

## The ABCs of our Classroom

### A is for Attendance

Our school day starts at 8:30 am. Please make sure that your child is at school on time and ready to learn. Call if your child is sick or will be absent from school for any reason.

### B is for Bathrooms, Birthdays, and Breakfast

Students will be allowed to use the bathroom whenever is necessary, but please try and remind them to go before school starts. In the event of an accident make sure your child always has a clean change of clothes in his/her backpack.

Birthday treats are always welcome on or near your child's birth date. We will have the treats after we have eaten a healthy lunch. Please make sure the treats are quick and easy for your child to pass out (cookies, cupcakes, rice krispy bars, etc.) You will need to provide plates and/or napkins.

Summer birthdays can be celebrated on your child's half birthday or during the last week of school, just let me know what you would prefer.

Invitations to birthday parties may be passed out at school as long as the whole class is invited; this protects everyone from hurt feelings.


Breakfast is the most important meal of the day! When children skip breakfast, they can end up going without food for as long as eighteen hours. This period of semi-starvation can create physical, intellectual, and behavior problems for them. Please make sure they have a nutritious breakfast so they are ready to learn! 😊

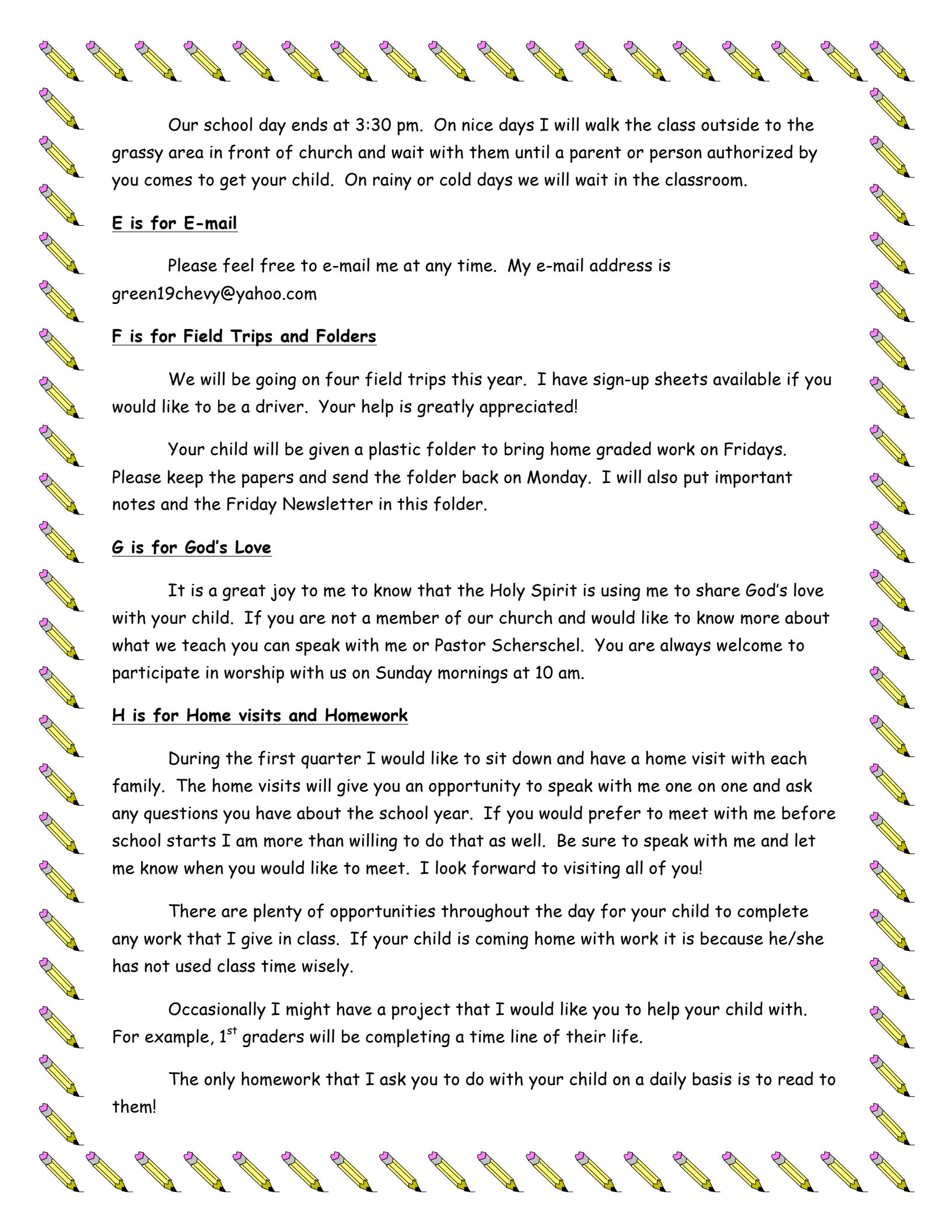
### C is for Communication

I can be reached by e-mail, [green19chevy@yahoo.com](mailto:green19chevy@yahoo.com), cellphone 360-271-5201 or at school after our school day is complete, 327-5601.

### D is for Daily 5 and Dismissal

As you look over the daily schedule of our classroom you will notice we have two Daily 5 sessions that are each 1 hour in length. During our Daily 5 time we will be working on Reading to Self, Reading to Others, Work on Writing, Word Work, and Listening to Reading.





Our school day ends at 3:30 pm. On nice days I will walk the class outside to the grassy area in front of church and wait with them until a parent or person authorized by you comes to get your child. On rainy or cold days we will wait in the classroom.

### **E is for E-mail**

Please feel free to e-mail me at any time. My e-mail address is [green19chevy@yahoo.com](mailto:green19chevy@yahoo.com)

