Welcome to Rice

My name is Tammy Douglas and I will be your child's first grade CTA teacher. I have been teaching in Chandler School District for 22 years. I received my Masters in Education from Riverside, Illinois. I am looking forward to building a great relationship with you and your child this year!

General Information

Teacher Information – Tammy Douglas

E-mail Address: [douglas.tammy@cusd80.com](mailto:douglas.tammy@cusd80.com)

Voice Mail 480-424-8555

Absences – If your child is going to be absent, please call the school (480-424-8500). If your child is going to be absent for an extended period of time (a week or more) please notify me as well as the front office.

Before School- On our first day back, July 19th, your child will go directly to the playground if they arrive between the times of 8:10 a.m.-8:30 a.m. They will continue this procedure for the rest of the school year.

Tardies – When your child comes to school late, they must go through the front office door for a tardy slip! **Please help your child get to school on time because instruction will start right away. School hours are as follows: 8:35-3:05.**

Dismissal – Attached you will find an “After School Transportation Information Sheet”. Please be sure you fill out the form and turn it in to your child’s teacher. If there are any changes in the usual transportation arrangement, please be sure to contact the office at least an hour prior to dismissal. If your child rides the bus at the end of the day, they will be led by teachers to the bus area and helped to locate their bus. If your child goes home by car, rides their bike, or walks home, they will remain with the teacher until their name has been called for dismissal or their teacher lets them know it is time for them to leave.  **For parent pick-up we use the Schoolhouse Driveline app to dismiss students. At Meet the Teacher Night, each family will be given a sign which will have a designated number and student name(s). This sign must be available every time you pick up your student at the end of the day whether through the car line or at the crosswalk. It is best to use a hanger to display the sign from your rearview mirror. Please keep the sign visible until your child is seated in your car. If you arrive without your sign for parent pick up, you will be asked to pull into the parking lot and park. At 3:15 PM all students will be dismissed from their classrooms. Please notify the teacher at crosswalk duty and they will call your student to meet you there. If you need additional signs, please contact the front office.**

Supply Wish List – Every child will be given all the supplies needed to start the year, but please consider providing the items listed below to be used throughout the school year. The supplies will be used for community purposes so **they will not need a name on them** nor will your child need individual supplies/supply boxes. Each child will have access to all our supplies this year.

* 12 glue sticks
* 4 boxes 24 count crayons
* 1 zipper pouch for BEE folder
* 1 headphone for iPad
* Coins (see below)
* Kleenex
* Ziploc bags – Sandwich and Gallon size
* Baby Wipes
* Small Treasure Box items (McDonalds toys, dollar store items)
* a set of coins to use during math lessons throughout the school year. Please put the coins listed below in a Ziploc bag and label the bag with your child's name.

· 25 pennies

· 10 Nickels

· 12 Dimes

· 8 Quarters

Giving Heart –Our classroom is in need of many additional items other than the ones listed above. If you can help, please choose a heart or two from the door.

Dress Code – Rice CTA students will not be wearing uniforms, but the dress code provided in the CUSD handbook, which is on-line, will be strictly enforced. Spaghetti straps are not allowed. Please have your child use the 2-finger test when determining if a strap is wide enough. Also, hats and sunglasses are not permitted inside the classrooms but may be worn outdoors. Shorts should be a moderate length.

Please go online to [www.cusd80.com/elementaryhandbooks](http://www.cusd80.com/elementaryhandbooks) to access the elementary handbook. After reading all the information, please sign the signature page and have your child bring the paper to school to turn in.

Parent Helpers – Parent volunteers will start being used in September. I will send out a Sign-up Genius at the end of August. You will be able to choose a day or two that will work for you to volunteer in the classroom. I use parent helpers in the classroom to perform clerical duties and work with the students in the class. The children love when their parents come to help!!!

Specials – All children will participate in Music, PE, Tech (Computer Lab) and Library on a rotating six-day schedule. (Please help your child remember to wear tennis shoes on PE days) For a calendar of specials please see the attached schedule.

Book Orders – Encouraging reading is one of the most important things we can do to help your child succeed. It can be tough finding the right books to keep them interested, which is why I am so excited that our class is participating in Scholastic Reading Club this school year. Book orders will come home quarterly in your child’s homework folder. If you choose to order please send checks only made out to the book club and not to the teacher. You can order books online visit my classroom website to learn more!

Birthdays – Treats (optional) may be brought on the day of your child’s birthday. **Store bought treats only!** If you would like to send in edible treats, they must be individual treats. They do not need to be individually wrapped. Please avoid sheet-cakes, candles, and balloons. You may also send in goodie bags with edible items and/or non-edible items. Per our school policy, parents are not permitted to attend classroom birthday celebrations. Thanks for your understanding.

Lunch – Lunch accounts can be set up in the cafeteria or on-line. The cost is $2.25 for breakfast or $3.25 for lunch. In order to expedite the lunch process please add money to your child’s account online at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com) or send checks weekly/monthly in a labeled envelope. **NO cash please.** If your child is purchasing a school lunch please help them practice saying their first and last name clearly/loudly. Students may bring a small snack to eat in the morning. Download the app CUSDFOOD to view menus, nutrition information, and to see your child’ lunch account balance.

