



Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Kindergarten! I look forward to the coming weeks and learning more about your children. Please keep this newsletter for future reference, as it has information that may be useful to you throughout the year.

Each month, I will send home a calendar to let you know what is taking place in that month, as well as who is "Child of the Day" and which days Library will be taking place. A yearly calendar was mailed to you at the end of August.

Picture day is on Friday, October 4th. Any retakes that need to be done, will be done on Thursday, November 4th.

Here are a just a few notes for the school year:

Please do not send your child to school before 8:40am as there will not be supervision for them before this time. For the month of September, Kindergarteners can be walked to the classroom. After September, we are asking that Kindergarteners walk to class on their own to foster independence, and less congestion in the hallway. Thank you for your cooperation.

School starts at 8:55 am and ends at 3:20 pm. Recesses are 11:00 am to 11:15 am, 12:40 pm - 1:00 pm, and 2:05 pm to 2:20 pm.

Children will have snack time twice a day, plus lunch. Please ensure your child has at least one snack for the morning, one snack for the afternoon and one for lunch. Children need fuel to learn so **healthy foods are strongly encouraged, especially for morning snacks.** We do have a microwave if you want to bring in left overs to warm up. Due to the number of students in the class, please do not send in items that will take more than 2 minutes to reheat. This will ensure everyone gets a chance to heat up their food and have enough time to eat. Kindergartens get approximately 25 minutes to eat lunch. Snack is between 5 - 7 minutes. Before students eat their last snack, I will try my best to see that they have eaten most of their lunch. **Note: There is a nut allergy in our classroom. Please do not send nuts and/or nut products for lunch or snacks.**

In past years it has been very busy in the elementary end at dismissal time, which has led to safety concerns and students not being able to get to their buses. To alleviate these concerns the following will take place:

Bus - If your child takes the bus, bus buddies will be walking the children to the bus. The bus students are dismissed just before the 3:20 pm, when the first bell rings.

Pick-ups - After the bus and daycare students leave, I will lead the students down to the main entrance door (main West door), to be picked up by parents. **This will be around 3:20.**

Daycare - Students will be picked up by a daycare worker at **3:20 pm.**

Please notify the office or myself, in advance (a note in the planner or phone call that day) if alternate travel arrangements are made (i.e. different person picking up your child, pick up instead of bus, etc.) *Students will only be dismissed to parents and siblings if being picked up, unless you have told me differently via note, phone call to school, or email.*

This procedure is followed for your child's safety and protection.

Absences: If your child is going to be absent, please call the school, 275-2133. If you know in advance, you can let Mrs. Gregoire know, as well as myself, via the planner.

Early Pickup: Please check in at the office with Mrs. Gregoire, and I will send your child down to the office.

Communication: Please check your child's red bag and planner **daily** for any information, notes, crafts, etc. If there is anything that needs to be sent back to school, please put it back in the red bag and return it to school as soon as possible. If you need to discuss something with me please contact me,

275-2133, or via email erin.nordstrom@horizonsd.com, so we can make appropriate arrangements.

Please sign your child's planner every Kindergarten day, as I will be signing it every K day as well.

Library will be every Day 3 during last period. Students will listen to a story and have a chance to do an activity related to the book, if time allows. Library forms will be sent home shortly. When you receive them, please fill them out and return to the school the next K day. Our librarian is Mrs. Mudrick. If you would prefer that your child **not** take out books from the library, please let me know.

Physical Education will be every K day at 1:15 pm. During the course of the day we will be taking body breaks, and doing some Music and Movement to increase our physical activity. From time to time, during nice weather (all seasons), I will also take the students outside.

Recess: The students will be having recess with the rest of the school. They will have one recess in the morning, a lunch recess and an afternoon recess. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately, according to the weather conditions.

Child of the Day: Each day a child is chosen to be a special helper in our classroom. He/She will help with special duties throughout the day; calendar, will be first in line (budge pass), hand things out, choose a song or video to sing to or dance to. The Child of the Day can bring in **one** show and tell item to share with the class. Due to the number of children in the class, I feel it would be more appropriate to have only one child bring something for show and tell each day. This also helps the children learn how to take turns as they wait for their special day.

Play Dough: One of our class activities is Play dough. If you are interested in making play dough for our class, please indicate on the last sheet of this note. A simple recipe for Play Dough is provided if you need one:

Play Dough

3 cups flour
1 cup salt
6 teaspoons of cream of tartar
3 cups water
3 tablespoons vegetable oil (I use whatever I have)
Food colouring

Mix flour, salt, and cream of tartar in a saucepan. Mix water and oil together in a bowl (can add food colouring here). Add this to saucepan and cook over medium heat stirring constantly until it thickens. Cook for about 5 minutes; not too long or it will dry out. Take play dough out of pan and put on cutting board and knead for a few minutes. Add flour if too sticky.

Some important dates for September include:

- **Monday, the 23rd** - No school for students as it is a Collaborative learning day for teachers.
- **Friday, October 4th** - Picture Day

I look forward to an **awesome** year with your child! Let's work together so that we may provide the best education and school experience for them. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Erin
Nordstrom

Please mark your responses on this page and send back to school as soon as possible.

Name of Child: _____

If you are able to volunteer to make play dough for the class, please indicate on the line when it is convenient for you. I will let you know when your month will be. Thank you in advance!

Month: _____

I take pictures throughout the year and make something special with the photos for the end of the year for everyone in the class. I also sometimes give some good pics to the yearbook committee.

_____ It is fine that pictures of my child are shared with the yearbook committee and that she/he will have pictures in the end of the year project.

_____ It is not fine that pictures of my child are shared with the yearbook committee and do not want him/her to have pictures in the end of the year project shared with everyone.

During the year we have spirit days and sometimes have an opportunity to put tattoos on or face paint.

_____ It is fine that my child puts on a tattoo and/or gets his/her face painted.

_____ It is not fine that my child puts on a tattoo and/or gets his/her face painted.

If you have any comments about the above, please fill out the section below. Thank you for your time in filling this out.

Parent Signature: _____