### **F is for Field Trips and Folders**

We will be going on four field trips this year. I have sign-up sheets available if you would like to be a driver. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Your child will be given a plastic folder to bring home graded work on Fridays. Please keep the papers and send the folder back on Monday. I will also put important notes and the Friday Newsletter in this folder.

### **G is for God's Love**

It is a great joy to me to know that the Holy Spirit is using me to share God's love with your child. If you are not a member of our church and would like to know more about what we teach you can speak with me or Pastor Scherschel. You are always welcome to participate in worship with us on Sunday mornings at 10 am.

### **H is for Home visits and Homework**

During the first quarter I would like to sit down and have a home visit with each family. The home visits will give you an opportunity to speak with me one on one and ask any questions you have about the school year. If you would prefer to meet with me before school starts I am more than willing to do that as well. Be sure to speak with me and let me know when you would like to meet. I look forward to visiting all of you!

There are plenty of opportunities throughout the day for your child to complete any work that I give in class. If your child is coming home with work it is because he/she has not used class time wisely.

Occasionally I might have a project that I would like you to help your child with. For example, 1<sup>st</sup> graders will be completing a time line of their life.

The only homework that I ask you to do with your child on a daily basis is to read to them!



**I is for Important Information**

All important information will be put in your child's folder.

**J is for Jesus**

The purpose of St. Matthew Lutheran School is to lead children to know Jesus Christ as their only personal Savior, the One who died for them, and who has forgiven them.

**K is for Keep Me Informed**

If your child is sick or will be absent for any reason be sure to let me know. They will be required to complete any missed work in a timely manner or receive a lowered grade.

**L is for Library and Lunch**

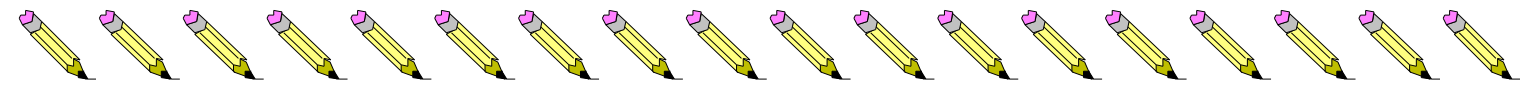
Our classroom is full of books! Friday afternoons are designated as our library time. This is a time when your child can pick out what books he/she would like to read for the next week during our Daily 5 times. Your child is more than welcome to bring books home to share with you during your daily reading time with them, but please be sure to bring them back so other children may have an opportunity to read them also.

