

THE TABASCO TIMES



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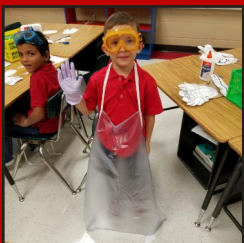
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Check out our calendar!
PAGE 8 >>>

It's Back To School

Students and staff
make their
return to learning.
PAGE 3 >>>

Photo by Mr. P. Vazquez, 5th Grade



Students start
science by
practicing
safety skills.
PAGE 7 >>>



Tabasco
welcomes its new
music teacher
PAGE 4 >>>



High expecta-
tions are in line
for students in
the cafeteria.
PAGE 4 >>>



from the principal >>>

Welcome back, students and parents!

Dear Parents,

report any concerns to an adult

We are excited to have opened our doors for the 2016-2017 school year. We are off to a great start! Our students are actively engaged in their learning and our teachers are ensuring to provide them with a meaningful, academic experience.

To ensure that we meet our goals I ask that you and your child commit to some goals:

- **Be responsible:** Attend school daily and be in class by 8:00 a.m. with all material needed
- **Be respectful:** Employ social skills daily and remember that we are all here to learn
- **Be safe:** Adhere to school rules and

We, in turn, commit ourselves to teach your child:

- Mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
- Independent learning skills to be self-directed
- Problem solving strategies to become critical thinkers
- Social Skills to promote positive self-esteem
- College and career readiness skills to prepare them for the workforce

We are looking forward to working with you and your child!

Thank you,
Mrs. Marena Contreras, Principal



valuescode>>>

Responsibility: I take responsibility for what I am supposed to do.

Respect: I am respectful of others.

essential
information >>>

Instruction starts at 8 a.m.

Dismissal is at 3:40 p.m.

Daily Dress:

Monday: Red Polo

Tuesday: OLWEUS Anti-bullying Shirt or Red Polo

Wednesday: College Shirt Day

Thursday: Red Polo

Friday: Spirit Shirt or Red Polo

newstoknow >>>

Attendance is important!

Tabasco Elementary believes that attendance is the key to a successful year.

All classrooms are expected to maintain a 98 percent or higher classroom attendance on a weekly basis.

There are daily, weekly, and six-weeks incentives for students for having great attendance!

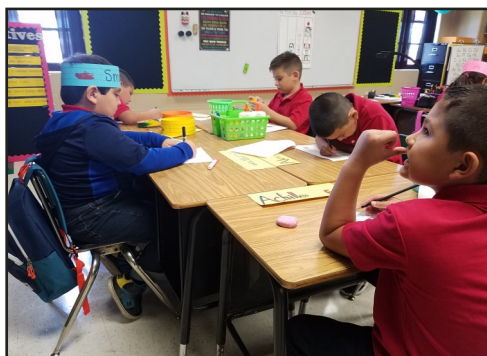
Classes that have perfect attendance daily can display their status outside their classroom.

Classes that have perfect attendance for the week can also have a special recess session on Friday, and can have free dress the following Monday!

In addition, if they have perfect attendance for the entire six weeks, they get a pizza party and a special 45-minute recess period!

It is expected that all students will make an effort to attend class every day. You can do it!

Here are some suggestions to help



maintain perfect attendance:

- If you have a doctor's appointment, reschedule it for the afternoon so your child doesn't have to miss school.
- If the appointment cannot be rescheduled and has to be in the morning, ensure that the student returns to school after the appointment, if at all possible.

comingup >>>

Sept. 9 Grandparents' Day Celebration

Grandparents, come and join your grandchildren and enjoy a sweet moment!

Sept. 14 Progress Report Night

Parents, come check in with how your child is starting out the year!

Sept. 30 No classes

There will be no classes on this day. Be sure to make arrangements!

*monthly*focus >>>

Oh, the places we will go!

Tabasco Elementary students, staff, and community embark on another year of learning and growth.

After a vibrant and exciting start to the year at the La Joya ISD General Assembly, the staff of Tabasco Elementary was ready to begin the year filled with energy and focus.

The staff had just come off a summer full of rejuvenation and enlightening staff development, and the mood among the them was one of determination for success.

When it came time to welcome the students back into the school, the first step was at the Meet The Teacher Night.

This year's event was a grand success, with a great many parents from the community heading out to the cam-



pus to get to know their child's teacher.

It also provided a venue for students getting their pick-up numbers and bus routes straightened out, and even for those who had not registered to go ahead and get it done, and also get information about the school's new presence on social media and text alert sys-

tems.

As the first week of school progressed, students worked hard to learn the expectations their teachers had set out for them, to reacquaint themselves with their friends, and to get back to the academic focus that would take them into another successful year.

As it turns out, even before all data has been made officially available from the state, it is clear that Tabasco Elementary is entering the new school year having surpassed expectations set out for it by the community and the school district.

