Classroom Behavior

I hold high expectations of behavior in order for your child to succeed academically. We work as a team to come up with our expectations. I frequently model the behaviors I am looking for in your children as opportunities for them to learn. I try to explain why I am asking for a certain behavior and praise their efforts when they succeed. I use basic manners and virtuous behavior (respect, compassion, responsibility, and so on) as the basis for my expectations.

Individually, the children work to earn “Way to Go!” marks. To receive them, I am looking for virtuous behavior, body basics, active listening skills and responsible working habits. When your child earns a “Way to Go!” mark, they color in a cirlcle on their ticket. When all 20 circles are filled in, they can trade in their ticket for 20 cents of play money to keep in their bank. The money in their bank can be used on Fridays to purchase prizes from Mrs. Heston’s Class Store. Generally, all of the kids are very excited to earn “Way to Go!” marks. As soon as I start giving them to some kids, the others work hard to earn them too!

On the flip side, there is also an “Oops” ticket. After a friendly reminder, if a child is demonstrating unacceptable behavior, I will ask them to mark an “Oops”. On their ticket, there is a “FREE” spot. After that, they will have to do “walk and think laps” around the blacktop during their recess time. When they finish their laps, they come visit with me and share the virtue they were not demonstrating and we make a plan to ensure that behavior doesn’t repeat itself. The number of laps around the blacktop depends on the hole that was colored on their ticket. The more “Oops” marks that occur, the more laps they are responsible for. I don’t feel that kids should sit out during recess because that doesn’t allow them to get any exercise or work off the extra energy they may have. The “walk and think” portion also allows them an opportunity to reflect and be held accountable for their actions. If, or when, their “Oops” ticket is full, it will come home for you to sign and return to me. If this happens, I will make modifications to this system so we can find one that is successful for your child.

You can help by asking your child about their day. Reference “Way to Go!” and “Oops” marks to find out how your child’s day went. I will contact you if I need your assistance with a behavior I notice at school or if your child is receiving “Oops” marks consistently for the same behavior. Of course, I love to contact you about the great things your child is doing as well!