



The Tritch Times

August 2013

Welcome to 5th Grade!

What a great year we are going to have! I am very excited to have your child in my class and am looking forward to a year full of fun and learning!

This is my 4th year of teaching and I feel very fortunate to be joining the Creekside family this year! I am a graduate of the University of San Diego and worked in California until moving to North Carolina last summer. I live in Durham with my husband, Kevin, and our dog, Tater Tot.

I anticipate this being a very exciting school year! I encourage you, as parents and students, to be very involved and positive in order to make it a success.

Classroom Expectations & Homework

All expectations are held equally of all students. As a group, we will continuously discuss and role-play what it means to follow the SOAR behavior model.

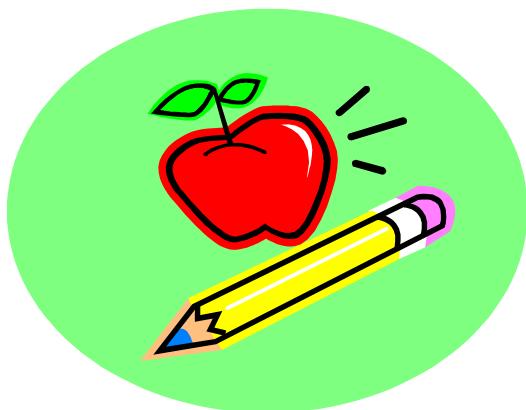
S-Show self-control
O-Offer peer support
A-Actively listen and learn
R-Respect people & property

This year, I will be using a positive behavior model in class. This is similar to what many of students have seen in other grades. Students will earn tickets for positive behaviors demonstrated in class and around campus. They can use these tickets to "buy" rewards and fun class supplies.

Homework activities based on writing and reading will be given weekly, handed out at the beginning of the week and due at the end of each week. Students should always have their independent book of choice at home and dedicate time for reading each night. Math homework will be assigned nightly, depending on the skill learned that day in class. Science and social studies homework will be based on the units of study we are focusing on in class. I understand the value of family time and promise to keep homework to a minimum. I ask in return that you support homework and your child's efforts to complete it and turn it in on time.

**Please check my website:
www.mrstritch.weebly.com for updates on homework and announcements.

(continued)



Communication

Email is the most effective way to reach me. My address is:

kathryn.tritch@dpsnc.net

Our class also has a website that I will update with upcoming events, projects, photos, and class activities!

www.mrstritch.weebly.com

You may also choose to communicate through your child's agenda/calendar. These will be used in class on a daily basis and should be reviewed by you as well.

Volunteers

Volunteers and visitors are always welcome in our room. Please let me know if you would like to come in for a visit or help in the classroom!

For the safety of the students, volunteers must be cleared by DPS. Please make sure you fill out a volunteer form even if you have done so before. All volunteers and visitors need to sign in at the office.

Birthdays

We will celebrate each child's birthday on their special day by singing and making it a fun day for him/her. DPS has issued a policy that we can no longer serve food for birthday celebrations. Please stay in accordance with the Durham Public School System's Health and Wellness Policy. Thank you!

Daily Snack

Students may bring a healthy snack to enjoy. I ask that you provide your child with a healthy snack each and every day because students could use the brain boost!

Medicine

If a student needs medication, it must be accompanied by a form filled out by the child's doctor. The form can be found in the DPS Parent Handbook.

Field Trips

We are planning field trips this year. One will be to Camp Agape in Fuquay-Varina in mid-October. This will be a field trip where students will focus on science exploration.

What a fantastic year it will be! I appreciate your support and I'm excited about being your child's 5th grade teacher!

~Katie Tritch