



## First Grade News

### Welcome...

Teachers, just like the students, get the new school year jitters! No worry, though! Wemberly Worried, a story character by the author Kevin Henkes, will come to the rescue! Yesterday we shared her story aloud, entitled after her name, *Wemberly Worried*. Wemberly always worries about EVERYTHING! However, her worries soon become amidst when she meets Jewel.

Ask your child to share Wemberly's story of attending her first day of school. And when and if your child gets school jitters have him/her repeat our chant using his/her name in place of Wemberly's name.

### Wemberly's Chant

Wemberly Worried...  
Worry no more!  
Throw your worries  
Outside the door!

### Wednesday and Friday Folders

Ordinarily, a Wednesday Blue folder entitled, *Assumption School*, is sent home weekly with the youngest sibling from each school family. A newsletter from the principal is included among other pertinent information about school functions, updates, memos, and fundraisers. Please note the entitled folder, *Important Papers Folder* will be sent home the last day of the school week be it Friday or whatever day that brings the school week to a close. Your child's daily work will be contained in this folder. Please note which papers your child does with the teacher and which papers he/she does independently, with a study group, or with a student buddy. A stamped message on the paper will assist you in knowing how your child completed his/her schoolwork. Be on the look out for this

folder as it may be sent home at other times in the event that other notices may be sent home before or after the Wednesday's blue folder. Please return any papers stamped with *sign and return*. This is just one measure of keeping you informed about your child's academic growth.

### Assessments and Evaluations

Formal and informal assessments of your child's academic progress will be sent home periodically. Please note that each test assesses specific skills and/or concepts. Please remember that a test is only one reflection of student learning. It does not always adequately describe student ability. Daily classroom interaction with your child better enables me to see the bigger picture of student learning. Anecdotal note taking provides me with a more realistic daily view of student learning and interaction. All assessments must be returned signed by parents/guardians. This ensures a level of communication about student's progress.

### Homework

A homework assignment sheet will be sent home each Monday or at the beginning of the school week. At this level, it is more beneficial to provide a weekly homework sheet. It is unrealistic to expect a child at this age to transfer homework assignments from the board. It is time consuming and is a skill he/she will acquire later on into the school year. Homework will begin the second week of school. Homework assignments, the First grade newsletter, and other classroom information will also be posted on the school website, [www.assumption-parish.com](http://www.assumption-parish.com) Click on Assumption School, then click Faculty, and click Ms. Karen Lavoie-Grade 1. Choose

which icon to click to obtain information. Please note that it may take a block of time to update information about the new academic school year of 2006-2007.

### Open House

Please set aside the date for the First Grade Orientation at the main campus on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. This informational meeting will be presented to give you a chance to review the textbooks, guidelines, and introduce you to how your child will use various manipulatives at home to provide he/she with the tools to enhance the learning experience. I will be sending home a packet for your personal review to answer common questions you may have regarding your child's academic, social, and spiritual growth. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. Parents with more than one child attending Assumption may arrange for one parent to attend each grade level meeting.

### Communication

On going communication is paramount to clarifying concerns or posing questions regarding your child's learning and interaction with his/her peers. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Sometimes misunderstandings can arise for various reasons with young children. I would be glad to speak with you via a telephone conference and/or to make an appointment to meet with you at your convenience. You are welcome to call the school office to leave a message and I will be happy to answer questions and/or arrange a meeting. You may also write a note and give it to your child to bring to school however, sometimes children forget to turn in the message so if you do not get a reply, feel free to call the school office and the message will get to me.

### Emergency Card

**PLEASE** take the time to fill in the information on the blue emergency card.

Also **please** list **two** phone contacts in the event that one contact cannot be reached. Please return this emergency card the next school day, as it is extremely important to have this information to update files. Your child's welfare is precious to all of us! Also, please complete the form regarding the transportation and dismissal procedures you wish to have your child follow. Children will not be sent home with anyone other than specified on the form unless a phone call is made to the school office to verify the change before dismissal.

### Snack

Morning snack time is 10 minutes daily. A healthy snack will provide your child with an energy boost until lunchtime. Snacks are also available through the school office for 50 cents. Please place snack in a brown paper lunch bag with your child's name.

### Uniforms

Please refer to the student handbook with regard to uniforms. Gym class is each Tuesday. All students should be coming to school in gym uniform instead of the summer or full uniform.