

Heritage Elementary School

July 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! Our faculty and staff are looking forward to getting back to school and making this a GREAT year!



This year our school's theme is "**Only One You!**" We recognize that every student is unique and each individual brings something special to our school community! This theme goes right along **with the hard work that is required to move student achievement forward.** Last year, while we did not have the opportunity to take the Florida Standards Assessment, our school's data (when we left for spring break in March) showed that we were poised to earn the school grade of a B and we were giving it our all and going for the A! Moving into this new school year, we are going to continue this upward trend and make student learning, academic growth, and social/emotional wellness our focus. Our plan includes working together to build upon individual strengths and identifying areas where each individual can grow. We know that every child had a different experience during eLearning and being away from the school setting for 5 months will have its challenges. As parents, I know that you will work together with our staff to help us maximize your child's learning. Here are a few things that families can do to help get back into the school routine.

- Make it a goal to **arrive to school between 7:10 and 7:25.** This will allow your child plenty of time to eat breakfast in the cafeteria, settle into their classroom, and be in their seat for the morning show which starts at 7:30.
- Set aside time for your child to READ at home every day. In our busy world, evenings are hectic! However the benefits of making time for your child to read independently, read to you, or listen to you reading to them will have a tremendous impact on their life! **Research tells us that there are strong connections between reading practice and reading achievement.** Reading for 20-30 minutes each evening helps your child practice what they have learned in school and gets them into the habit of reading for enjoyment.
- Establish a bedtime routine. Elementary school students need at least 9 to 11 hours of sleep each night.
- Finally, work together with your child's teacher. Establish open lines of communication and know that we are here to help! If your child is having difficulty explaining something, give their teacher a call so that they can clarify a learning task or something that may have happened at school. Encourage your child to

Why Read at home?

Student	Reading Habits	Test Score
STUDENT A	• 20 minutes per day • 3,600 minutes per school year • 1,800,000 words per year	SCORES IN THE 90TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS
STUDENT B	• 5 minutes per day • 900 minutes per school year • 282,000 words per year	SCORES IN THE 50TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS
STUDENT C	• 1 minute per day • 180 minutes per school year • 8,000 words per year	SCORES IN THE 10TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

www.bettefetter.com

ask questions and to tell the teacher if something is bothering them. If the teacher doesn't know that there's a problem, they won't be able to help. ☺ Finally, know that Mr. Alvarez (our Assistant Principal) and I are here to help with anything that you need!

As always, the safety of the students and staff is our number one priority.

Please know that all policies and procedures are being reviewed and are subject to change in response to official health and safety directives from the CDC, State of Florida, and our School District. We will be modifying our procedures as needed in response to current information and directives. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding as we work to be responsive to ever-changing situations.

More information regarding school policies will be made available as we get closer to the school year.

I am looking forward to a year full of teamwork and LEARNING! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 740-4580 extension 0.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Mary Booth
Principal

Parents and Families – please know that all policies and procedures outlined in this Welcome Packet are subject to change in response to official health and safety directives from the CDC, State of Florida, and our School District. We will be modifying our procedures in response to current information and directives. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding as we work to be responsive to ever-changing situations. 😊



Heritage Elementary

Important Student Information

At Heritage, we believe in **YOU!** We know that every student can achieve success! By working together as a team, we can achieve great things!

Students are responsible for following the **CATS** expectations!

- C**ome prepared to LEARN!
- A**lways be responsible and KIND!
- T**ake pride in yourself and your work!
- S**how self-control and BEST effort!

DAILY SCHEDULE-ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIMES

- 7:10 Arrival on Campus/Breakfast begins**
- 7:30 Good Morning Bell (Morning Show begins)**
- 7:40 Class begins/Tardy Bell- Students should be in their seat ready to learn. 😊**
- 1:55 Dismissal (T-F, Monday Early Release Dismissal is at 12:55)**

Student supervision begins at 7:10 a.m. If you arrive by car, please stay in your vehicle until 7:10 when school personnel come out to assist with the arrival process. This is a safety procedure and the cooperation of everyone is needed and appreciated. At 7:10 a.m., students who arrive by bus will be escorted by school staff to the cafeteria for breakfast.

Students are to report directly home following dismissal from school. Students who are picked up in the carline must be picked up by 2:10 p.m. **Any changes to dismissal plans must be submitted to your teacher in WRITING via this planner. Please do not rely on email communication to change dismissal plans since teachers may not be able to access their email during the school day. For safety reasons, dismissal changes cannot be made over the phone.**

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Heritage Elementary School has adopted school uniforms. Students are required to wear uniforms to school that consist of the following:

Tops: Either collared or t-shirts in Light Blue, Royal Blue, Navy Blue, Yellow or White. No graphic design other than the Heritage logo/Spirit Shirt is permitted.

Bottoms: Pants, shorts, capris, skirts, or skorts in Khaki, Navy Blue, Black or Denim. Uniform dresses in these colors are also acceptable. Skirts or shorts should be mid-thigh (end of fingertips when arms are extended next to thigh) or longer.

Wear footwear appropriate for daily outdoor recess and physical education.

HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Each day, students will bring home their student planner and/or home folder. Parents, please review the information in the planner and **initial in the parent communication space every day.**

It is essential that the school has an active telephone number for every family on file in case of an emergency. Please be sure to update your information in the office throughout the school year.

HOME LEARNING

Each day, students should bring home a library book in addition to homework assigned by their teacher. Reading at home should be a part of a daily home learning routine. Reading Growth comes from Reading Practice!



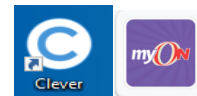
i-Ready is an online, interactive learning environment designed to assess students in Reading and Math, and then provide individualized instruction based on each student's unique needs. The i-Ready experience builds students' investment in their learning by giving them real-time feedback on their progress in each skill. Please support your child's learning by having them **log on 45 minutes a week for reading and math.**

[Clever.com](https://www.clever.com)

Username: Student Number

Password: heritage4321 or 1234567a

You can also learn more about *i-Ready* by visiting [i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter](https://www.i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter)



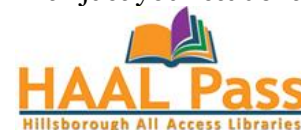
To access learning resources you'll need to login to Clever ([clever.com](https://www.clever.com)). You'll have access to MyON, i-Ready, Code.org, Khan Academy, CommonLit, NewsELA, and SO MUCH MORE!

[Clever.com](https://www.clever.com)

Username: Student Number

Password: heritage4321 or 1234567a

Did you know that you can check out books and use the public library's online resources with just your student number?



Try it today! Use 4321 as the pin.

ABSENCES, TARDIES, AND EARLY SIGN-OUTS

Florida State Law requires that a student be in attendance every school day except for personal illness. If you are absent from school, **a parent MUST CALL THE ABSENTEE PHONE LINE @ 558-1355 Ext. 500 by 9:00 a.m.** Ten or more days of absences will be considered excessive and would warrant a referral to the school social worker.

Students are **TARDY if they ARRIVE AFTER 7:40 a.m.** Late students must report to the office to receive a tardy pass before going to class. **Being on time sets the tone for a great day!**

At Heritage we implement "bell to bell instruction." Our instructional day begins promptly at 7:40 and concludes at 1:55. If students are frequently late or picked up early, they will miss important coursework that cannot be made up at home. Be aware that tardies, early sign-outs, and absences may impact your child's learning.

Be SMART! Be KIND! Be a BOBCAT! 