



Kindergarten

Information Packet

Mrs. Marles' Class: 2012 - 2013

Welcome to kindergarten! I am delighted to begin this year together as partners in your child's education. A good learning experience is built on the cooperative efforts between parent, child, teacher, and school. My expectations for learning and social behaviors are high. With your partnership in and out of the classroom, we can look forward to an amazing learning journey through kindergarten.

Expectations



I expect the kindergarten children to:

Read for 15 minutes each evening at home as a part of homework.

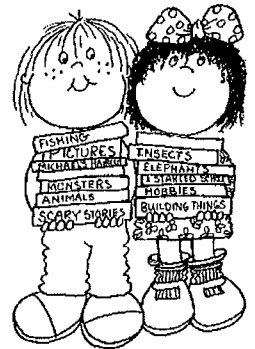
Quiet read and partner read at school.

Participate in unit study exploration, research, and projects in class.

Explore literacy: Reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Develop competence and confidence in math concepts and skills.

Be compassionate, respectful, good thinkers and problem solvers.



Classroom Rules

At the beginning of the year, we spend a lot of time becoming familiar with our three basic rules that we all follow to maintain our classroom community. All the rules have the underlying principal that we should treat others the way we wish to be treated. It is not okay to cause a problem for anyone in our classroom.

BE READY!	BE SAFE!	BE KIND!
<p>Be ready to learn! Use quiet voices. Listen and follow directions the first time they are given.</p>	<p>Be safe at all times! Keep hands to yourself. Walk nicely. Take care of our classroom.</p>	<p>Respect other people. Treat others the way you wish to be treated.</p>

Homework

Our District's homework policy states that a kindergarten child should do at least 30 minutes of homework a week. Since part of your child's homework is to read every night for at least 15 minutes, this goal is easily met! Developing good homework habits will be an asset to your child throughout all their years of school. Completion of homework will be included on your child's progress report.

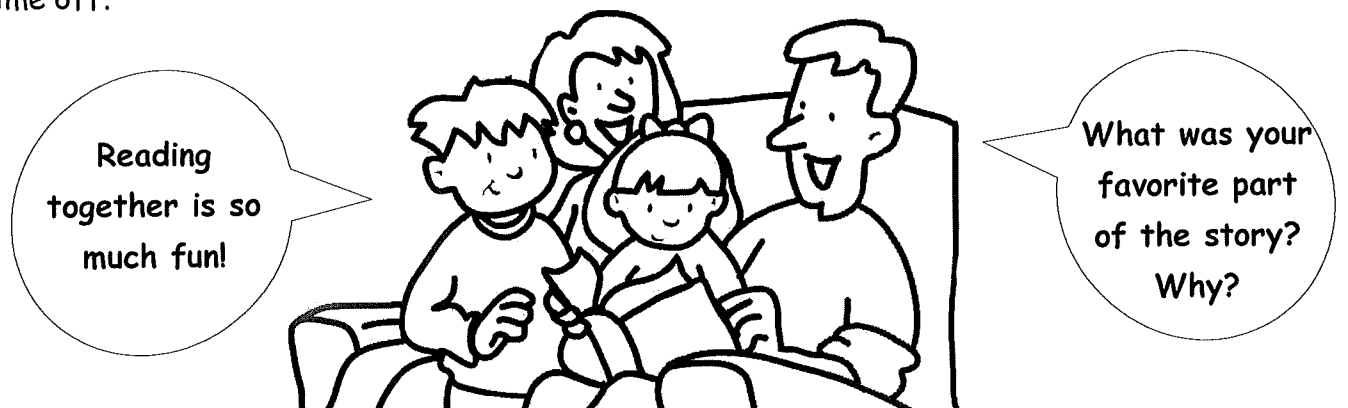
Homework for the year is in two parts:

1. *Nightly Reading Books & Open Court Readers*
2. *Homework Folder*

Nightly Reading Book & Open Court Readers: Please read to and with your child nightly. You may find that you will begin the year reading to your child, but that they will take over the reading as the year goes on. The only way kids learn to read is by reading!

Your kindergartner will be checking out books from our classroom library. These books are purchased by me and not the school. Please discuss with your child, as I will, the importance of taking care of the books. Any book lost or damaged will need to be replaced at \$5.00 per book. **Nightly Reading is a daily homework assignment.** Please keep all the books together in a safe place. All books should remain in the zip-lock plastic bags and come back to school each Friday. The book packets are changed out each week. If your child remembered to bring back their book packet on Friday, they will get a new book packet on the following Monday.

