

KINDERGARTEN PROCEDURES

Arrival: Please take your child to the upper playground and line up against the office wall each morning. Leave the entry to the upper playground clear for everyone to walk through. The teacher will meet you there at 7:55. The classroom aide and the teacher will then take the children over to the classroom. If you have messages for the teacher, please follow the group over and sign in or leave notes on the classroom message clipboard. Please remember that the teacher needs to start her day with the children at 7:55 and is not available at that time to meet with parents. You can also call and leave a message on the classroom voicemail. Voicemail will be checked several times a day. You are welcome to attend the prayer meeting with the students on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Dismissal: Please wait outside the classroom door and near the basketball hoop at pick up time. Half of the students will be seated on the rug inside the classroom with the teacher or the classroom aide. The other half of the group will be seated outside with one of the adults. The children need to remain seated until the adult has made contact with the parent or guardian picking them up. After the first few weeks of school, the children will all remain seated on the inside rug. Parents will then come to the door and gesture or call for their child to come with them. Please remind your child to check their cubbies for belongings before leaving for the day. Their backpacks and lunches should be outside the classroom door. If your child is going to SEP afterschool Mr. David will collect them at the Kindergarten room.

Snack and Lunches: The children eat snack at 9:20 and lunch at 11:35. On minimum days you only need to send snack, the children will not eat lunch at school on minimum days. (If your child is going to SEP on minimum days they will need a lunch with them.) Please send healthy snacks and lunches, remember that candy and sodas are not allowed at school. Juice boxes are not ideal because some students are squeezing juice on themselves, juice is often wasted and the straw wrappers tend to end up on the ground. It would be very helpful to our mealtime staff to send food in packaging that your child can open themselves. Reusable packaging is also a greener alternative. If your child is having hot lunch, you still need to provide a healthy snack.

Clothing: Thank you for sending all clothing clearly labeled. Sweatshirts should be labeled with a permanent pen on the label, professional lettering or iron-on patches are even better. Please send a bag of extra clothing in your child's backpack in case of accidents. You can also store a bag of clothing in the back of your child's cubby. Please include an old pair of shoes and socks in case they get wet. Girls should wear shorts under their jumpers. All clothing, with the exception of jackets, should be school colors. Thank you for sending your child in shoes that they can manage themselves. If they are not yet tying their own shoes then Velcro or buckled or slip on shoes are the best. Please review uniform instructions in your Parent Handbook.

Resting: There will be a short rest time after lunch each day. Please send a blanket or nap mat that can remain at school. Due to storage concerns a small blanket is sufficient, no pillows please. Take blankets home for occasional laundering.

Toys and Stuffed Animals: All toys should stay at home, please check backpacks. We don't want anyone to be brokenhearted over lost or broken toys. Each child will be offered a beanie baby to hold and snuggle with the first few weeks of school. Mrs. Weber's beanie babies are nervous about beginning school and need to be comforted.

Sharing: We do not have a "regular" sharing day. However, the children will be encouraged to bring special items to share with the class at various times throughout the year. For example, in the fall we ask students to bring "signs of fall" to share and to put on the "fall" table.

Homework: Starting date for homework will be announced. Homework and a borrowed classroom book will be sent home each Tuesday in a plastic envelope. Kindergarten homework should take only 10 minutes per night, Tuesday through Thursday. Homework will be practice of work we have already done in class; your child should be able to work fairly independently. In addition to the homework, please read for 15 minutes each evening with your student. You can read to them, or buddy read (they read a word or sentence and then you read for a while.) You can also do word or sound searches while you read (example; "Can you find three "a" on this page?"). Your child will receive stickers for nicely done homework and for returning the book on Fridays. Thank you for all your support.

Field Trips: We will have 4-5 field trips throughout the year. We use cars for transportation and rely on parents to drive. After reviewing the "Family Handbook", please turn in all paperwork at the office so that you will be eligible to drive on the field trips of your choice. If you think you would like to drive on a field trip sometime this year, it is a good idea to get your paperwork in order well ahead of time.

Birthdays: You may send a simple (easy to serve and cleanup) snack for your student's birthday. Please remember that some children cannot have peanuts or dairy products. Juice bars are a favorite. Muffins without frosting, rice crispie treats, cut up fruit or cookies are great choices. In lieu of a birthday snack, other suggestions would be to send stickers, pencils or other small prizes.

Clifford: Clifford goes home with a student each night. He comes with his own snack to share, his favorite books, and a journal for you to write and draw in. We have great fun reading the journal entries each day.

Assessments: We will have parent-teacher conferences in mid October. You will receive a form from the office to sign up for convenient dates. At that time we will review your student's portfolio and discuss your student's academic and social progress. Report cards will go home later in the year.