

"SEM-PLE" FACTS ABOUT SEM ELEMENTARY

12721 Honey Grove Drive

Frisco, Texas 75035

Phone: 469-633-3575 Fax: 469-633-3585

Dianna High, Principal

Aaron Else, Assistant Principal

Ann Nickel, Counselor

- **School Hours:** 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. **First Bell:** 7:50 a.m. **Tardy Bell:** 8:00 a.m.
- Students who arrive at school between 7:30 and 7:50 a.m. will report to the following areas for supervision:
 - Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd grades: Cafeteria**
 - 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades: Gym**During morning supervision, students are expected to sit quietly and may bring a book to read or look through. No electronic games or music will be allowed during this time.
Students arriving between 7:50 and 8:00 will go directly to their classrooms. Students arriving after the 8:00 bell rings must enter through the office and receive a tardy slip before being admitted to class. We will start every day of learning at Sem with live classroom announcements or school-wide 'Sembly at 8:00, so **please make every effort to have your child in the building before the tardy bell.** Parents will be notified when a student is frequently tardy, and legal action can be taken if tardiness continues per the guidelines of the Compulsory Attendance Law.
- All outside doors other than the front door will be locked each day at 8:00 a.m.
- Visitors to the school are required to register in the office with your driver's license and wear a visitor's badge. **Visitors may only enter the school through the front doors.**
- Your involvement and participation in your child's education are very much encouraged and appreciated! We are happy to schedule a time to visit with you if you have questions or concerns. Teachers have a designated conference/planning period each day for this purpose. Teachers check their mailboxes, voicemail, and email several times during the school day and will distribute student messages or determine appropriate times for students to come to the office to collect any delivered items. Messages after 2:00 regarding dismissal changes should be left with office personnel.
- Official attendance is taken at 10:00 a.m. each day. Students who arrive after this time are counted absent for the day. Partial day absences due to a medical/dental appointment are excused with a note from the health care provider. All other absences require a note written by the parent/guardian within 3 days of the student's returns to school. If your child will be absent, please call the school, 469-633-3575, before 8:30 a.m. We account for every child every day, and we want to make sure that they are safe. Absences due to family vacations must be submitted **in advance** for approval by the principal. A written request stating the reasons why the trip cannot be taken at another time is required. **These absences will be considered unexcused.** Only one trip or vacation per family, per year, can be requested. Please see attached change in policy in regard to absences and make-up work.
- If your child needs to leave school during the day, please go to the office, and the staff will call the classroom for your child. Please send a note to the teacher in advance if you know you are picking up your child during the school day.
- Students may choose to bring their lunch or to purchase a hot lunch in the Sem Café. Parents may pre-pay for lunches by setting up an account with the school cafeteria. Payments may be made in the morning by check or cash for lunch accounts, or parents can manage their student's account online at www.Paypams.com. More information regarding the school lunch program can be found on the Fisd website. Pre-payments for meals can be made on Meet the Teacher Night, August 21st, 5:30-6:30. You are welcome to join your child for lunchtime; just remember to sign in and out at the office and sit at the visitor's table with your student.
- Students who ride Fisd school buses or day care vans will be dropped off and picked up in the front loop of the school that faces Honey Grove. Morning car riders will be dropped off at the north side of the school that faces Beeville, just past the playground. Student carpool pick-up from the back circle driveway is located at the signs posted along the driveway. Kindergarten & First grades pick up near Pod Two back area. Second & Third grades pick-up along posted signs near Pod Three back area. Fourth and Fifth grade pick-up is located around the morning drop-off area by the playground. Students who are not picked up at dismissal time will be brought to the front office to call their parents. A more detailed explanation of "drop-off" and "pick-up" procedures is enclosed. Please study the attached

map and directions carefully so that you are familiar with your route before the first day. Thank you in advance for exhibiting courteous and safe behaviors in the carpool lines/lanes!

- Birthday Cupcakes or other baked goods must be purchased and delivered to the school office in the store box. This is a requirement of the Texas Agriculture Department and we will be obligated to abide with these requirements. Please do not bring **home baked goods** to share with your child's class. All purchased items are to be brought to the school office and the teacher will send someone for the treats when the time is appropriate for them to be shared.
- The Hospitality Committee will host Tears and Cheers on August 24th for Kindergarten parents located in the library at 8:30.
- Mark your calendars: Curriculum Night will be September 3rd.
6:30-7:15 p.m. PreK-2nd
7:30-8:15 p.m. 3rd-5th

Our first PTA meeting will be Thursday, September 17th at 6:30. Literacy Night will follow immediately!

Our staff will be hosting a Literacy Night where you will be able to see what literacy looks K-5 as well as there will be "mock" guided reading lessons demonstrated by our ARI teacher. There will be a lower level and upper level lesson with students. Learn strategies for fluency, word work, comprehension, writing and TAKS.

- Please review the Arrival and Dismissal information within this mailing.