

## Student's Commitment

**Student Responsibility:** I will always work, think, and behave in a way that helps me, along with my fellow students learn. I understand that I am responsible for my own behavior and that failure to adhere to these commitments can cause me to lose various privileges deemed necessary by my teacher or the school's administration.

**Core Virtues and SCHOLARS Code:** I will strive to embody and model the core virtues of Anthem Archway—Citizenship, Courage, Friendship, Honesty, Humility, Integrity, Perseverance, Responsibility, and Wisdom—in word and deed each day. I will uphold the SCHOLARS Code, believing that SCHOLARS are: Successful students, Caring citizens, Humble souls, Observant thinkers, Life-long learners, Active participants, Respectful individuals, and Supportive team members.

**Hard Work:** I will work diligently each day because I know that this is necessary in order for me to acquire the academic and character skills I need to succeed.

**Participation:** I will actively participate in all of my classes each day, listen to my fellow classmates, and give everyone my respect. I will use courteous language including: *please, thank you, may I, yes ma'am, no sir, etc.*

**Homework:** I will complete and turn in all of my homework using my best effort, read every night, study for each test, and work hard to make up all missed work. I will have my parent review my homework for completion and organization.

**Seeking Assistance:** I will seek assistance from my teachers when I have a question about what we are learning.

**Handbook Compliance:** I will follow the academy's rules, procedures, and policies outlined in the Anthem Archway Family Handbook so as to protect the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals in the classroom.

**Uniforms:** I will wear my uniform to school every day and adhere to the Anthem Archway dress code.

**Supplies and Materials:** I will not bring any supplies, materials or items to school that are not specifically listed on my grade level supply list.

**Making Good on My Mistakes:** I will tell the truth after making a poor decision, accept responsibility for my actions, and work to make appropriate amends.

## Foundational Skills Entering First Grade

We are thrilled to welcome your family to Anthem Archway! In order to best prepare your child for the transition to our school, we are sharing a list of foundational skills that your child should master by the time they enter First Grade. It is our hope that by sharing this list of skills, you can utilize your time over the summer to practice them, in order to best prepare your child for success within our curriculum.

### **Students should be able to:**

#### **Reading**

Read 100 site words. (Fry Sight Word List, 1-100. A complete list available upon request.)

Read independently at Scholastic level D. (A popular series in this level is: Biscuit by Alyssa Satin Capucilli)

Recognize and say the sounds for Spalding phonograms 1-70, when shown each phonogram in isolation. (Resources for phonogram practice are available upon request.)

#### **Writing**

Copy 3 sentences from the board with correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

Write 1 sentence independently on a given topic, and have the ability to read and explain the sentence.

Recognize, name, and write all 26 letters of the alphabet (upper case and lower case).

Write their first and last name with proper spacing and capitalization.

Write appropriately on lined paper of various sizes (e.g. fitting text within the space, writing letters on the baseline, adding spaces between words, showing clear distinction between tall letters and short letters).

#### **Math**

Count forward from 1-100, and backward from 10-1.

With the use of pictures, subtract two numbers where the highest number starts with 10. (Example:  $10-8=2$ )

With the use of pictures, add two numbers where the sum is 10. (Example:  $8+2=10$ )

Count pictures, write number symbols, and say number words through 20.

Other

Communicate basic needs to others (e.g. ask for help or clarification during learning activities, ask to use the restroom when needed, etc.)

For reference, by the end of First Grade, students should: master Spalding phonograms 1-70; independently read and answer comprehension questions on Scholastic level J (e.g. The Magic Tree House Series by Mary Pope Osborn); and independently write 4-6 related sentences on a given topic with proper capitalization and punctuation. For our nightly homework, on average, you can expect First Grade students to be required to read for 20 minutes, as well as complete one Spalding assignment, one math assignment, and one math fact practice. We also have weekly phonogram and spelling tests for which students are expected to study. Overall, we look forward to partnering with your family during a wonderful year of academic and personal growth for your child!

Sincerely,

Anthem Archway First Grade Team

## Welcome to...

# Great Hearts Anthem Archway

## Commitment to Excellence

and

## Strategies for Success



# 1st Grade

## Teachers' Commitment

**High Expectations:** We will maintain high academic and behavioral expectations for all of our students in order to ensure their success. In addition, we will support the school in holding our students to the high expectations outlined in this Commitment to Excellence.

**Meaningful Instruction:** We will plan and execute effective lessons every day in which we will prepare ourselves accordingly as the experts in the classroom.

