

WELCOME TO
FIRST GRADE



Meet the TEACHER

My name is Mrs. Fry. I attended Southeastern University and earned my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. This is my seventh year teaching at MAC. I have been married for seven years and have a sweet three year old daughter, Adalynn. I enjoy spending my free time with my family and friends.





OUR DAILY SCHEDULE

8:00-8:15 Morning Routine

8:15-8:30 Phonemic Awareness

8:30-9:30 Math

9:30-10:10 Small Group Reading

10:10-10:50 PE- Monday and Wednesday-Friday, Art- Tuesday

10:50-11:00- Bathroom, get lunches, and get ready for recess

11:00-11:15- Recess

11:17-11:42 Lunch

11:45-12:15 Science/ Social Studies

12:15-12:40 Phonics

12:40-1:20- Grammar and Writing

1:20-1:40- Snack

1:40-2:45- Whole Group Reading

2:45-2:55- Pack-up and get ready for dismissal

Monday 12:45-1:15 Spanish

Tuesday 12:40-1:20 Library

Thursday 12:40-1:20 Music



CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Our Classroom Rules:

1. Follow directions quickly!
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak.
3. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.
4. Make smart choices.
5. Keep our dear learning community happy!



CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

All School Expectations:

1. Follow directions
2. Takes responsibility for own actions; demonstrates self-control
3. Completes and submits quality classwork
4. Listens respectfully and acknowledges the thinking of others
5. Displays best effort
6. Uses technology in accordance with school policies



CLASSROOM REWARDS

We have several different classroom rewards which include:

- *Treasure Box
- *Verbal Praise
- *Class Rewards/Mystery Rewards
- *Earning Individual Paw Prints
- *Earning Class Paw Prints
- *Earning Positive Referral to the Office



SNACK TIME

Our class has snack time daily in the afternoon.

Students need to bring their own snack each day.

We encourage students to have water with them daily. No other drinks should be sent for the student's school day.

It is preferred that the water bottle have a flip top closure to prevent spills.

The school has water refill stations available.





LUNCH INFORMATION

Please utilize MySchoolBucks to keep money in your child's lunch account and monitor their purchases.

There are no lunch visitors allowed at this time.



GRADING POLICY

McKeel Academy Central will be implementing a traditional grading scale this year.

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 0-59

I communicate grades through the portfolio, take-home folders, and McKeel systems (online grades).



ATTENDANCE POLICY

School begins at 8:15 am

Students must be at school for at least 50% of the school day, or they will be marked as absent. (11:30 am)

**Please hold onto any doctor's notes,
as we will not collect them at school.**

If your child has more than 10 absences in a year, is tardy more than 10 times, or checks out 10 times, you will be contacted by administration and may be asked to bring in any doctor's notes.





ATTENDANCE POLICY

Arrival Information:

Students should be dropped off in the car line by 8:10 a.m. so that we can have all students in the classroom by 8:15 a.m. and ready for the start of the school day.

- We only allow walk ups in the morning for PreK students and their siblings or parents who have an appointment with the school.
- All other students should come in through the car line or bus line.

Dismissal Information:

Dismissal will begin promptly at 3:00 p.m. Please make sure you are in the car line and ready to pick up your child. The ending time for carline is 3:25pm.

- Afternoon walkup is available for all students, parents must have the car tag with them for walk ups as well.





DRESS CODE POLICY

All uniforms should come from Risse Brothers.

Students are expected to wear their McKeel collared uniform shirt along with school uniform bottoms.

Uniform bottoms should be mid thigh or longer.

Please make sure your child is wearing a belt if bottoms have belt loops.



DRESS CODE POLICY

On Fridays, students may wear jeans for a \$1 or school uniform bottoms and their spirit t-shirt.

Jeans should be solid blue with no frays.

Only solid, navy blue jackets or a Mckeel hoodie/jacket are allowed.

MAC has a clothes closet available if needed.



OUR CURRICULUM

This year, we will use My View Reading and Big Ideas Math for our curriculum.

Additionally, we use the Phonics First program, which includes the red words and High Frequency Words (Sight Words) that students will learn throughout the year.

