

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.  
THE WORD ITSELF SAYS "I'M POSSIBLE"

AUDREY HERBURN

### **In It to Win It ...**

Is Brightwood's School theme for this year. Just like athletes in the Olympics we are learning, preparing, practicing and motivating ourselves and teammates every day.

### **WIN (What I Need)**

What is it? WIN is a time for students to receive their special services such as Academically Gifted, Talented Development, or Exceptional Child. It is also a time for students remaining in the classroom to receive guided reading, reading stations, math stations, re-teaching sessions, and enrichment lessons. Children who attend other services during the WIN blocks will have modified stations as determined by the classroom teachers.

### **Daily Schedule:**

7:00 a.m. Arrival  
7:25 a.m. Social Studies  
7:55 a.m. Specials (Will change rotation each quarter)  
Mon. - Music, Tues. - Music, Wed. - Media/SEL, Thurs. - P.E., F - Music.  
8:45 a.m. Reading & Vocabulary  
9:30 a.m. W.I.N. (Small Groups or One-on-One)  
10:00 a.m. Language Arts & Writing  
10:45 a.m. Science  
11:50 a.m. Lunch  
12:25 p.m. Math  
1:45 p.m. Recess  
2:05 p.m. Dismissal Begins

## **THE B.E.S.T. CLASS NEWSLETTER 5<sup>th</sup> Grade EDITION**

September 6, 2021

## **Welcome from: Ms. Natasha Richmond**

Welcome Class Family,  
My name is Ms. Natasha Richmond. This is my 30<sup>th</sup> year teaching!! I have two grown sons who are off being productive citizens. I also have one adorable granddaughter who just turned 1. I enjoy so many things such as traveling, spending time with family, and watching comedies. I look forward to making this a fun, and memorable year for our children filled with exciting topics, projects and plenty of hands-on experiments.

This is the initial newsletter for our class. In the future you will receive you will receive a grade level newsletter from the fifth-grade teaching team which includes Mrs. Leveridge-James and Mrs. Miller at the beginning of each month. Please read over the newsletter if any questions or concerns come up, please feel free to contact me through Dojo, email or text.



### **Our Goals Are:**

- To prepare your child for sixth grade.
- To prepare your child for the End of Grade Tests (based on the Common Core standards.)
- To help your child be the best he/she can be!



# What to Expect this Year

**You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great.**

- *unknown*

## Tips for the School Year:

**Reading:** Please promote self-selected reading at home! Help your child find an author or type of genre they relate to and encourage them to read at home. You could designate a special place in your home or a certain time of day for this to take place. Your child may read individually, to friend, or to a family member. Asking comprehension questions after a page or chapter will help your child's reading ability tremendously.

**Absent Students:** Students are responsible to pick up all missed assignments from the While you were out tray the first day they return to school. If your child is out for several days, please contact their homeroom teacher. All assignments will be posted on the homeroom Canvas page or if needed we can leave your child's work in the front office. You do not need to call for assignments if your child is sick for only one day. *Please remember* to send in an absence excuse to ensure that the absence is coded as excused. If you do not turn in an absence note within three days of the absence, the absence will be coded as unexcused. This is Guilford County policy.

**Dismissal:** When your child is going home a different way than usual, always send a written note or email. School policy states that we cannot let students go home a different way if they do not have a note from home. We also cannot guarantee this will be allowed due to COVID restrictions. Please contact the office if you have a transportation change after the school day is in progress. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to check email during the school day.

## Daily Reminders:

Wear mask and ensure students cover their nose and mouth. This is to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other related illnesses.

Bring Chromebook charged and ready to use each day.

Get plenty of rest the night before. School is for learning and not sleeping.

Do not bring excessive sweets for lunch we want to encourage healthy eating.

## Grading Policy:

**Classwork** is given as part of instruction and will count for 40% of overall grade.

**Homework** is given as an extension of classroom learning it reinforces what has already been taught and is 5% of the grade.

**Quizzes** will be announced in advance and are 20% of overall grade.

**Test** will be announced in advance and are 35% of overall grade.

## Grading Scale:

The following grading scale will be used this year:

A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

D 69-60

E 59-0

## Grades:

- Students will be graded on class work, morning work, quizzes, tests, projects, and specific homework assignments.

- Students will receive 2 grades for each unit test or major project. All other grades will count as one.

- Homework: Specific homework assignments will be graded for accuracy. Students will know ahead of time which assignments are graded and the assignments due date. These assignments are usually classwork being carried over to homework. It is imperative that student's complete homework daily it is discussed during class and this creates the perfect opportunity for students to get help with problems they struggled with at home. Completion daily cannot be stressed enough.

**Quizzes and Tests:** We will always inform students when we have upcoming quizzes and tests. These forms of assessment should not cause anxiety. This is a way for us to assess what your child has and has not learned. Although quizzes and tests will produce grades to be entered into the grade book, there will be plenty of other grades to help balance. If there is an upcoming test, we expect all our students to prepare themselves accordingly. If students are having difficulty grasping a concept, we will do all we can to work with them individually before test day.

**End of Grade Testing:** Your child will be taking the North Carolina End of Grade Test this year in the areas of Reading Comprehension, Math (Calculator Active), Math (Calculator Inactive), and Science. In order to best prepare your child for testing content and procedures, we will give a pre/post Assessments provided by the county. The format of these assessments is different than fourth grade because the math includes a gridded response section which is open-ended. The science is an online test. These assessments assess students on goals and objectives that were outlined on our Curriculum Map. The data we receive from Interim Assessments helps guide our teaching for the next quarter.

### **Core Content Areas:**

#### **Language Arts**

- EOG Tested
- Teaching through Units
- Focus: Higher Order Thinking Skills
- Novels
- Grammar Writing (4 Writing Topics): Persuasive, Science Content, Social Studies Content, and Narrative.) We have weekly writing assignments!

*Whether you think you can, or you think you can't you're right.*

-Henry Ford

#### **Math:**

- EOG Tested
- Eureka Math program
- Math Intervention/Maintenance/Enrichment Stations
- Zearn

#### **Social Studies:**

- Not EOG Tested
- Focus: Overview of American History and the development of North America
- Integrated with ELA

#### **Science:**

- EOG Tested
- Revised curriculum aligned with North Carolina Essential Standards
- Strong focus on vocabulary
- The curriculum is divided into 6 units. Depending on the length of each unit, at least one test (comprehensive for the unit only) will be given. Some open notebook quizzes will also be given.
- Students will need to take careful notes. Much of the material will not come from the science book. During open note tests, students cannot borrow the notes of others.
- Stemscopes online science book and assignments
- LearnEd online interactive book to go along with paper copy.

**Class celebrations:** We will be having a few classroom celebrations this year. You will be informed before these events, as we will probably need donations of certain items. If you plan to honor your child's birthday, you are welcome to send in a special snack during our lunch time. Currently, we are not allowing non-students or staff in the building. Remember, Guilford County Schools requires all food items brought into school to be store bought. Please abide by this rule.

**Structured Play:** Daily physical activity is now mandated by the state. We will strive to teach teamwork, good sportsmanship, and pride in personal achievements. All students will be required to participate in daily physical activity unless we receive a parent note with doctors' recommendation.

#### **Important Dates:**

**9/10** - Reading Assessment Scores Graded

**9/10** – Social Studies Quiz

**9/13** – Vocabulary Quiz

**9/15** – Math Quiz

**9/17** – Matter Science Quiz

**9/20** – Math Test

**9/20** – Science Unit 1 Test

**9/22** – Interim Reports

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