the important skill of organization, and will be a communication device between home and school. It is very important that they take excellent care of their HORSE folder, as they will only receive one at the beginning of the year. Lost HORSE folders will have to be replaced by their family.

Your child's HORSE folder has several very important features. There are two pockets. One is marked "Return to School" and is the first thing you will see when you open your child's HORSE folder. This is a place to store important documents that need to flow to and from school. Any papers that need to be signed and returned to school will be kept in this part of your child's HORSE folder. You will also find your child's behavior calendar in this pocket. This will allow you to see how your child has performed at school each day. This should be initialed by a parent or guardian each night.

The second pocket is at the end of your child's HORSE folder. This is marked "Keep at Home". The items that will stay at home for your to admire will be tucked in this pocket each night. I ask all families to empty this pocket each night so that HORSE folders are not overflowing with materials in the morning when children return to school.

Next you will find the rules. This is a sheet that helps remind your child how to take care of the HORSE folder so that it can be used all year long. Next to the rules, you will see a Speller's Choice activity chart. These are suggested activities you may use at home to help practice spelling words differently each night.

Behind the speller's choice activities you will notice a vinyl folder. This is your saddle bag. Your child will use the saddle bag to transport lunch money, notes from home, book orders, or other important items. Your HORSE will help you transport them safely. You will also use the saddle bag to store your spelling list for the entire week, unless you wish to take it out and keep it at home.

Behind the saddle bag, I have included several important papers that your child can use at home and school for completing homework and keeping families informed. You will notice the abc's of first grade. This sheet was designed to help answer questions that parents may have about first grade throughout the year. Numbers charts for numbers 0-200 are also included in this section. Your child will use this chart both in and out of class to help practice their numbers, addition, and subtraction. Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade words are included, as well. Your child will use these lists both in class and at home for various reading, writing, and spelling activities.

Sheets of notebook paper are in your HORSE to help ensure Parent/Teacher communication. These sheets of paper are left in your HORSE and to be used ONLY by parents or teacher. If you need to let me know any important information you can write it in your child's HORSE. (Please date it.) I will check these logs daily. I will respond to you in the HORSE also. Please leave all communication in the HORSE so we have a record in case we need to look back on any of our notes.

I hope you will find this method helpful in maintaining communication with me, and helping your child learn to organize their materials. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have!