In science, students will participate in a variety of hands-on experiments throughout the year.



OUR CURRICULUM

High Frequency Words

Red words are typically non-phonetic sight words that require memorization because they cannot be sounded out using phonetic rules. Students will be working on reading and spelling the red words.

Sight words provide an excellent base for reading at an early age. These words can be found frequently in a text. Sight words are typically words that students can recognize immediately and can read without having to decode, or sound them out.

We will be using the red word and sight word first grade list this year.






OUR CURRICULUM

Accelerated Reader (AR)

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a program we use to help encourage reading. Students can read a book and take a short comprehension quiz on the book. Based on their score, they will earn points.

- For the first quarter, we will practice AR for fun.
 - Next nine weeks, your child will get his or her first goal. It is personalized to their reading level. Please encourage your child to read to make his or her goal. Students that make their goal will earn rewards.
 - I will also be reading AR books to the class at school to help them make their goals.
 - Your child will get a new goal each nine weeks.
 - Your child may use the book to help them on the AR test. AR tests can only be taken at school during school hours.
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DATES TO REMEMBER

HOLIDAY - Students/Staff (Labor Day)	Monday, September 4, 2023
Interim Reports	Wednesday, September 13, 2023
End of 1st Grading Period	Thursday, October 12, 2023
FTE Week	Monday - Friday, October 9-13, 2023
McKeel Closed Students & Staff (District Work Day)	Monday, October 16, 2023
Grades Due	Tuesday, October 17, 2023
Distribute Report Cards	Tuesday, October 24, 2023
McKeel Open Students & Staff	Friday, November 10, 2023
Interim Reports	Wednesday, November 15, 2023
HOLIDAY - Fall Break	Friday - Friday, November 17-24, 2023
End of 1st Semester / Last Day of 2nd Grading Period	Friday, December 15, 2023
HOLIDAY - Winter Break	Monday, December 18, 2023 - Wednesday, January 3, 2024
Teachers Return (Staff PD & Work Day)	Wednesday, January 3, 2024
Students/Paras Return	Thursday, January 4, 2024
Grades Due	Thursday, January 4, 2024
Distribute Report Cards	Thursday, January 11, 2024
HOLIDAY - Students/Staff (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)	Monday, January 15, 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER

HOLIDAY - Students/Staff (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)	Monday, January 15, 2024
FTE Week	Monday - Friday, February 5-9, 2024
Interim Reports	Wednesday, February 7, 2024
HOLIDAY - Students/Staff (President's Day)	Monday, February 19, 2024
End of 3rd Grading Period	Friday, March 8, 2024
HOLIDAY - Spring Break	Monday - Friday, March 11-15, 2024
Grades Due	Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Distribute Report Cards	Tuesday, March 26, 2024
No School for Students/Staff	Friday, March 29, 2024
McKeel Closed Students & Staff (Polk Schools in Session)	Monday, April 1, 2024
Interim Reports	Wednesday, April 17, 2024
HOLIDAY - Students/Staff (Memorial Day)	Monday, May 27, 2024
Last Day for Students EARLY RELEASE	Thursday, May 30, 2024
Last Day for Teachers/Paras	Friday, May 31, 2024

FIELD TRIPS

More information will be coming home soon about our scheduled field trips for the entire year.

There is a \$26 first semester due for ALL students.

This will include the cost of our first grade field trip shirt and first semester field trips.

Please pay by 9/18.



Parents have the option to buy a field trip shirt on MOO for \$12. Student shirts are covered.



FIELD TRIPS

1st Semester Field Trips:

- Thursday, October 5th: “Honk Jr.” Children’s Play
(@ Lakeland Theater)
- Friday, October 27th: Lakeland Police Station
- Tuesday, December 12th: “Elf” Children’s Play
(@ Lakeland Theater)
- December (TBA): Nursing Home & Barnett Park



STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

McKeel Academy Central does not celebrate student birthdays. However, your child may bring in a snack for the class to share on their special day. It must fit in your child's backpack. Please contact me directly to make arrangements for your child's special day.