**Collaboration:** We will collaborate with our fellow teachers, support staff, and the school leadership to ensure we are meeting the needs of each individual student and providing a cohesive liberal arts program.

**Meaningful Homework:** We will assign meaningful homework each school night in order to help students properly prepare for the next day of learning and for overall academic success.

**Academic Support:** We will provide academic support before or after school for students who are not meeting our academic standards for current concepts.

**Student Evaluations:** We will write thorough, data-filled, narrative evaluations in order to equip parents with a comprehensive summary of their child's achievements and areas for improvement.

**Order and Joy:** We will make our classrooms safe, rigorous, and engaging, while celebrating positive contributions made to our learning environment.

**Communication:** We will communicate regularly with families regarding current learning in our classrooms. We will also communicate specific student academic and behavioral successes or challenges when necessary. Parent phone calls and emails will be returned within one school day.

**Teacher/Parent Partnership:** We will make all efforts to partner with families to promote academic and behavioral success.

**Intellectual Pursuit:** We will continue to advance our own learning in order to properly model a lifelong pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty.

## Parents' / Guardians' Commitment

**Attendance:** We will ensure that our child is on time for class every day, except when illness or family emergency has prevented us from doing so. We understand that daily attendance is key to our child's success and that excessive absences (10 or more in a semester) can lead to students being required to repeat a grade. We also understand that excessive tardies negatively affect our child's ability to be prepared for the school day and disrupt the learning that is already taking place in the classroom. We will notify both the teacher and the school office by 7 a.m. of any absence.

**School Hours:** We will ensure that our child is at school no later than 7:35 a.m. each morning and leaves campus no later than 2:30 p.m. (11:30 a.m. on Half-Days). We will notify school personnel by mid-school day about any changes to our normal pick up routine.

**Student Pick-up Line:** When picking up through the car line, we will clearly display the family placard on the driver side visor. If a pickup designee does not have the family placard, we understand the car line cannot be used.

**Uniform:** We will ensure that our child comes to school each day in the Anthem Archway uniform and in full adherence to the dress code outlined in the Family Handbook.

**Supporting Student Expectations:** We will support the school in holding our child to the high expectations outlined in this Commitment to Excellence and we will not make decisions that would cause our child to violate one of these expectations.

**Handbook Compliance:** We will ensure that our child follows the academy's rules, procedures, and policies found in the Anthem Archway Family Handbook so as to protect the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals in the classroom.

**Moral Formation & Discipline Support:** We will support the moral formation and discipline process utilized by the school leadership, including the administration of detentions and suspensions. We will ensure that our child serves his or her consequence on the day and time scheduled and actively work with our child to correct the necessary behavior. We understand that the school administration has full discretion to implement the disciplinary measures they believe are necessary to maintain school order and the intellectual and moral growth of students.

## Parents' / Guardians' Commitment cont.

**Academic Partners:** We will partner with Anthem Archway in educating our child by engaging with our child regarding what he or she is learning, checking on his or her academic progress, communicating regularly with our child's teachers, and scheduling meetings with teachers as necessary.

**Homework:** We will provide a quiet, undisturbed time and space for our child to complete homework and check his or her planner (1st-5th grade), home-folder, and assigned homework daily to ensure that it is complete, accurate, organized and represents our child's best effort.

**Make-Up Work:** We will support our child in promptly retrieving, completing, and turning in missed work following an absence in the timeframe established in each grade level.

**Respectful and Timely Communications:** We will return any phone call or email from the school within one school day, and we will also give the school one school day to return our phone calls or emails. In all communications, both written and verbal, we will speak respectfully with teachers and administrators. We understand that teachers and administrators will stop conversations that involve profanity, threats, or raised voices.

**Meetings and Required Events:** We will attend required meetings with the school regarding attendance, academic, or behavioral issues. In some cases, our child will not be allowed to continue attending classes until we meet with the school leadership. We will attend Meet the Teacher, Curriculum Night, and our individual parent-teacher conferences, as these three events are mandatory.

**Respect of Teacher's Time:** If we would like to meet before, during or after the school day, we will schedule an appointment in advance and not expect an impromptu meeting.

**Parent/Teacher Partnership:** We will make all efforts to partner with school personnel to promote academic and behavioral success.

**Time, Talent, Treasure:** We will actively support Anthem Archway by the giving of our *Time*, *Talent*, and *Treasure to the best of our ability*, with examples including:

*Time:* Attending schoolwide events, Parent Service Organization meetings, family socials, etc.

*Talent:* Volunteering at school events, assisting on Parent Service Organization committees, etc.

*Treasure:* Giving to Community Investment and Tax Credit drives, etc.