August 21, 2017

Dear Fifth Grade Homes:

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! This is the **class of 2025** – Goodness!! I’m looking forward to this new crop of kids. I was an eagle growing up, and I’m proud to teach in my hometown. **Go Eagles!!!**

In this letter I would like to give you some important information about our class policies.

1. Supplies Needed
	1. 3 pocket folders h. 1 large box of Kleenex
	2. 1 pack Notebook paper (loose-leaf, WIDE-RULED) i. 1 pink eraser
	3. glue sticks j. 2 spiral notebooks
	4. ruler (metric & standard) k. pencils (mechanical or standard)
	5. crayons or colored pencils l. 1 bottle of glue
	6. 1 box of markers m. 2 composition notebooks
	7. scissors
2. Grading
	1. 100 – 90 A
	2. 89 – 80 B
	3. 79 – 70 C
	4. 69 – 60 D
	5. 59 – 0 F
	6. When your student earns a 69% or lower (D or F) on an assignment (daily work), he/she will have the opportunity to correct all of the mistakes. A corrected paper turned in will earn the lowest passing grade (C-). It will be marked with “corrected” and my initials if the grade has been changed. Otherwise, it has not been changed.
	7. For chances to recover from an occasional low grade or missing assignment, I periodically offer the students extra credit assignments in different subject areas. Also, there are often bonus questions at the end of quizzes, tests and assignments.
3. Homework
	1. Homework is assigned each night. However, it is unusual to have homework on Friday night.
	2. Grades are taken on selected assignments.
	3. Please check homework against planner. (Students are responsible for writing their homework in their planner each day.) Please sign the planner each night to let the teacher know that your child is sharing their daily assignments with you.
	4. Homework provides the opportunity to develop responsibility, as well as improve skills.
4. Attendance
	1. If your child is not here, they are missing important lessons and assignments, especially when new content is introduced.
	2. A dated note (from doctor or parent) is needed in the event of an absence.
	3. Please send in a separate note. (Not in the student planner.)

 (subject to change, Wednesday’s schedule has slight changes, too.)

1. Student
	1. 8: 00 – 8:05 Good Morning!
	2. 8:05 – 8:25 Writing
	3. 8:25 – 10:00 Reading/Language Arts
	4. 10:00 – 10:15 Recess
	5. 10:15 – 10:30 Snack
	6. 10:30 – 11:40 Math
	7. 11:45 – 12:25 Science – Peters
	8. 12:30 – 1:00 Lunch/Recess
	9. 1:00 – 1:30 Enrichment/Intervention
	10. 1:30 – 2:15 Social Studies
	11. 2:15 – 3:00 P.E./Music
	12. 3:00 – 3:15 Planners/Reflection
	13. 3:15 Dismissal



1. Accelerated Reader (AR)/Independent Reading
	1. Students should read at home and school.
	2. Students should read at home at least 20 minutes each night and complete a reading log.
	3. Students need to have an average test grade of 85% for AR.
	4. AR/Independent Reading is a part of your child’s grade each nine weeks.
2. Lunch Servers
	1. Fifth graders help serve lunch. Every day we will send four students down to the gym to help.
	2. When we get through the entire class we will pass the job onto the other fifth grade classes, so it might only be once a month that we will serve lunch.
	3. The kids will earn a free lunch that day.
3. Big 4 Positive Behaviors and Consequences for Major and Minor Behavior Infractions
	1. BE SAFE BE RESPONSIBLE BE RESPECTFUL BE A LEARNER
	2. Please take time to review the Central School Student & Parent Handbook. There are some changes regarding consequences to major and minor behavior infractions.
	3. We will be continuing with lunch detention this year. After a third referral (Minor) the student will be sent to the office to visit with the principal. The fourth referral will result in detention. Also, student with incomplete homework will have an opportunity to finish in lunch detention.
4. Student Information
	1. Make sure I have all pertinent personal information regarding the safety of your child on file.
		1. Physical or medical needs
		2. Dismissal from school
		3. Any other information that you may think I need in order to best serve your child.
5. Water Bottles
6. Especially at the beginning of the year, students may want to bring a closable water bottle with them. I encourage them to fill the bottle ½ full of water and freeze it overnight. That way they will be able to fill it the rest of the way and have icy cold water for most of the day. An old sock around the bottle prevents water “sweating” onto the floor. We do have a fountain the room as well.
7. Eagle Kids
	1. Your 5th grade teachers will be running the Eagle Kids program this year. 5th graders apply to be in the club and need to meet requirements like good grades, respectfulness, and a positive attitude. We look at how good citizenship is important to our society and apply it to our immediate surroundings – Central School. Eagle Kids are called upon to do various things throughout the year. One of the big things is a food drive around Thanksgiving or whenever the food band is low and serving concessions for a High School game in the winter.
8. Electronic Devices
	1. Students will not have a need for their devices in the classroom. If their phone must come with them, it needs to be turned off and put away. I have designated place behind my desk that they can keep them in during the day.

I appreciate all of your support and help. Together we can make this a great year for the children and ourselves. If you need to get in touch with me, please call the school and leave a voicemail. Also, my email address is mshiffer@sidney.k12.mt.us

Working together,

Mrs. Melissa Shiffer

