

# WELCOME TO 5TH GRADE

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am excited to welcome you back to what will be an awesome year at Page Elementary. This will be my sixteenth year teaching at Thornapple Kellogg and I am really looking forward to a great year with all my new fifth graders!

This year promises to be an exciting and challenging one as your child continues to grow socially and academically. My philosophy is that every student is capable of learning, and you will find that my expectations for academic standards and conduct are high. At the same time I realize that not all students learn in the same way, or at the same pace. I will make every effort to accommodate your child's learning style within our classroom and provide them with strategies that will enable them to succeed. In return, I expect each student to put forth his or her personal best and work cooperatively within our classroom community. I look forward to partnering with you to make this a wonderful year for your child.

During the first two weeks of school we will be going over classroom procedures and expectations. I will also be sending home a parent information packet, which will include: a curriculum overview, classroom procedures, grading policies, homework expectations, and a copy of our classroom discipline plan. A copy of the Page Elementary Parent/Student Handbook will be sent home. It contains helpful information and should be kept as a reference. I will keep you informed about your child's progress throughout the year with notes home, student planners, and Thursday Folders.

Because you know your child better than anyone else, I have attached an information sheet for you to fill out. This will be a useful tool as I get to know your child and their unique personalities. Please complete this form and return it to school with your child at your earliest convenience.

In the past I have encouraged and enjoyed parent involvement in our classroom whenever possible. If you are interested in helping out please fill out and return the attached volunteer sheet. I will be contacting volunteers throughout the year as the need arises.

This year specials will follow the same format at last year. We will have an alternating schedule for P.E. and Art/Music. For the first week of school we have P.E. on Tuesday and Thursday, and Art on Wednesday and Friday. The following week we will switch and have Art on Tuesday and Thursday, and P.E. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We will write reminders in our planners, but it might be helpful to keep a pair of gym shoes at school just to be safe. In January we will be switching out Art for Music. ☺ Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we all adapt to our new schedule.

This year our lunch is from 12:30 – 1:00 and afternoon recess is from 2:55 – 3:10. Currently we have two snack times built in to our daily schedule. 😊 **Please ensure that your child has a healthy snack or two to help them fuel up throughout the day.**

Below is a list of recommended supplies (this is repeated from the newsletter you should have received in the mail)

- At least five different pocket folders (one for each subject)
- 2 one-subject spiral notebooks(70-100 page, wide-ruled are best)
- Scissors
- Ruler (marked with centimeters and inches)
- Colored pencils, crayons, and/or markers
- Highlighter
- Pencils and erasers
- Glue or glue stick(s)
- 2 or 3 dry erase markers (any color)
- One orphaned sock (to be used as a whiteboard eraser)
- Packs of post-it notes (3x3 size works best)

\*\*Students will also need paper and pencils on hand at home and may also bring these to school as the need arises. Please do not bring Trapper-Keepers.\*\*

In our classroom we have a community candy jar, which is used for rewards and incentives throughout the year. We would appreciate any donations to help keep it full. 😊

### **Housekeeping Reminders:**

~If you are in the building for any reason, please remember to check in at the office. All adult visitors need a nametag – student safety is our priority!

~Please remember to report all absences to the school office at 269-795-7944.

~I can be reached at 269-795-5400 extension 4506. If you are calling during school hours you may need to leave a message, but I will return your call as soon as possible.

~The easiest and often quickest way to reach me is through email:  
[tmichalski@tkschools.org](mailto:tmichalski@tkschools.org) I check my email a couple of times each day.

Again, I look forward to a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Teresa Michalski