REPORT CARD SCHEDULE

October 24, 2023

January 11, 2024

March 26, 2024

May 2024



REPORT CARD	
Reading	A+
Writing	A+
Mathematics	A+
Science	A+
History	A+
Art	A+
P.E.	A+



testing SCHEDULE

STAR Testing

*Your child will take the STAR Reading and STAR Math Assessments 3 times during the school year.

PM #1: Fall - Scheduled for 9/7 & 9/8

PM #2: Winter - TBA

PM #3: Spring - TBA



TAKE HOME FOLDER

Students will bring home a YELLOW folder in their backpacks on TUESDAYS. Included in the folder are papers your child has completed and the high frequency word list to use for practice at home.

Please be sure to clean out the folder and leave the papers at home.

Please keep the folder in your child's backpack.



TAKE HOME BINDER

Portfolios will be going home this school year.

*We ask that you review all of the assessments that are in the binder rings with your child.

*Please take out any papers that are in the front pocket of the portfolio and keep at home.

*Please sign the signature page in the front plastic sleeve of the binder before returning the portfolio to school.





HELPING THE TEACHER

Volunteer application information will be coming soon. You **WILL** need this for **ANY** field trip or school activity you plan to attend. Please complete the application if you think you might want to attend a field trip or school activity. Once the application process is closed, there is nothing we can do. Good news! Your approval is good for up to three years. You will also need to have your ID scanned before the first field trip.

I will let you know when activities are going on in the classroom for you to sign up to help.

HELPING THE TEACHER

We have a Class Amazon Wish List. Throughout the year, I will add items to this list. Additionally, we will do several room transformations this year and specific items will be needed to make these “special learning experiences” possible. Information will be sent out to families so they can help support our classroom if they would like.





HELPING THE TEACHER

MAC PTO

Helps support the teachers and staff with enhancing and enriching the educational opportunities for our students. With your support the MAC PTO has been able to:

- Provide yearly grants to all teachers to support their educational instruction
- Support House Activities
- Purchase Playground Equipment
- Purchase 3-D printers & Technology Equipment
- Purchase New Gym Bleachers
- Purchase Banner/Sign Machine
- Sponsor Science Nights
- Sponsor Teacher Appreciation Week/Breakfasts/Luncheons & Sponsor Teacher Birthday Gifts
- Book Fair Support
- Sponsor the MAC Christmas Float
- Sponsor Field Trips
- Sponsor Spirit Nights
- Sponsor Father/Daughter Dance & Mother/Son Event

You can help support the MAC PTO!

For more information email: macpto@mckeelschools.com

Make sure to like the McKeel Academy Central PTO Facebook Page (Maroon Paw).

Join the PTO as a Member for \$5 per Family (form to be filled out)

Purchase a Parent Spirit Shirt

Sponsor a Gym Paw Print for \$25 (form to be filled out)

Support the Walk-A-Thon the PTO's biggest fundraiser

Send in all Grocery Receipts with your child (PTO will scan the receipt using the Box Top for Education App)

Use [SMILE.AMAZON.COM](https://www.smile.amazon.com) to shop online (choose McKeel Elementary Academy as your charity (our previous name)

Attend the Monthly Spirit Nights at local Lakeland eating establishments

Volunteer with the PTO and in your students classroom





NIGHTLY READING

First grade relies highly on the support from parents with reading at home each night.

We ask that you read with your child at least **3 nights** a week for 15-20 minutes. You may read to your child or have them read to you.



keep in TOUCH

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns you might have.

You can contact me either through:

Email: vivianfry@mckeelschools.com

Remind: Message me directly

Agenda: Write a note in your child's agenda and I will respond back that day.

Also, I update my staff page on McKeel's website weekly with what we are learning, important dates, and high frequency words.

<https://www.mckeelcentral.com/staff-directory/vivianfry>



keep in TOUCH

Our class has a private, class Facebook group to share photos and keep you updated on what is going on here at school. This is a great way to stay connected to our classroom. I will only share photos, videos, and student work of students whose parents have given permission. Feel free to join our group if you have not already. If you are having trouble accessing our group, please let me know and I can send you a personal invite via email.

