Kindergarten Classroom Discipline

Okay parents, let’s face it. Kindergarteners have left the preschool world of play-based learning and are new to the academic world of Kindergarten. It will take them some time to adjust to a new way of thinking and behaving. They will make mistakes. It is expected. After all, they are five and six year olds!

That being said, please know that your kindergartener will be carefully and gently guided in the first few weeks of Kindergarten. Sonora Elementary Kindergarten teachers wish to bring out the best behavior and enthusiasm for learning by giving plenty of praise and positive reinforcements for good choices.

Consequences or unacceptable behaviors are not punitive. Rather, they are designed to simply make the student aware of more appropriate behaviors and to guide them in that direction. We often practice making good choices in class if it appears tricky. ☺

Contact with parents will be made if students need additional support with making good choices. Please understand that this contact is meant to inform parents of the behavior and to request ideas to help your child be successful. We care deeply about your child and wish only to assist your child with being the best they can be.

**The Happy/Sad Chart**

We use the Happy/Sad Chart as a way of modifying behavior. Each and every child starts the day fresh with their name on the happy side of the chart. (We feel good/happy when we make good choices that help us all).

If a child makes a poor choice they are given a “kind reminder” to make a good one. If that reminder does not influence the child to make a better choice, their name is placed on the “sad side”. (We feel sad when we make poor choices that hurt others and affect their learning).

Our goal is to quickly move the child back to the happy side. As soon as they change the behavior and make a good choice they are praised and moved back to the happy side.

In the event that a child is not able to change their behavior by the end of day parents will get a phone call to discuss ways to help the child or a note home. As a consequence they will have a time-out during playtime. For serious behaviors, school policy does require that students be sent to the administration after three attempts to improve behavior.