There is much work to be done, and the students this year are off to a great start, shown by the smoothness of the first weeks of school and the enthusiasm in their eyes — and their actions. Tabasco students are ready for a fun school year, and are also ready to work toward success.



newstoknow >>>

Cafeteria excellence shows character

Tabasco Elementary students are heading back into several routines as the new school year goes under way, and one of the most important of them is their lunch time in the cafeteria.

Students are expected to reflect our three guiding expectations — **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe** — at all times when in the cafeteria.

Students have been practicing several procedures that help them maintain the proper environment in the cafeteria.

These include entering the cafeteria quietly, maintaining their line order, and using low voices while at their tables.

Students' ability to follow these expectations is being monitored, and each day it is noted which color their table receives: **green, yellow, or red.**

Students have been made aware of the intention for all classes to maintain a green color every day, and it will be noted on the log for the six weeks so they can receive the proper recognition!



- Walk at all times
- Maintain line order

- Use "Level 1" voices
- Keep areas clean

- Raise our hand for help
- Use restroom with permission

specialprograms >>>

Tabasco welcomes new music teacher

When there's only one role for a particular job title, it's not every day that you see it change hands.

But after longtime music teacher Norm Sands retired toward the end of the 2015-16 school year, it came time to look toward who would take the musical learning of Tabasco students under their watch.

"I was given very big shoes to fill and am quite fortunate to start with the wheels rolling on an already fantastic music program for me to take Tabasco Music to its furthest limit."

Vicente Fernandez has been brought into the staff at Tabasco for the new school year, and has brought his own style to the task.

Having previously worked



with middle- and high-school aged students, he admits it is a different experience working with elementary-age students. But he says he is enjoying the his role and is glad he's here to serve Tabasco students.

"Working with elementary-

age students gives me a feeling of accomplishment in a sense that teaching students music at this age will be rewarding enough to see the potential of their future performances," he said. "This special feeling will resonate with me for years to



come when I see themselves heading in the field of fine arts with a great origin of music education."

Mr. Fernandez is already making preparations for the fall programs, and is already making a name for himself with the Tabasco students.

"I'd like to give Tabasco a voice of my own for the students to remember and cherish forever.

newstoknow >>>

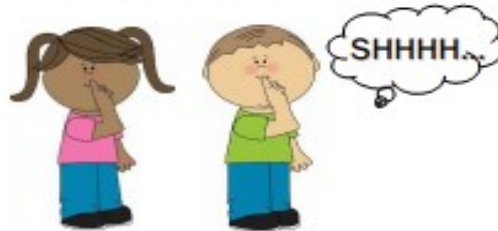
Students are expected to follow these expectations:

Tabasco Elementary Hallway Expectations

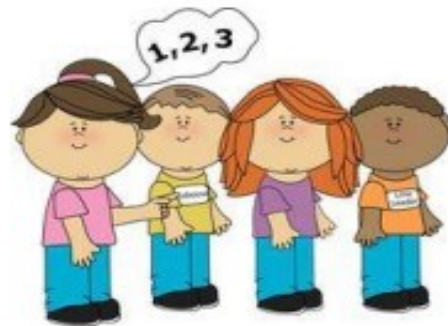
1. Classes must always walk in a **STRAIGHT** line on the **RIGHT** hand side.



2. No talking in the hallways (we need to ensure classes are not disturbed)



3. Keep hands and feet to self: hands should not be touching walls.



4. Walk in line order.

5. Always walk to your destination.

Why is it important for all to follow expectations?

- It helps us be respectful to others at our school.
- It shows that we can be responsible.
- It ensures that everyone stays safe.

Tabasco Elementary Restroom Expectations

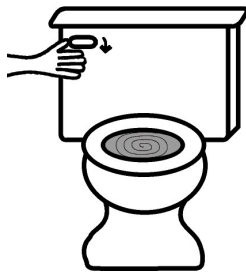
1. One student out at a time (one restroom pass per class). **Monitor the restroom usage!**



OR



2. **Flush** Toilet!



3. **Wash** your hands!



4. **Toss** hand paper towels in the trash can!



5. **NO** writing utensils may be taken to the restroom.



Help keep Restroom CLEAN!

sciencefocus >>>

Science safety a key part of a year started right

Students in Ms. Razo's first-grade class got a hands-on introduction to science safety tools and expectations for using them during experiments or in the science lab.

In fact, for students throughout the school, lab safety is an important part of the school year's start.

Students were able to try on tools such as safety goggles and aprons, and were able to discuss

and internalize the importance of each tool.

It's important that students of all ages be taught the appropriate use for many science tools so they can be well familiar with them as they reach the upper grades, where students themselves will be taking part in setup and application of their skills during the experiment rather than the teacher leading most of the experience.

