

Mr. Myers' Classroom Family Newsletter



September 2004 • Monthly Newsletter • Edison Elementary

Daily Planners

This year Edison Elementary has provided daily planners for all students in grades three through six. These planners are used extensively in class, serving not only as a way for the children to record their nightly homework assignments, but also as one more tool for communicating between the classroom and home.

Each afternoon, during the last ten minutes of school, the children record the various activities and lessons



we covered in class, on that day's section of the planner. Each activity is labeled according to subject. All homework assignments are also recorded under the appropriate subject area and are then circled in order to make them easily identifiable.

Each night, I ask for an adult signature on the bottom of that day's portion of the planner. This is an excellent way for you to check up on homework and to ask your child what he or she learned in school that day.

White Boards & White Socks

As we progress throughout the year, the use of personal white boards play an integral role in our daily practice of math concepts, language drills, spelling lessons, and many other areas of the third grade curriculum.



Through the years, I have experimented with different materials in an attempt to find an eraser which both erases the boards quickly and effectively and can also be stored easily without taking up a great deal of desk space. I have found *socks* to be the answer to our eraser needs! Yes, socks! If you have an old, white sock (holes are perfectly acceptable) that you can donate to the classroom for white board use, it would be greatly appreciated. I do have a number of socks that I have been saving for just such an occasion, but I have not yet accumulated a class set.

The socks themselves become a classroom family tradition, for it becomes immediately noticeable upon entering the room, that each desk has a sock tied around one of its legs.

Healthy Snack



Each morning, at about 10:20, the children may eat a healthy snack that they have brought from home. Snacks can be in the form of fruit, crackers, granola bars, fruit roll-ups, etc. and should be able to be consumed quickly, without leaving a mess. I ask that the children do not bring candy, chocolate, chips, cookies or soda. These types of foods are best saved for lunch time in the cafeteria.

I have provided each student with their own water bottle to be used throughout the day, and can be easily stored inside their desks. Ice water is available in the classroom during the summer months.

Homework Checkup



With very few exceptions, homework is a nightly occurrence, even on the weekends. There are several quick and easy ways for you and your 3rd grader to find out what the homework assignment is for any given evening:

- **Daily Planner :**
assignments are circled
- **Classroom Voicemail :**
assignments are recorded nightly on our classroom answering machine.
472-5320
- **Online Homework Calendar :**
assignments as well as brief directions for each activity can be found at:

<http://www.mrmyers.org>



Upcoming Events

Labor Day - No School
Monday, September 6th

Back to School Night
5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 8th

Edison P.T.O. Meeting
6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
Thursday, September 9th
(this date has been changed)

If you would like to be added to my classroom e-mail list, please send me an e-mail at: nmyers@mpsaz.org
This will help guarantee that you get all of the important news and information directly at home!



Our Classroom Website



<http://www.mrmyers.org>

There are a couple of additions to our classroom website that I would like to make you aware of this month.

Spelling Online is a section of the website devoted to providing you and your student with access to the week's spelling list and associated activities. Word lists will be indexed according to lesson number. At the top of the "Spelling Online" page you will find two indexes: one for the "A" week lists and another for the "B" week lists. The current week's lesson will be displayed in **green** print. Each lesson will eventually include associated word search, crossword puzzle, and word jumble activities. This page can be accessed by "entering the classroom" and clicking the brown "Spelling" folder found in the top drawer of the filing cabinet or directly at: <http://www.mrmyers.org/Spelling/spellingonline.html>

Math Mania is a section of our classroom website devoted to all things mathematical. In this portion of our website you will find printable fact sheets for all four operations. You will also have access to printable, as well as interactive, online timed tests. There are a variety of exercises and drills dealing with everything from the exploration of geometry to introductory concepts in algebra. This portion of the site is used extensively throughout the year and is constantly growing.

You can find this page by "entering the classroom" and clicking the math problem ($9 \times 7 = 63$) found on the black board. You can also access it directly at the following URL:

http://www.mrmyers.org/Math_Mania/math.html