




Mrs. Johnson's First Grade Syllabus

 2025–2026 School Year

 WOCS

 Contact: 580-303-4922 Email: ecfirstgrade@wocs.org **GROUPME**

Welcome Families!

Welcome to First Grade! I've put together this syllabus to give you an overview of how our classroom will run this year. Please take time to read through the details and let me know if you have any questions. I'm so excited to partner with you in your child's learning journey!

Weekly Newsletter

You'll receive a class newsletter each **Tuesday** via the school's email or a printed copy on **Tuesday**, depending on your preference. It will include:

- Weekly activities
- Curriculum topics
- Upcoming events
- Special announcements

We'll also use **GROUPME** as a parent communication system for quick reminders and updates.

Grading Policy

- Grading includes **oral participation, written work, homework, and classwork**.
 - Not every paper sent home is entered in the gradebook.
 - Papers scoring below **70%** (not tests) may be redone for **half credit** (students will have 48 hours to complete and return)
 - **Test grades are final** and cannot be redone, so preparation is key.
 - Graded work is sent home every couple of days.
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Folders

- Each student will receive a **RED** folder that will be brought home daily with two sides: **Keep at Home** and **Return to School**.
 - The folder includes:
 - **Monthly calendar**
 - **Weekly homework sheet**
 - **Completed work**
 - **Homework to be returned**
 - **BLUE Tuesday Folders** (school folders) will include official school notices and flyers.
 - If your child brings home a **YELLOW** folder, this means they have catch-up work to do if they missed a day or more of school. This work will have the same number of days missed to return. (Example: if Katy missed 3 days of school, she will have 3 days to make up the work)
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Homework

- Daily homework (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday) should take **30 minutes or less**.
 - **No homework on Wednesdays or Fridays** (if the student is behind or has makeup work to do, homework will be sent home over the weekend)
 - Extra practice may be sent home based on individual needs (discussed in advance).
 - If your child is absent, you'll receive a **YELLOW folder** with missed work and instructions.
 - You may also check **FACTS** for lesson plans, homework, and TESTS
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Snack Time and Drinks




- Afternoon snack at **2:35 PM** (daily)
- Optional “working snack” in the morning (I will keep a couple of options in the classroom in case they need a snack to tide them over until lunch)
- **EACH STUDENT WILL NEED TO BRING A CLASSROOM SNACK**
 - **Bring an afternoon snack** (students will need to bring their own snacks to store in the classroom; they will need to be labeled with the child's name on the box or bag)
- Please avoid **sugar-filled snacks** (healthy options preferred)
- Fridays: **SNACK SALE** or bring a sweet treat (\$1-\$2 is sufficient for snack sale)
- Please notify me of any **allergies or restrictions**
- Bring a **WATER BOTTLE** daily

Birthdays

- Students will be celebrated as close to their birthday as possible
 - They will get a small birthday treat from their teacher
 - Summer birthdays will be celebrated in **May**
 - You may send **snacks or drinks** on your child's birthday (please notify me in advance)
 - Birthday invitations may be passed out **only if inviting the entire class**
 - Students are recognized at chapel with a **birthday song and prayer** (parents are welcome to stay for this)
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Class Parties

We'll have three classroom parties:

- **Christmas Party** 
- **God's Love Party (Valentine's alternative)** 
- **Resurrection Party (Easter alternative)** 

*Notes will be sent home closer to each event for **volunteer sign-ups** (parents must sign up to attend)

Note: We **do not celebrate** Santa, Cupids, Halloween, or the Easter Bunny

Field Trips

- We will plan 4 **field trips** this year
 - Details will be sent home in advance
 - We always need **parent drivers**—please fill out the required forms in the office
 - I try to keep trips close to home to accommodate parents' schedules; however, two of our field trips will be around 2 hours away
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Classroom Management

Individual Behavior Plan

- We will have a behavior chart this year
- Each student will have a pocket with their name on it
- There will be 6 color-coded classroom rules
- If a student breaks one of the rules, they will pull a stick that correlates with that rule's color and place it in their pocket

- If a student receives more than 3 sticks in their pocket, a note will be sent home in the student's red folder explaining which rules were broken
- If a student has zero sticks in their pocket at the end of the day, they will receive a punch on their "Punch Card."

Punch Cards

- Students can earn a punch on their cards for having zero sticks in their wall pocket at the end of the day
- After 10 punches, they get a visit to the **Treasure Box**

Class Behavior Plan

- **Pom Pom "Star Jar"**
 - The class earns or loses pom poms based on teamwork and group behavior
 - A full reward bucket earns a **class party** (popsicle party, popcorn party, pajama party, etc.)

Secret Flamingo Student

- Each day I will pick a "Secret Flamingo Student"
- This student will be picked based on their classroom behavior: participation in class, helping others, following rules, being respectful, and trying their best
- If a student is picked, they will get to pick a special prize

Tests

- Tests will be given on different days of the week. The only possible test we would do on a Monday would be a math test, and we would review before taking it
- Reading Evaluations will be done every Thursday
- Phonics/Spelling test will be every Friday

Bible

- Our Deep Roots curriculum is set up to be taught for two weeks at a time
 - We will have an Oral Memory Verse test on the first Friday, then a Written Test over the Bible story and that week's memory verse the following Friday
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Braum's Book Buddy Program

- Braum's Book Buddy is a reading incentive program for children in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grades
 - Each child can earn up to six Braum's ice cream treats per school year just by reading, and it is free to participate in the program!
 - The program begins in October and lasts through the school year.
 - Teachers distribute Braum's Book Buddy booklets to their students and then monitor book reading by placing a Book Buddy sticker in the student's booklet for each book read.
 - When a student has read six books, the teacher rewards the student with a coupon for a free treat from Braum's!
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Important Reminders

- Label all personal items!
 - Send a light jacket/sweater for changing weather (they are welcome to keep an extra in their locker)
 - Water bottles and lunch boxes are daily essentials
 - Always check and return the **RED** daily folder
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❖ Teacher Communication

- Please reach out if you need ANYTHING!
 - If you need to set up a time to talk, I am more than happy to do that.
 - We can have a phone meeting, or we can meet at the school.
 - If you need to reach me during school hours, please call the school office, or you can email me. If it is after school hours, I will be at the school until 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.
 - If you need to reach me after school hours, please use the GroupMe app. The app does allow you to message me separately from the group.
 - If it is after 7 p.m. I will do my best to get back to you, but it may be the next morning before I respond.
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We are going to have an amazing year of learning, growing, and fun in First Grade. I feel honored to be your child's teacher and can't wait to see all they accomplish!

Our class verse this year: "Whatever may be your task, work at it heartily, as something done for the Lord and not for men." Colossians 3:23

Warmly,

Mrs. Johnson

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GroupMe

580-303-4492