

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to Kindergarten! It was nice to meet so many of you at open house. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you! I have been teaching Kindergarten for 13 years now. I have also taught First and Third Grade. I am married and have 2 kids, Madeline who is starting high school this year and Erik who is going into 7th grade. I know how important your kids are to you and look forward to working with you to make Kindergarten a great year!!

This first newsletter contains some housekeeping information... First off, I will send home some papers on Wednesday in a colored folder that should be emptied and returned to school the next day. This will be our WEDNESDAY folder that we use to send all paper information to and from school. You may also use it to send things back to school. Try to remind your child to empty it and give any papers to me. They should also put it back in their mailbox when they bring it back to school.

Some of the things coming home in this first week will include a paper number pad like your child will use in the lunchroom. They have a 5 digit number that they need to punch in if they are buying breakfast, lunch or just milk. Please help them practice this number at home. Also, if you are sending a home lunch, please label their lunchbox or bag and remind them to be sure to put it in our PURPLE bin that will be in our classroom in the a.m. and in the lunchroom when they finish lunch. We will do our best to make sure there aren't too many lost lunchboxes during the first few weeks! ☺

You will also be getting a September reading log. We encourage families to read at least one book each night to help develop literacy skills. Once your child has read/or been read to, they can color an apple on the sheet. At the end of the month they will get to pick out of the prize box if they return their reading log, signed by an adult. We also send home a month calendar with a small homework activity for each day. I will e-mail my newsletter out each week with an update on what we've been doing in school and with reminders about any upcoming events.

If your child rides a bus to and/or from school, please attach his/her bus tag to his/her backpack with a safety pin. These tags will also come home on Wednesday.

Breakfast is free to all Minneapolis students. If your child would like to eat, they should go directly to the lunchroom and get their breakfast before coming to the classroom. If you are bringing them to school, please plan for them to have enough time so they are in the room by 8:05. If they are not going to eat at school, they should come right to the classroom.

As you will see on our September calendar (marked by a little star and their name), each student will have the opportunity to be STAR OF THE DAY. When your child is star, they will be the teacher's helper, they will be line leader, they will sit in the STAR chair during group time and they will have the chance to share a small item or tell something to the class during morning meeting. Only the star will be given time to share. If your child's name is not on the September calendar, they will be at the beginning of Oct. We will rotate through the class list all year. If it is your child's birthday, they will be star of the day that day. Due to the no snacks in classrooms policy, if you would like to send something in for your child's birthday, please choose stickers or pencils or some small, non-food related item. DO NOT feel like you need to send anything. 😊

Our specialist schedule is;

Monday-Music

Tuesday-Media

Wednesday-Music

Thursday-Art

Friday-Phy Ed

The Music and Phy ed teachers may switch classes mid way through the hour on either Monday/Wed. If this happens, I will let you know so you can send appropriate shoes!

Last of all, if I don't have an e-mail address for you and you would like to be added, please let me know.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,
Anna Williams

annaw@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-668-3342