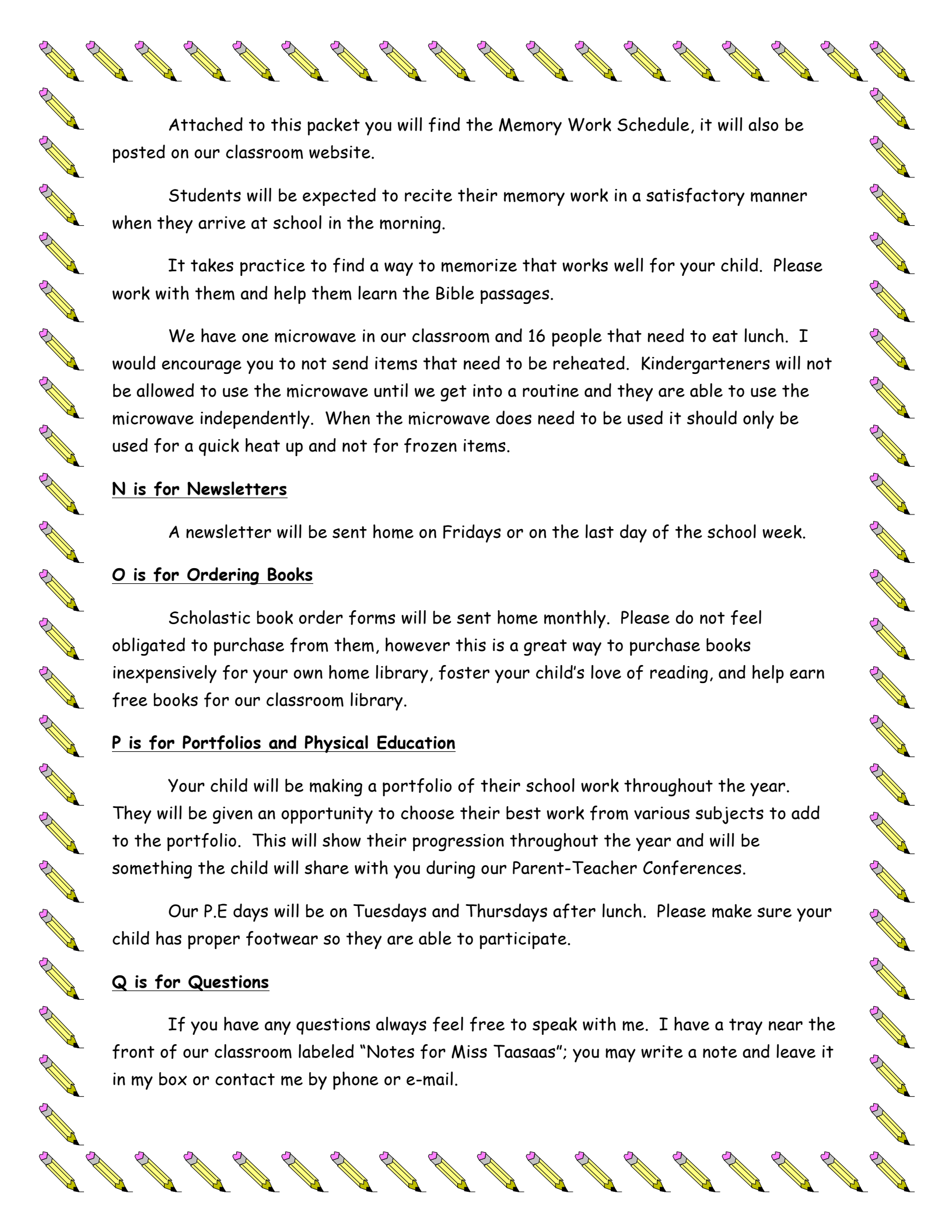
I will also be checking out books from our local library to share with the class. Because these books will be checked out in my name I cannot allow them to go home, but if there is a book your child is particularly interested in I would be more than happy to write down the title and author so you can go to the library and pick up your own copy to read with your child! ☺

Unfortunately, we do not have enough space in the refrigerator. Please make sure to pack an ice pack in your child's lunch if they have anything that needs to be kept cold.

