



Parents and Students of SoJo Middle Chinese Class Community,

Welcome to the Chinese class! What a joyful and exciting time to celebrate your children's growth and progress! They have successfully achieved another milestone in life. I look forward to the opportunity to work with awesome students and parents. Students will be immersed in arrays of learning experiences and amazing adventure to excel in their abilities and imagination.

In addition to academic learning, helping students in character building is equally important. Positive affirmation will be practiced to help students develop positive self-worth and foster an environment for students to get along with others, build self-esteem, and develop leadership skills. The goal is to equip students with skills that develop character and encourage responsibility, honesty, respect, tolerance, kindness, and empathy for others.

Homework (All homework information can be found on Canvas)

The Jordan School District's policy states, *"Learning is a process rather than a daily experience that begins at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 2:50 p.m. Homework, properly planned, gives the student a feeling of continuous learning and shifts the emphasis from 'receiving an education' to learning that is self-initiated."*

Learning a language is a process. Consistent daily practice is essential to the success of acquiring a language. It's not the matter of quantity but the matter of "consistency".

In order to keep things simple, all lessons, homework assignments, and assessments can be found on Canvas. Please refer each unit in "Module" on Canvas. Students will progress in the order provided in each Module. Daily classwork or homework is approximately 15 - 20 minutes each day. Unfinished classroom work becomes homework. Students, please utilize the email function provided in Canvas. **Parents, please observe your student on Canvas and check their progress on Skyward weekly.**

Daily homework includes the following:

- 5 minutes daily Chinese journal entry (applying vocabulary learned in each Module)
- 5 minutes speaking practice to family members, friends, pets, or even self. (applying vocabulary learned in each Module) The point is to have students to practice speaking Chinese since the tongue movements of speaking in Chinese is very different than speaking in English. In addition, this is to help students to train their brain to think in Chinese on a regular basis.
- All assignments are to be accessed via Canvas. For questions about logging in to Canvas, please refer to instructions provided on the South Jordan Middle School website.
- Review prior daily lesson.

Grading Policy

Your child's grades will be based on Assessments (80%) and Practice (20%) (Practice includes: daily self-starter, homework, classwork, assignments). The report card or the Quarter grade reflects "language proficiency". All work is to be completed and turned in on time.

If students don't show proficient on an assignment or assessment, they can ask for help and redo it. In order to redo a practice or retake an assessment, a student must fill out a Retake Form with parent's signature and show evidence of effort to improve. Regular attendance is also important because a big part of our curriculum is activity based. Many activities we do in class can't be replicated.

To stay informed on your child's academic progress throughout the year, family and student access to grades are available online via Skyward. In addition, parent can observe student work on Canvas.

Grading %

Grades will be based on Practice (classwork and homework) and weekly Assessments. Assessments will be weighted at 80% of a student's grade; Practice will be weighted at 20%. All makeup work and assessments can be submitted up to a week after the end of each unit.

School Supplies: Each student is recommended but not required to prepare the following items and bring them to class daily. Items on the list will be used in class every day.

- Fully charged Chromebook.
- A 3-ring binder for Chinese Class. (**at least 1 ½"** in thickness)
- Binder dividers (5+)
- Notebook (to be used for notes taking and daily journal writing)
- 3-ring pencil pouch
- 3 specific color highlighter pens (red, yellow, green)
- Whiteboard (Lapboards. Approx. 9"x12"), if possible.
- Thin Dry Erase Markers (easily visible colors. Each student is to provide their own dry erase markers throughout the school year.)
- Whiteboard eraser
- Pencils and pencil eraser
- 1 red pen

MISCELLANEOUS:

During a couple of our units in Chinese this year, part or all of the following movies MAY be shown to support the curriculum (in Chinese, of course):

- Mulan
- Kung Fu Panda
- The Karate Kid
- Up
- The Polar Express
- Rapunzel
- Frozen

If used, these movies/movie clips will be incorporated into the classroom activities as a way to support what we are learning. These movies are rated PG and so district policy requires that we notify you. If you don't want your student to view these films, please email or talk me. There will be alternate assignments for students who do not watch the movie/clip. Opting out will, in no way, adversely affect students' grades, provided that the alternate assignments are completed well.

Final Thoughts:

We are committed to offering a well-rounded curriculum that includes lots of positive experiences and a safe learning environment. We will try to meet the needs of each individual and work together with parents to make this a happy, successful year for each student.

We look forward to getting to know you all!

Ms. Chen-Pace (Chen Lao-Shi)

- Chinese DLI 7th & 8th Grade
- Chinese Culture and media
- World Language

South Jordan Middle School, Room 207.

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.

2:50 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Email: kimberly.pace@jordandistrict.org

Phone: 801-412-2900 (school)

Mrs. Pitts (Pitts Lao-Shi)

- Chinese DLI 9th Grade
- Chinese Culture and media
- Chinese 1 & 2

South Jordan Middle School, Room 308.

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.

2:50 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Email: hsiu.pitts@jordandistrict.org

Phone: 801-412-2900 (school)