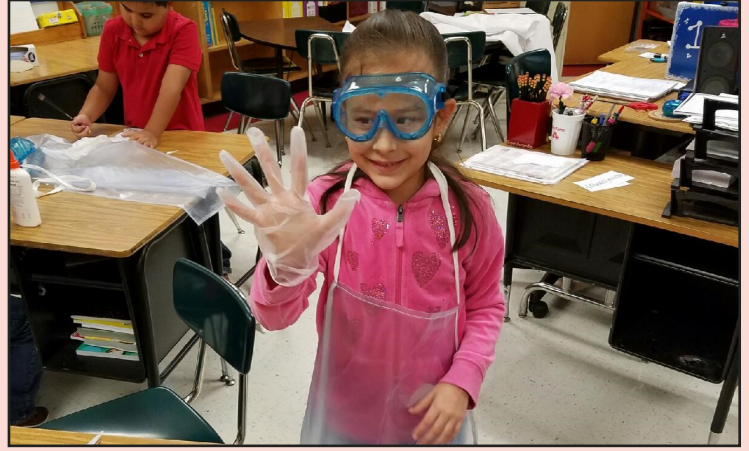


Photo by Mrs. A. Razo, 1st Grade

For more during the year, visit www.facebook.com/tabascotech

conductfocus >>>

Students put knowledge of rules to work

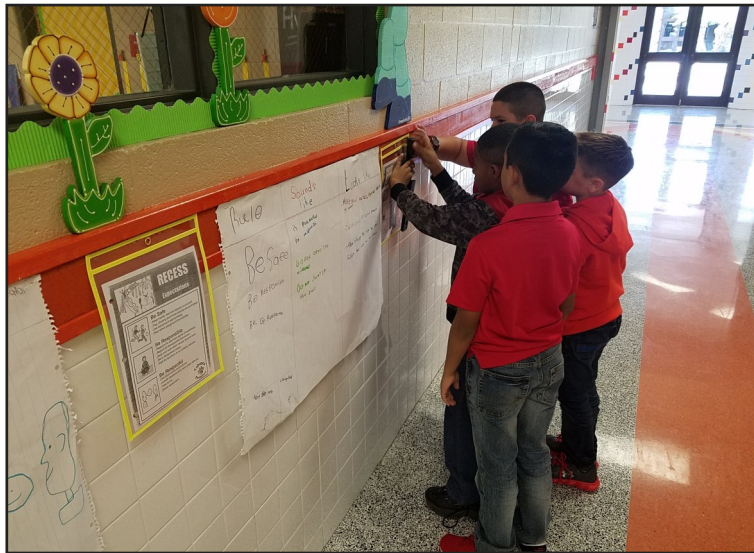
Expectations, expectations. In our lives, we hear a lot about them and are expected to live up to them.

Meeting them is always key to success, and the level of achievement is directly connected to the amount of emphasis placed on them from the start.

So this year Tabasco Elementary teachers and students have been trying to get off on the right foot with strong emphasis on making them clear across the board.

Special focus has been placed on cafeteria expectations, but also important are how students should act in the hallways and how they should be treating one another in general.

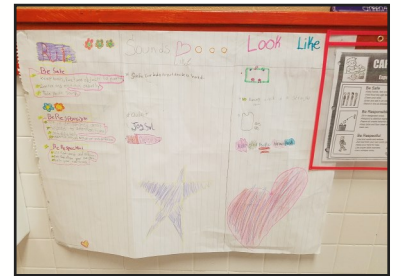
Students across the school took their expectations lessons and translated



them into printed work.

It helps for the students to internalize their understanding of what teachers and administrators expect of them if they are writing it, saying it, and acting it out themselves.

One second-grade class,



and made charts outlining the proper ways for students to act in their classroom and elsewhere all around the school.

Tabasco students are committed to making sure that all conduct expectations are met throughout the school year.

Parents, please review the cafeteria, hallway, and restroom expectations found within this newsletter with your child so that they may continue to enjoy a successful and productive school year!

Ms. Barrera's, even made a video where students participated in acting out the expectations for the hallway, the cafeteria, and the restroom.

Elsewhere, students gave examples and non-examples of the expectation, modeled behavior for their classmates,

calendar *events* >>>

SEPTEMBER/ septiembre 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 La Joya Coyotes VS. Roma (Away)	3 Zumbathon Benefit @ LJ Wellness Center 8:30-11:00A.M. Adult:\$15 Sts:\$10
14	5 	6 Zumba Class 4:45 \$20.00 Fee for the month/Costo \$20.00 por mes	7	8 La Joya Coyotes VS. Donna (home) Zumba Class 4:45	9 Grandparents Day 9:30 am 	10
11 Texas First Responders Day	12	13 Zumba Class 4:45	14 Report Card Night/ Noche de Califica- ciones 5:00-6:45P.M.	15 Zumba Class 4:45	16 La Joya Coyote VS PSJA North (Home)	17
18	19	20 Zumba Class 4:45	21 INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY	22 FREE Wellness Fair @ La Joya Wellness Center <i>Sept 21</i> La Joya vs Mission (Home) Zumba Class 4:45	23	24
25	26	27 Zumba Class 4:45	28	29 Zumba Class 4:45 Fall pictures/ Fotos de Otoño	30 La Joya Coyotes VS McHi Bulldogs NO CLASSES	

M. Contreras,
Principal

Sandra Cerda
Irma Tejerina,
Supervisors

Amanda Garcia,
Librarian

Jessica Tamez
Counselor



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