**M is for Memory Work and Microwave**

Occasionally I will require memory work recitation. These will be Bible passages from our Bible lesson or that relate to our Bible lesson. By learning these Bible passages your child will become familiar with God's Word and learn of his many promises to us. It is my hope that your child will carry these passages and promises with them throughout their life and will be able to recall them as they face difficult times, unbelieving people, and to give thanks to God for his many blessings.





Attached to this packet you will find the Memory Work Schedule, it will also be posted on our classroom website.

Students will be expected to recite their memory work in a satisfactory manner when they arrive at school in the morning.

It takes practice to find a way to memorize that works well for your child. Please work with them and help them learn the Bible passages.

We have one microwave in our classroom and 16 people that need to eat lunch. I would encourage you to not send items that need to be reheated. Kindergarteners will not be allowed to use the microwave until we get into a routine and they are able to use the microwave independently. When the microwave does need to be used it should only be used for a quick heat up and not for frozen items.

### **N is for Newsletters**

A newsletter will be sent home on Fridays or on the last day of the school week.

### **O is for Ordering Books**

Scholastic book order forms will be sent home monthly. Please do not feel obligated to purchase from them, however this is a great way to purchase books inexpensively for your own home library, foster your child's love of reading, and help earn free books for our classroom library.

### **P is for Portfolios and Physical Education**

Your child will be making a portfolio of their school work throughout the year. They will be given an opportunity to choose their best work from various subjects to add to the portfolio. This will show their progression throughout the year and will be something the child will share with you during our Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Our P.E days will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays after lunch. Please make sure your child has proper footwear so they are able to participate.

### **Q is for Questions**

If you have any questions always feel free to speak with me. I have a tray near the front of our classroom labeled "Notes for Miss Taasaas"; you may write a note and leave it in my box or contact me by phone or e-mail.



## R is for Reading and Rules

It is my goal to foster in your child a love of reading. Please help me with this by reading to your child on a regular basis. Reading to your child is one of the most important things you can do for them. A few benefits include bridging the gap between oral and written language, helping to expand their imagination and helping them learn about real life people, places, animals and situations.

As a class we will brainstorm what rules are important to have in our classroom; when children participate in setting rules it gives them ownership and responsibility. I will keep you informed through the newsletter as to what rules we came up with. As a class, we will also discuss what acceptable consequences are for breaking our rules.

## S is for Show and Tell, Sight Words, Singing, Snacks, Spelling, and Stamina

Occasionally I may allow an item from home to be brought in for Show and Tell if it relates to something we are studying.

