

# The ABC's of Kindergarten

## **A** Absences / Art

If your child is absent, please call the office (920.563.7822) to let them know why your child is gone. Please let me know about any pre-planned absences that you are aware of.

Our class will have a 40 minute art class on A days with Mrs. Marchant.

## **B** Back-to-School Night / Book Orders

Purdy's Back-to-School Night will be on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30. At that time you can bring all of your child's school supplies, find his/her cubby and table spot, and best of all we can meet each other! I hope to see you there!

I will send home a book order form for you and your child to look over on the first Friday of every month.

## **C** Conferences / Clothing

Parent-Teacher conferences will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, as well as, February 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to meeting with you!

Please make sure that we have an extra change of clothing at school for your child. This includes socks and underwear. We sometimes have unexpected accidents in kindergarten and it is reassuring for your child to know that they have a change of clothes here. You may bring these items to Back-to-School Night or the first day of school. Please put them in a bag with your child's name on it.

## **D** Drop-Off / Daily 5

Please drop your child off at school between 7:30 and 7:55 a.m. All children are asked to go outside to play before the bell rings in the morning. Supervision begins at 7:30 a.m. Children riding the buses walk right out to the playground. If children are eating breakfast, they go to the multi-purpose room. If the weather is inclement then supervision is in the gym. School begins at 8:00 a.m. The outside bell rings at 7:55. If your child arrives before the bell, outside playtime is great exercise for their busy day ahead.

Daily 5 is the literacy center structure that we will be using in our classroom. This structure teaches independence and gives children the skills needed to create a lifetime love of reading and writing. Look for more information, coming soon.

## **E** Early Release / Emergency Contact

We will have early release days on Feb.14, May 8, and June 9. On early release days students are dismissed at 11:50 a.m. and no lunch is served.

Please make sure that your emergency contact information is up to date with the office. If your home or work phone number changes during the school year, please let me know.

## **F** Folders / Field Trips

Your child's home/school folder helps keep us organized. Please be sure to check the folder and empty it out nightly. I will check folders each morning for any notes from home.

Our class will go on several field trips this year. Look for more information, coming soon.

## **G** Gym (Phy Ed.)

Our class will have a 40 minute gym class on A days with Mr. Jensen. Please make sure your child is wearing gym shoes on these days. You may want your child to leave a pair of gym shoes in their cubby so they are always here.

## **H** Homework / Holidays / Headphones

Students will have some homework in kindergarten, including: family projects and math home links. Please check your child's folder and do your best to return homework when it is due.

We will learn about and celebrate many holidays in kindergarten. We will have holiday parties for Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter. If you do not want your child to participate in holiday celebrations, please let me know.

We will use headphones for computer lab, as well as, listening center. If you would prefer for your child to use their own headphones please send them to school in a Ziploc bag with their name on it.

## **I** Independence

Independence is a goal for all kindergarten students because it builds self-esteem and self-confidence. Kindergarteners are very capable of doing many things on their own and I encourage them to do as much as they can for themselves in the classroom. Please work on the following self-help skills at home with your child: zipping, tying, dressing in winter clothes, etc. and encourage them to try things on their own whenever possible.

## **J** Jobs

Each week your child will have the opportunity to be responsible for a job in our classroom. Jobs include: milk helper, library helper, snack helper, etc. These jobs are part of our daily routine and help to foster independence.

## **K** Kindergarten Split Start

In order to ease new kindergarteners into the school year, we have a split start schedule the first two days of school. Half of the class will start on Tuesday, Sept.3 and the other half will start on Wednesday, Sept.4. The whole class will be together on Thursday, Sept.5. If your child attends on Tuesday, they will not attend on Wednesday, and vice versa.

## **L** Library (IMC) / Lunch

Our class will have library instruction on B days with Ms. Daly. Your child will check out two books when we visit the library and return them the following week. If your child forgets to return his/her books, they will not be allowed to check out new books until they are returned.

Kindergarteners eat lunch at 11:40. If you would like to join your child for lunch please contact the office.

## **M** Math / Money / Music

Everyday Math is our elementary math curriculum. Your child will learn number sense, problem solving, shapes and patterns, and much more through a fun, hands-on approach.

If you need to send money to school, please put all money in a sealed envelope labeled with your child's name and the purpose for the money. This helps to keep money from getting lost.

Our class will have a 40 minute music class on B days with Ms. Kosak.

## **I** Newsletters / No School

I will be sending home a weekly newsletter every Friday to keep you informed about what we are doing in our classroom and what will be happening the following week. I will also send home a monthly calendar to help you keep track of upcoming themes and school activities. The newsletter will also be posted on our classroom website.

There will be no school on the following days: Oct.31, Nov.1, Nov.27-29, Dec.23-Jan.1, Jan.17, March 20-27, April 10, and May 25.

## **O** Others. . .

I tried my best to include all important information in this letter, but if you think of others, please let me know.

## **P** Pick-Up / Parking / PBIS

The school day ends at 3:00 p.m. At the end of the day I will walk out with our whole class to the large glass windows on the west side of the building (this is where the buses load.) I will wait there for all children to be picked up. Bus riders will be walked out to the bus line. After 3:05, I will walk remaining students to the office. This helps us keep track of all the children. Our hallways get very congested at the end of the day, so please wait for your child at the windows.

For the safety of all students, please park in the parking lot or on the street. Do not park in the bus driveway.

District wide our elementary schools are using a positive discipline program known as PBIS or Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Our goal is to teach standard expectations or behaviors and celebrate positive behaviors in our schools. Rewards are used to celebrate and reinforce the great demonstrated behaviors. We, along with the other three buildings have three basic school rules: Be Respectful! Be

Responsible! Be Safe! So you can...Be Ready To Learn! Many elements are in place to promote our use of these rules in our school and classroom. Look for more information, coming soon.

## **Q** Questions??

Communication is important! Feel free to contact me whenever you have a question, comment, or concern. You can reach me by phone (920.563.7822 ext.3316), in person, by email (johnsonr@fortschools.org), or by note.

## **R** Recess / Reading / Report Cards

Kindergarteners will have recess daily at 9:30, 11:15, and 1:40 unless it is raining or below zero. Each recess is 15 minutes.

Reading to your kindergartener is so important! As your child learns new reading skills at school they will be encouraged to try them at home, and soon your child will be reading to you!

Report cards will be completed at the end of each quarter and sent home in your child's folder. Fourth quarter report cards will be mailed.

## **S** Schedule/Snacks/Shining Star

I will have our class schedule available at Back-to-School Night. The first few weeks of school are unique in kindergarten. We work hard at adjusting to routines, making friends, learning our way around the building, etc., so our schedule is very flexible.

We will have a snack everyday with milk break. I ask that all families donate one box/bag of snacks to our snack collection. When we run out I will send a note for more donations. When it is your child's birthday, you are more than welcome to send a special treat. Please bring your first snack donation to Back-to-School night or the first day of school.

