



# Class Syllabus

## Kindergarten

2017-2018

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. **Teacher(s):** *Mrs. Brooke Newman and Mrs. Whitney Swanberg*
- B. **Conference Times:** *According to our schedules during Special Subjects and PE.*
- C. **Subjects Taught:** *All subjects taught by self-contained teacher.*
- D. **Contact Information:** [bnewman@stalbansharlingen.org](mailto:bnewman@stalbansharlingen.org)  
[wswanberg@stalbansharlingen.org](mailto:wswanberg@stalbansharlingen.org)

### II. Subject/ Class Description

- A. **Language Arts:** Harcourt Trophies teaches children to notice, think about, and manipulate sounds. Children learn to recognize, associate, read, spell, and write letters that correspond to sounds taught in phonemic awareness activities. Students will also begin learning to read and spell sight words based on the DOLCH word lists. Each student will progress through the DOLCH lists at their own pace.
- B. **The Shurley Method/English Made Easy:** We incorporate this material mid year to supplement the Harcourt curriculum. It is used to introduce English skills that will be used in first grade. Students will learn and practice jingles as needed.
- C. **Writing:** Students will learn how a group of letters make up a word and how a group of words make up a sentence. They will begin implementing capital letters at the beginning of a sentence and the correct punctuation to end a sentence. These concepts will be practiced through interactive journals, the writing center, and various units where the students will create short reports or descriptions on topics being discussed within the classroom.

- D. **Everyday Math:** This curriculum is organized into six mathematical content strands that cover a number of skills and concepts. It provides a rich and balanced curriculum-attention to numeration, computation without neglecting geometry, data and algebraic thinking. We will chart numbers 1-10, 1-20, 1-50, and 1-100. Students will also learn to chart by 2's, 5's, and 10's to 100.
- E. **Handwriting Without Tears:** We will introduce and implement the Handwriting Without Tears curriculum written by Jan Z. Olsen, OTR and Emily F. Knapton, OTR/L. Students will be taught correct letter formation on a daily basis, as our school encourages good handwriting.
- F. **Social Studies/Science:** Our program is based on a variety of themes that correlate with units we learn throughout the year. These themes and units provide rich exploration into the world around us. Students will also engage in cross-curricular learning centers.

### III. Routines

- A. **Responsibility:** In order for your child to have a successful start to their day, we are asking that you say good-bye to your child at the door. Though this may seem difficult in the beginning, your child will quickly learn the routine. Encourage your child to go into class independently! Please have your child in class by 8:00 each morning.
- B. **Homework:** Our homework will focus primarily on literacy and math. Within our reading groups, we will determine an appropriate reading level for your child and then build on that. We will be asking that you spend time with your child reading during the week. We will also determine where your child is with sight words and create a sight word ring for them. We ask that you flip through this ring each day. We will review where your child is weekly and send home the next sight word list once they master the current list they are on. Our math program provides HomeLinks that allow you to review and practice the skills we are learning in class. These are a great way for you to stay abreast of the math concepts being taught. You will also find a weekly assignment sheet in your child's binder. This will tell you about concepts we are learning and what our thematic study is. Please be sure to look at it each day. We are partners in your child's education!
- C. **Parent Expectations:** At this age level, primary responsibility for returning papers, forms, notes, behavior charts, etc...lies with the parents. Please help your child succeed by taking the time to read with them and review anything that is put in their binder. Please make sure that they come to school daily with all materials. E-mail is another main way of communicating with our parents. Please be sure to check your e-mail daily so you will be aware of what is going on in our classroom.

Texting is not an appropriate way of communicating with parents per school policy but we will always return emails or phone calls within 24 hours.

- D. **Daily Binder:** These binders will go home daily. They will include assignment sheets, behavior charts, papers to sign, books to read, and sight word rings. Binders will be our main way of communicating with you, so reviewing them daily is of utmost importance!

#### IV. Other

- A. **Party Sign-Ups:** Parents are encouraged to sign up and help plan the classroom parties during the year. The 100<sup>th</sup> Day is not included as a party, but we will need food and materials for this day. Reminders will be sent home prior to the party.
- B. **Snacks:** Students are required to bring a snack daily. Please make sure you are sending a nutritious snack and one that is age appropriate. Water or juice is allowed for a drink during snack time. Place all snack items in a bag with your child's name on it. Please include all utensils needed for the snack.
- C. **Rest Time:** Our class has designated quiet time daily. Please send 1 foldable mat for rest time. Do not send in toys-these can be a distraction in our classroom.

**(MUST FIT IN CUBBY WITH BACKPACK)**