Parents can eat lunch with their child starting on **September 5th.** You and your child will be seated inside the cafeteria. Once lunch is over your child will go to recess and you will not be allowed to go on the playground with them.

Backpacks – Your child needs to bring a backpack or bag with their name printed on it to carry home their papers and projects EVERYDAY. Please no rollers on backpacks. The backpack should be large enough for 8.5 X 11 papers to fit with the zipper zipped.No Toys. Water bottles are encouraged; please do not send any colored liquids. **WATER ONLY!** Please be sure your child’s lunchbox, backpack, water bottle, jacket, etc.… are labeled with their first and last name.

Management Program

Good behavior in the classroom and at specials will be rewarded. Inappropriate behavior in classrooms and at specials will be managed by using warnings and notes home. The following Classroom Behavior Plan will be in effect at all times.

Classroom Behavior Plan – Each child will start the day with a green light. If a classroom rule is broken, they will be given 2 warnings but if they break the rule again, a third time, they will have to change their card to a yellow light. If a rule is not followed for the 4th, 5th, time that day, on the 6th warning they will be asked to change their card to a red light and a note will be sent home. Each child will also have the opportunity to earn a blue light. This will be a celebration because a child has gone above and beyond without the teacher asking. So, for example, a child may show exceptional listening skills or they may help another child pick-up all of their crayons that have fallen on the floor. Please celebrate with your child if they receive a blue light. At the end of each day, if the student still has a green light they will be given a “Rhino Reward”. An additional “Rhino Reward” will be given to students who have a blue light. Your child is responsible for keeping their “Rhino Reward” safe. They will store them in a zipper pouch in their bee folder. When your child chooses, they may cash in their “Rhino Reward” and choose an item from the Treasure Box. Students will color in a daily “Bee-havior Chart” to reflect the light they earned for the day. Please be sure to check the chart nightly.

Fun Friday – The students can earn the chance to participate in a Fun Friday activity provided by the teacher with green or blue lights each day. If a student earns two yellow lights or one red light in a given week they will not be participating in Fun Friday. It’s a great incentive for great behavior.

Progress Reports/Report Cards – Students will receive a progress report mid-quarter that you can view on-line in Infinite Campus. Report cards will be posted at the end of each quarter where you will also be able to view them on-line on Infinite Campus. . Your child will receive a percentage based on 100 for the following areas: math, reading, writing. All other subjects will be graded by the following codes: Excelling (E), Satisfactory (S), Improving (I), and Needs Improvement (N). Conferences will be held in August and February.

**Reading -** We will take a test each week. It will cover the comprehension of the story-of-the-week. We will also take a spelling and phonogram test every Friday. The students will receive their new spelling words every week. Expect 30 spelling words each week. Spelling dictation tests will also be given later in the year.

**Math –** Assessment of your child’s progress occurs frequently. We will strive for 80 percent mastery on all math assessments.

**Handwriting -** Handwriting will be graded biweekly for the first semester and monthly for the remainder of the year.

Daily Schedule

**8:35 – 10:00……………....**RNN/SEL/Reading/Writing/Social Science

**10:00 – 10:15…………......**Snack

10:15 – 10:30……………..Recess

10:30 – 11:35……….……Spaulding: Phonograms and Spelling Words

**11:40** - **12:20………...…..**Recess/Lunch

**12:25 – 1:00**…………….WNN-Guided Reading Groups

**1:00 – 2:00** …………….Math

2:00 – 2:10 ………………Pack-up/Read Aloud

2:20 – 2:50……………….Specials (Days 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6)

2:10-2:55………………….Specials (Day 5 Technology)

**3:05**……………………….Dismissal

\*Please see attached specials schedule

BEE (Homework) Folders **–** Your child will bring home a BEE (Bring Everything Everyday) folder every day. The right pocket is for take home papers. Please help your student empty this pocket nightly. Homework assignments will be the first sheet you will see in the page protector. The homework sheet also contains your students “Bee-havior Chart”. Approximately 30-50 minutes of CTA homework will be assigned nightly. Please read the homework slip, help your student complete the assignments and sign the slip at the end of the week. **Homework is expected to be returned correct and complete. Homework will only be assigned Monday- Thursday. If your child misplaces their homework slip you can download them from my classroom website.** A newsletter will be sent home each Monday and it will also be posted on my website. **I will collect student’s homework sheets Monday morning so that you are able to see what color they received on Friday for their behavior.**

As part of the homework, your child is expected to spend 20 minutes EVERY night reading. Depending on your child’s reading level, they will be bringing home a decodable reader, library book, OR Accelerated Reader book. If your child is placed in the Accelerated Reader program more information will come home. Please be sure to record the nightly reading on the homework slip in the area provided.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep your first grader organized and for making homework a top priority.