

# Welcome to Class 5-307!

September 8, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to 5-307 and 5<sup>th</sup> grade! My name is Ms. Ulanowsky and I am so pleased to be your child's fifth grade teacher. This will be a year of tremendous growth and change as we prepare students for the great shift from elementary school to middle school. Fifth grade is also a year filled with new responsibilities and privileges. We have a lot to look forward to in the months ahead.

The beginning of the school year is a very busy time as we learn new routines, build a strong classroom community and get to know each other. Please be sure to routinely check your child's backpack and homework folder as well as your e-mail for important information and forms that need to be completed in the coming weeks. This will be especially important as information regarding the middle school application process is shared this fall.

At P.S. 39 we value the partnership between parents and teachers and I welcome your communication and input. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the school at **718-330-9310** and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible. You can also send a note in your child's backpack. There is a "Notes from Home" basket in the classroom, which will be checked daily. You may also **e-mail** me at [kulanowsky@ps39.org](mailto:kulanowsky@ps39.org). Please allow 24 hours for me to respond as I am not often by my desk during the school day. If you would like to schedule a meeting during parent engagement time on Tuesday afternoons, I ask that you call or e-mail a few days in advance. Parent Engagement time is between 2:45 and 3:20 each Tuesday.

Here is a list of the specials our class will have this year:

Monday- ART  
Tuesday- SCIENCE  
Wednesday- ART  
Thursday- GYM  
Friday- GYM & HEALTH

Students are strongly encouraged to wear sneakers to school each day for safe play in the school-yard.

Please check your e-mail and your child's back-pack for information on our upcoming Curriculum night on September 22. I look forward to working with you to make this an exciting and successful year!

Sincerely,  
Ms. Ulanowsky

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Routines and Procedures

- **Dismissal:** Our class will be dismissed through the exit by the rear of the building on the 8<sup>th</sup> street side at 2:40pm. Students are expected to shake my hand and say goodbye before they leave to ensure their safety.
  - **Students with permission to walk home alone:** If your child will be walking home alone this year, even if it is just a couple of days a week, you must provide written permission. Once you have given that permission it means that I can trust your child to shake my hand, say good-bye and be responsible for going where you expect them to go, whether that is home or to an afterschool program. *Please understand that if you give your child permission to walk home, I will assume you have spoken with your child about the responsibility he or she has been given and I will dismiss that child as an independent walker each day. It will be your child's responsibility to go directly to the afterschool teacher, afterschool site or home, depending on his or her changing schedule.* I am happy to work with families who want to give walking home alone a try, but not commit to it. Feel free to send a note giving your child permission for just that day or week.
  - **Students who are picked up:** If your child will be picked up by someone not listed on the blue card or as a regular caregiver, I must have written permission from you to release your child to that person each time.
  
- **Home-School Communication-** I strongly believe in building the relationship between school and families. Our first opportunity to build this connection will be during Family Friday on September 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-9:00am. The first Family Friday will give us an opportunity to welcome you to our classroom and introduce ourselves. We will decorate writing notebooks that morning.
  
- **Homework** - In fifth grade, students will be accountable for recording assignments, projects and deadlines in a homework agenda. Please ask to see your child's agenda daily. Homework will be assigned daily and should be reviewed by a parent or guardian. Students must read every night! The purpose of homework is to reinforce skills that have been taught in class or to prepare for a lesson the following day. Therefore, it is crucial that children complete their homework assignments to the best of their ability and hand it in the next day. If your child is experiencing any difficulty with a homework assignment please encourage them to speak with me so that I can provide additional support.
  
- **School Supplies-** As members of a learning community many of our school supplies will be shared in the classroom. Students should keep individual supplies in a pencil bag that can be stored inside their desks. The students are expected to come to school with at least 2 sharpened pencils from home each day. If their pencil breaks they may trade it in using the labeled cups in the classroom.