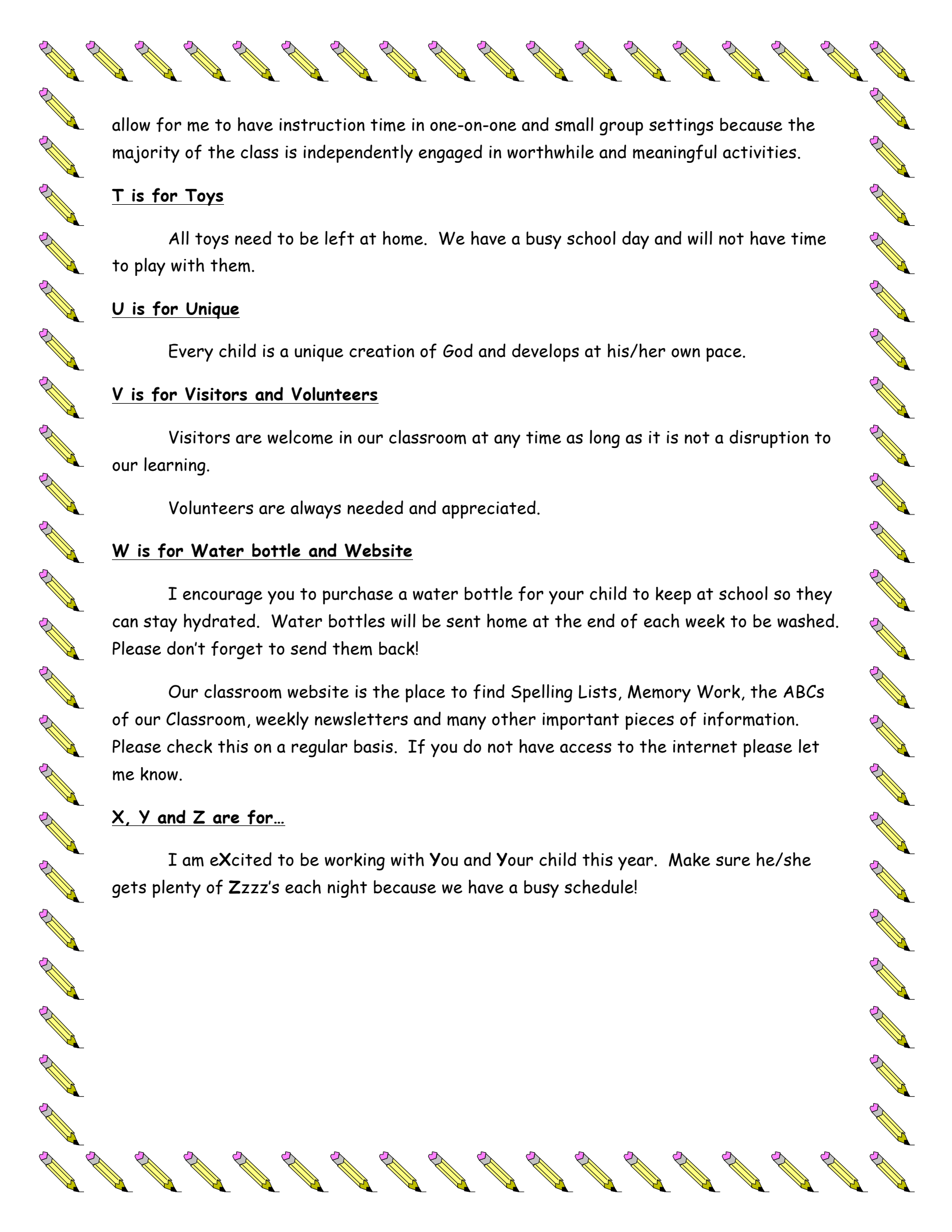
Kindergarteners will be learning new sight words on a regular basis, please help them with these.

Our class will have the opportunity to sing praises to God during Sunday morning worship five times this school year and also take part in a Christmas service. You will find the singing schedule attached to this packet of information. As stated in our school handbook, "Each child enrolled in St. Matthew Lutheran School is a member of the school choir. Singing in the choir is an opportunity for special growth in the child as he/she worships and sings praise to the Lord. It also offers the child the opportunity to witness and show love for our Savior." If your child is unable to attend when scheduled to sing, please excuse him/her in advance with a written note to the principal.

Snack time is during morning recess; please make sure you pack a healthy snack for your child. Candy and cookies are not acceptable snack items and are highly discouraged.

First graders will have weekly Spelling tests beginning the week of October 3. You will find the complete list of spelling words attached to this packet and on our website. Please review these words with your child.

During our Daily 5 time we will be working on building stamina for independent work. Our goal will be 20 minutes. This is a slow process and will take time. The Daily 5 sessions



allow for me to have instruction time in one-on-one and small group settings because the majority of the class is independently engaged in worthwhile and meaningful activities.

### T is for Toys

All toys need to be left at home. We have a busy school day and will not have time to play with them.

### U is for Unique

Every child is a unique creation of God and develops at his/her own pace.

### V is for Visitors and Volunteers

Visitors are welcome in our classroom at any time as long as it is not a disruption to our learning.

Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

### W is for Water bottle and Website

I encourage you to purchase a water bottle for your child to keep at school so they can stay hydrated. Water bottles will be sent home at the end of each week to be washed. Please don't forget to send them back!

Our classroom website is the place to find Spelling Lists, Memory Work, the ABCs of our Classroom, weekly newsletters and many other important pieces of information. Please check this on a regular basis. If you do not have access to the internet please let me know.

### X, Y and Z are for...

I am eXcited to be working with You and Your child this year. Make sure he/she gets plenty of Zzzz's each night because we have a busy schedule!