

Welcome to Room 34!

September 2009



Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to our 2009-2010 school year at Hage Elementary. My name is Don MacIntosh and I am very happy to have your child in my classroom! In this class, fifth graders have opportunities for building self-esteem, sharpening basic skills, mastering tough state and district standards, as well as deepening their own understanding of the content they are learning.

Home-School Connection

My aim this year is to create a classroom environment that supports learning both in class and at home. I strongly believe that communication between home and school is important. Therefore, I want to encourage you to visit our classroom in order to observe, work directly with students, grade, organize, or just to say “hello.” You may sign up for a weekly time or just stop in when available. If you can’t come in, please feel free to send a note with your child or call me before or after school hours at Hage, (858) 566-0273 or any time on my cell, (619) 398-7096. Please include your email on the return portion of this letter and I will keep you updated through email.

Expectations for Behavior in the Classroom

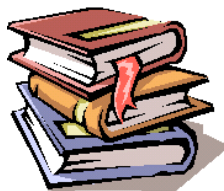
I will emphasize four expectations in our classroom. Students should: 1) respect people and property, 2) show an interest in learning, 3) be prepared and organized, and 4) complete their assignments when due. These are the same expectations for all students in the San Diego Unified School District and appear on our standards-based report card. Students who excel in these four areas will have more opportunities for leadership and responsibility in and out of the class as well as special rewards such as notes home, delivering messages to the office, or helping other teachers, Mrs. Sandoval, or the students in Room 5 and Room 8. Students who have difficulty with behavior will be given a verbal warning, followed by a sign-in. If the disruptive behavior continues, they will be sent with a note home that must be signed before they may participate in recess or reward activities. Excessive sign-ins will result in lowered citizenship grades. Students with unfinished homework assignments will be given time to finish in another classroom during recess or reward activities. I will gladly give your child an extra day to complete an assignment, in most cases, with a note from you.

The First Two Weeks of School

I will be spending the first couple of weeks doing activities that allow me to get to know your child, begin establishing our routines, and conducting assessments to find out each student’s strengths and needs for a successful school year. Please plan on attending Back to School Night on Thursday, September 17th for more details.

I consider it a great privilege and responsibility to be your child's teacher this year, and look forward to hearing from you and meeting you personally.

Sincerely,
Mr. MacIntosh



Additional Information

Supplies

Hage and the PTA will provide the basic supplies for our work at school. It would help if you could provide the following (I will buy them if you cannot):

- 1 1/2" standard 3-ring binder
- Notebook paper
- Tabbed binder dividers
- Pencil pouch
- Glue stick, pencils, crayons, markers (for home)
- Pencils (no mechanical pencils please)

Classroom wish list

(see the Hage PTA website)

Volunteers

San Diego Unified School District has designated 2009-2010 the Year of the Volunteer! I would like to thank you in advance for everything you do this year, and every year, to help.

Volunteering in your child's class need not be limited to field trips! Keep in mind; we have a new, more thorough, procedure for clearing volunteers who interact with students. Please see me or Jessica Peterson for more details. Here are some of the many ways you can be a big help:

- Staple, cut, or sort paperwork at *home*
- Staple, cut, or sort paperwork at *school*
- Chaperone a field trip
- Drive students on a field trip
- Write names, words, numbers for classroom signs and folders
- Come to the classroom on a regular basis
- Come to the classroom on an occasional basis
- Grade papers from *home* (teacher guidelines included)
- Grade papers at *school*



Please check all boxes that apply to you or a family member:

- I can work from home
- I can come to school
- I have a large vehicle and can drive students
- I have a small vehicle and can drive students
- I have nice writing
- I don't mind working with small groups of students
- I don't mind teaching or reading to the whole class
- I prefer to stay out of the limelights and cut, staple, sort, etc.
- I am available with the following notice: _____
- I would like to come regularly (indicate best days/times): _____

Please Return

My name is _____ My child is _____

Phone number _____ Email _____