



## Welcome to First Grade at Bologna Elementary!

Hello! My name is Priscilla Wong and I am delighted to be your child's first grade teacher at Bologna Elementary. I received my degree in Elementary Education from the University of Toronto in 1996, and began teaching soon after. I have taught Kindergarten, First and Fourth grade, in both private and public schools in Canada and the United States. I recently moved back to Arizona after 3 years in Canada and I am happy to call Chandler home.

The following information is provided for your reference regarding our routines and procedures for the upcoming year.

### General Information

#### Morning Arrival

When first graders arrive in the morning, they should go directly to the primary playground (west side of the school). Morning playground supervision begins at 8:10. Students should place their backpacks in line under the ramada and play until the whistle blows at 8:35.

The 8:40 bell is our tardy bell.

#### Afternoon Dismissal

Bologna's dismissal time is 3:10.

If your child will be riding the school bus or a daycare van, s/he will be directed to his/her waiting area.

If your child will be picked up by an adult, the parent waiting area is by the gates in the east parking lot. If you are driving a car, you may pull into the east parking lot (where there is a student pick-up area) or you may wish to park and walk onto campus.

If your child is meeting a sibling or sitter, please ensure that s/he knows if s/he should go to the parent waiting area by the gates in the east parking lot.

For your child's safety and your peace of mind, please practice your child's dismissal procedure with him/her. Please ensure that your child knows where s/he is to go and with whom. Kindly wait for your child at the designated parent waiting area and not by the classroom door or window, so that your child is not distracted during his/her last few minutes of learning.

## Attendance

It is critical that your child arrive to school on time, as learning begins promptly. If your child is going to be absent from school for a planned activity (i.e. doctor, dentist) please send a note in advance so that it can be forwarded to the office. For unexpected absences, please call our attendance line at (480) 883-4003 and leave a message with your child's full name and classroom. Please be aware that 10 absences for the entire school year is considered excessive.

## Bathrooms

Children will be encouraged to use the bathroom and get drinks during both lunch and afternoon recess. Bathroom privileges are granted during class time in the event of an emergency or urgent need. Drinks of water are also granted on an 'as needed' basis.

## Behavior Management

All students in our classroom have the right to learn in a safe, orderly and positive learning environment. To that end, students will be encouraged to exhibit five 'Bee-haviors' at all times, both in the classroom and on campus:

- 1) 'Bee' Safe.
- 2) 'Bee' Positive.
- 3) 'Bee' Accountable.
- 4) 'Bee' Respectful.
- 5) 'Bee' Kind.

Through the course of the school day, students who demonstrate good behavior will have opportunities to earn SPARK tickets, which can be traded in for prizes or special privileges at the end of every week.

We will use a Weekly Behavior Log to track and document your child's daily learning behavior at school. At the end of each school day, s/he will color in an apple in the color that corresponds to their behavior for that day (Green = Great Choices; Yellow = Can Do Better; Red = Poor Choices). Please initial in the provided space each evening and return the log to school.

When a child chooses not to follow the class expectations, s/he will receive a reminder of expectations (warning) and a natural consequence for inappropriate behavior (e.g. clean up materials that were not put away properly). Should problems continue, you will be notified of the issue, and together we will come up with a plan of how to best remedy the situation.

## Special Classes

First graders have Music, P.E., Library and Technology class. Please refer to the special class schedule/ calendar. The order of the special classes will not change; however, the day they fall on will change weekly.

## Home Communication

Communication between home and school is essential. Children will use a BEE Book (a dual-pocket folder) to carry items between home and school. Please check your child's BEE Book each night for notes, newsletters and other important notices from school. Kindly place notes from home, signed forms, etc. in the BEE Book.

Please consider providing your email address as well and/ or signing up to Remind.com for weekly newsletters, important notices and reminders of upcoming events, specials, etc. Information on how to sign up to Remind.com is on our class website (go to [cusd80.com](http://cusd80.com) and search for Bologna Elementary School).

## Supplies

Chandler Unified Schools provide students with all of the basic school supplies (pencils, crayons, erasers, etc.). Please do not send "special" school tools with your child. Your child will need only to bring a backpack or book bag to help carry items to and from school. Please remind your child to leave all toys and other distracting objects (play jewelry, candy, stickers, etc.) at home.

## Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home quarterly. First graders can earn a percentage grade in the areas of Reading, Math and Writing.

## Homework

Families are encouraged to read to and with their child for 20 minutes every evening. In addition to the academic benefits of daily reading at the elementary level (such as greater fluency, better comprehension, greater accuracy in sight word recognition), there is no better way to foster your child's love for reading and learning than to spend time reading to and with him/ her. Parents who spend time reading to their children create nurturing relationships, which is important for a first grader's cognitive, language and social-emotional development.

Please help your child by reading with him/ her each night.

## Water Bottles

Your child is encouraged to bring a water bottle to school filled with water only please. Children may not bring sports drinks, juice, soda or flavored water. Please write your child's name on his/ her water bottle.

## Birthdays

Although every child is special every day, a birthday is an extra special day in our classroom. It costs money and takes effort to make birthday treats for twenty students. If you and your child choose to celebrate their birthday at school, we invite you instead to donate a book to the class on your child's birthday. Please help your child wrap it, and he or she will be able to choose a friend to help open it and present it to the class. Birthday books will be kept together on a special bookshelf. They are a gift that every child in our class can enjoy again and again.

If you wish to send in something special to share with your child's classmates, non-food items (such as stickers, pencils or erasers) are appropriate and greatly appreciated! If you wish to send a food item, please note that school district policy requires that all treats be store bought. We will pass these treats out at the end of the day.

Summer birthdays will be celebrated during the last week of school.

## Important Phone Numbers

Ms. Wong's voicemail: (480) 883-4046

Attendance line: (480) 883-4003

Main office: (480) 883-4000

Health office: (480) 883-4002

I am looking forward to working with you and your child during this exciting and important first grade year. Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

*Ms. Wong*

Priscilla Wong

(480) 883-4046

wong.priscilla@cusd80.com