

Dear First Grade Families:

I am very pleased to be your child's teacher this year and I look forward to getting to know you and your child. The number one priority during the school day is instruction in a positive, Christian environment. I want your child and all of the students in the class to learn as much as possible. I find that by having a discipline program that is both consistent and fair, my students and I are able to put the majority of our energy into academics.

There are 3 steps to the first grade discipline program:

Step 1 involves managing undesirable behavior by first giving a verbal warning and then when necessary a count of the warnings up to 3. On the count of 3, the student must then take a five-minute time out from an activity or a time in from recess. Parent notification of recurring and/or serious problems may be necessary.

Step 2 involves encouraging good behavior. There are several methods for encouraging constructive action in students, such as, moving the student, positive reinforcement, praise, charts, and visual reminders on the desktop.

Step 3 involves using tools for maintaining healthy relationships with children, such as active listening, shared fun and morning meetings.

All of these steps work together and contribute to a positive classroom climate where your child will feel welcome and comfortable, and where he or she will work and learn productively.

Your child also has the responsibility to follow certain rules. Some rules are "school rules" that apply to all students at St. Mary's Catholic School. Other rules will be specific to a teacher or an activity in which your child is participating. Here are the first grade "classroom rules":

1. Respect God, yourself, and others.
2. Call others only by their given name.
3. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.

It is important that we work together to give your child a quality Catholic education. Please sign and return the bottom portion as soon as possible. Your child is responsible for returning it to school.

Thank you,
Becky Clift (924-4300)

(detach and return)

I have read and understand the discipline plan for first grade.

Parent Signature

Student Signature