

Emerald Room

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Ready for School:

It has been uplifting to see the students' enthusiasm about returning to school. We have been settling in with routines and procedures to be successful in the classroom. There are some foundations that will help in this area that the students may not understand. Getting adequate rest and preparing for the day are key starting points. Growing children need between nine and ten hours of rest to restore their bodies and continue growth. One obstacle to this could be "use of media." A recent report by Kaiser Permanente indicated that the average 8-18 year old spends 7.5 hours a day engaged with TV, video games, cell phones, and other media. Wow! If we have them for 7 hours and they spend that much time with media, when do they have time to do the other things that need to be done before going to bed? When do they eat? What do they eat? Those are some key concepts that need to be covered for them to start to understand how to balance needs in life.

Homework:

We have been using the student planner to record the daily assignments. Our expectation is 30 minutes of reading each day. In addition, we recommend that your child discuss events, feelings, and cause and effect situations in the book. This indicates understanding and comprehension of the story they are reading. Vocabulary: Exercises will be on a two week cycle. The first week involves completing exercises, making flash cards and using study strategies. The second week's work is a review and making their own sentences.

Math: In the beginning review of math facts should enable recall of fact previously known and developing proficiency on the rest. Progress in Accelerated Math will determine future assignments.



Students Are Working On:

Character development trait - Peacefulness

Core Curriculum. We are in the process of normalization. This means getting to know new friends and teachers, becoming familiar with the environment and developing class rules and procedures. We will be reviewing some academics that should have been previously covered. We will be administering assessments in various different forms during these first weeks of school. This will enable us to place your student in the lessons and curriculum that best meets his or her needs.

Cultural: We have begun a review of science and geography topics in anticipation of upcoming lessons. We encourage the students to seek meteorological information from different sources to aid their understanding of the water cycle. The car thermometer, the marquee at the bank, Channels 3, 10, or 13 on television, *The Sacramento Bee*, or computer sources, for gathering this data. We will be comparing different sources and times the information was collected, as well as using the information for graphing in math.

Upcoming Dates:

08/26/11 Ice Cream Social

09/01/11 7 Habits Training 5:30-6:30pm

09/05/11 Labor Day - No School

Mr. Ken, & Ms. Michelle