**Welcome to Mrs. Milazzo’s 1st Grade Class**

**Here are some helpful tid-bits to make our school year successful!**

**Attendance and Absences**: Your child’s regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his/her success. If you students becomes ill or there is a family emergency please notify the office before the beginning of the school day.

**Transportation**: Please notify me in writing or email in the morning if there are any changes in the way your child will be going home from school on any day. Without written instruction from you, your child will go home the usual way. In case of transportation change needed during the school day, please call Dr. Julian Rogus’s office and speak to one of our secretaries.

**Communication**: A strong parent-teacher relationship is necessary to maximize success in school. Throughout the year I will communicate with you through notes, telephone calls, emails, weekly newsletters, parent-teacher conferences, and report cards. I encourage you to contact me at any time if you have any questions or concerns. Emailing is the best way to contact me directly before, during, or after school.

**Behavior Management**: In our classroom we will be working together to fill up a jar of marbles. They will earn marbles by playing the Teacher vs. Student’s game. If students have the most tallies at the end of the day, they will earn a marble. We will also set goals on how many marbles the students will earn to get to the specific reward they want. When they reach their goal with the marbles in the jar, students will then get to enjoy their reward.

Individually, our class will use a clip chart to monitor behavior. A clip chart is a great tool that allows students to be rewarded for positive behavior, while discouraging negative behavior. Each student has a clothes pin, or clip, with his or her number on it. Everyone will start on “Ready to Learn” at the beginning of each day, and clips can be moved up and down throughout the day based on behavior. Students will earn tickets for their reward and every Friday they will get to “buy” a fun coupon pass. Some of the coupons consist of: switch seats to sit by a friend, wear your slippers in the classroom, eat lunch with the teacher…etc.

**Volunteer Forms:** If you are interested in volunteering at Rogus for a special activity or helping out in the classroom, when needed, a volunteer form needs to be filled out before hand and turned into our office. These forms can be found on the district website.

**Home Folders**: Students will bring home their HOME folder daily. Please check this folder on a daily basis for important information from the school and homework, as well as completed work done in class.

**Homework:** Students will have some type of homework Monday-Thursday and this should not take more than 10-20 minutes. This will help provide extra practice on skills learned in class as well as help to promote responsibility. Homework should not be stressful, and a time to recall and use what was learned in class that day. There may be a couple at home projects that your child may be asked to do throughout the year. Keep in mind that your help at home can really make a difference in your child’s success at school.

**Snack**: Please send a healthy snack with your child daily. Snack time is from 9:50-10:00 every day. Your child may also bring water. Again, please try to send water bottles that are not twist cap, they tend to spill easily.

**Star Student of the Week:** Your child will have an opportunity to be the Star Student of the Week, which allows us to get to know them a little bit better. Look for a poster and directions to come home in your child’s backpack. This will give you an outline for what to expect for the week!

***Thank you for sharing your child with me every day. I am looking forward to an exciting year! Mrs. Milazzo ☺***