



The Fahner Facts

Dear Families,

Welcome to Rm. 3! I am very excited to begin this school year. I have planned some challenging and engaging activities for your student this year and anticipate an adventurous journey through first grade. With every class, I look forward to learning with your student as well as teaching him/her new concepts and ideas. I am sure there are many questions regarding school and classroom routines, so I have outlined a few key points that will help your student on his/her first day. More specific information pertaining to the breakdown of our days and week will come in the near future.

Our Weekly Schedule

School begins at 8:50 am and dismisses at 3:45 pm. Students usually arrive in the classroom around 8:45 am and will begin a small activity while I am taking attendance and doing lunch count. Please make sure your child arrives promptly so he/she will not miss out on any classroom activities.

Lunch/Recess	11:15-11:55
Recess	2:25-2:45

We are fortunate to have a special activity each day of the week.

Monday	Chromebooks	TBD
Tuesday	Music	12:45-1:15
	PE	1:15-1:45 (Please wear gym shoes)
Wednesday	Library	2:00-2:20
Thursday	Music	12:45-1:15
	PE	1:15-1:45 (Please wear gym shoes)
Friday	Art	12:45-1:35

PE: Students are required to wear gym shoes to participate in PE. They may either keep a pair of gym shoes at school in their locker or wear gym shoes on P.E days. If a student forgets gym shoes, he/she will walk around the gym for the duration of gym class. This is Mr. Wilson's policy so please remember to have gym shoes on Tuesday and Thursday.

Snack

Our class has the first lunch time this year. We will be having our snack in the morning. Students will have an option to bring a snack each day and eat their snack during one of our Independent Work Times. For those who are unable or forget a snack, they may grab one from the Universal Breakfast and eat it during our snack time. These opportunities will occur between 9:45 and 10:45.

Recess

Recess will occur outside unless the weather is severe. Students have one recess at lunch and one recess in the afternoon. Please make sure that your child is dressed properly for the weather as he/she will be outside for each recess when possible. Children will be excused from recess only if there is a note from a family physician.

Breakfast

Greenville Public Schools offers "Universal Breakfast" to all students. That means that your child can eat a daily breakfast at school in the cafeteria at NO cost to you. Please take advantage of this FREE program.

Lunch Money

Please fill out a school lunch form for your child if you are in need of free or reduced price school meals. These forms can be obtained from the office. For those who do not qualify for free school meals, lunch money can be sent to school with your student at any time and it will be sent to the cafeteria to be deposited into his/her account. Payments can also be made online through the "parent page" on the GPS Website- www.greenville.k12.mi.us.

Book Orders

Each month new order forms will be sent home with your child from Scholastic Books. You will find these order forms in the Everyday folders with a note that states when the order is due. You have two options if you choose to order. The first, make a check payable to Scholastic Books and send it along with your order to school OR you can order on-line at: [**scholastic.com/bookclubs**](http://scholastic.com/bookclubs)

SIGN UP at www.Scholastic.com/bookclubs. On the parent page, click the "Don't have a User Name and Password?" link, then register for your own username and password. When prompted, enter the one-time Class Activation Code **GQQXG**. This code ensures that your order is sent to me.

Online ordering allows you to use a credit card and eliminate some of the paperwork. **In addition, when you place an order online, our class earns free books.** If at any point you are ordering for birthdays or other holiday celebrations and would like the order to be confidential, please notify me via email or letter and I will place your order aside rather than sending it home with the student.

Everyday Folders

This year we will be going "paperless" with many of our newsletters. These can be found on the classroom website at fahnersfacts.weebly.com. I will also send out an email with "The Fahner Facts" attached. Please notify me when paper copies are appreciated at home rather than electronic notifications.

Instead of Friday Folders, your child will be bringing home an Everyday Folder. Included in this folder will be notes, homework, permission slips, donation sheets etc. I understand that many fliers come home each week; therefore I have placed all important information on one side of the folder labeled "Please complete and return." The other side of the folder will house all additional paperwork and is labeled "Keep at home". I ask that these folders be emptied and returned each night with any comments, concerns, personal notes and/or completed homework.

Classroom Community

I believe that a classroom is only as strong as the community it creates. In our classroom, we will discuss appropriate behavior and problem solving techniques that will become the framework for our classroom environment. In essence, the students will be provided with information that allows them to make a positive choice in behavior. Our class will discuss the reasons we come to school, what our needs are when we are in the classroom, how to behave in many situations and ways to solve problems that may occur. Thus, there will be no "traffic light" or "colored card" system implemented. We will address the situation, decide on an appropriate path and hopefully take that path. When disruptive behaviors continue to occur, a child may be asked to take a break from the group or activity and complete a "Think Sheet". This will allow him/her to think about a better choice and then return to the group when s/he is ready to participate. When the behavior continues the student will be asked to take a break or see the principal.

To help create this community our classroom will be utilizing the three school rules: be respectful, responsible, safe and a good learner. We will also be using books and supplemental activities from author Julia Cook. Her books explicitly teach problem solving techniques for younger children. Areas we will address are bullying, focusing during instruction, blurting out, being a team player, and asking for permission, tattling and disagreeing with adults.

Birthdays:

You are invited to bring a treat on or near the date of your child's birthday. Birthday treats (if edible) will replace our morning snack for students who choose to have the birthday treat. Students have the option to eat the birthday treat or the snack that they have brought from home. All birthday treats should be in the classroom by 9:00 each morning. According to our school health policy, families should bring healthy snacks such as fruit kabobs, popcorn, cheese and crackers, or sugar-free Jell-O, or non-edible treats such as pencils, erasers, or a game donated to the classroom. Please note that birthday treats are optional and are provided by the student's family.

For those who have summer birthdays: Each week we will have a "Student Spotlight." During the time of your child's spotlight week, please send in his/her birthday snack on that **Monday**. Student Spotlight snacks are for summer birthday celebrations only. Other students may bring their snack on or close to their actual birthday.

Family Support

If you are able and interested in helping in our classroom in any manner, I would greatly appreciate it. To make use of your time and talents in an effective manner, please fill out the Volunteer Calendar on the classroom website by Monday of your volunteer week. I understand that "life happens" and sometimes volunteers have to cancel or re-schedule. When this occurs, I would appreciate a quick email in the morning notifying me of the change.

I am very eager to begin the school year. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please email me, call me or stop in before or after school so we can discuss these. Having an open line of communication between families and me is a critical component in the success of your student.

Sincerely,
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