Homework Packet: I will be sending a Homework Packet home (starting in the next month) with your child every Monday in the Homework Section of the Communication Folder. Homework is to be completed and returned each Friday. The Homework Packet will be made up of handwriting, language arts, and math worksheets. I will select practice sheets that suit your child's needs and they will cover a variety of subject areas. At first the sheets will cover basic skills, to ease your child into the process of doing homework. When we have holidays or minimum days, our Homework Schedule may be modified to allow for the time off.

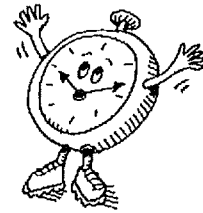


Communication Folder

Your child will have a Communication Folder that is to be used to transport important papers, notes, money, and homework to and from school. It is to remain in your child's backpack at all times so both teacher and parent can easily locate it. **It is also important that your child's backpack be large enough to accommodate this folder and library books.** It should measure at least 12" X 18". This will ensure that books and important papers will not get bent.

Please check on a daily basis notes going home in the *Notes To and From School* section of your child's Communication Folder. Remove, read, and keep notes and your child's work at home. This procedure ensures that new notes won't get lost among the old notes. Please write any questions, concerns, or comments you might have on a piece of paper and insert it into the clear plastic sleeve cover of the folder so that I may see it straight away. I will respond back.

Class Hours ~ First Trimester

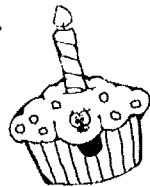


Morning Kindergarten begins right at 8:10. Children are dismissed at 11:30. **Afternoon kindergarten begins at 11:35 a.m. and the kindergartners are to arrive at school no earlier than 11:25. Afternoon kindergarten is dismissed at 2:55 p.m.**

Your child will be waiting with me until he/she is picked up from their classroom. If you happen to be late, your child will be waiting safely in the office. If you need to pick your child up early, you must check with the office first and sign him/her out for the day.

Class Hours ~ Second & Third Trimesters

Full Day Kindergarten begins on Tuesday, November 13th. At this time all kindergartners will start school at 8:10 and will be dismissed at 2:15. Please note that kindergartners will be dismissed 10 minutes earlier than the rest of the students at Sam Vaughn. The kindergarten routine will change to accommodate a full day schedule.



Birthdays

Your child's birthday will be celebrated in class during our calendar time. If you would like to bring in a special birthday treat for snack time, please let me know a day in advance. An appropriate snack would be chocolate pudding, Gogurts, or Rice Krispie treats. Sorry...NO cakes or cupcakes.

If your family does not participate in holidays or celebrations, please let me know. Thanks!

Snack

Small tummies often get hungry before the school day is over and young children function much better if they aren't thinking about their grumbling stomachs. I ask that parents help provide healthy snacks such as Goldfish Crackers, graham crackers, etc. Snacks should serve 24 students and be store bought. Drinks are not necessary, but if you wish, you may bring in bottled water for each child. Juices tend to be sticky and create lots of clean-up, so it is requested that they NOT be brought in as a snack.

If your last name begins with the letters A - M, please send snacks at the beginning of the month. If your last name begins with letters N - Z, please bring in snacks midway through the month. This allows for all children to have additional snacks when necessary.

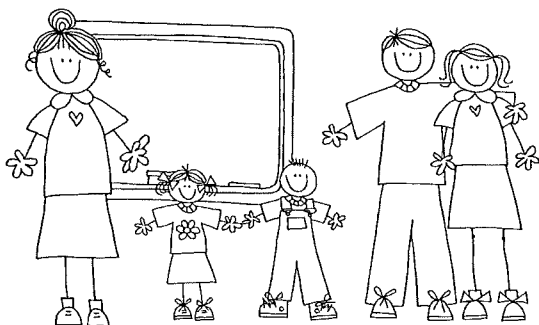
Breakfast & Lunch

Free breakfast is served to all students in the cafeteria starting at 7:30. Although it may be inconvenient during the first trimester of school, afternoon kindergartners are welcome to come and have a free breakfast. Kindergartners are also welcome to purchase a lunch in the cafeteria before school starts during the first trimester. When full-day kindergarten begins in November, all kindergartners will be escorted to the cafeteria for lunch. At that time they will either bring a lunch from home or purchase a lunch. **Please make sure your child has had lunch before starting school at 11:35 during the first trimester. If kids are hungry, their learning is adversely affected.**

You are Welcome!

Parents are always welcome, but please check in at the office first and please be sensitive to what's going on in the classroom. We have some quiet times, as well as many fun, active times. If you have free time, we can always use an extra pair of hands, an extra ear, or an extra person to give hugs. Parents who wish to help in the classroom on a regular basis are required to obtain a TB shot. These will be offered through the Ceres Unified District Office. A short application form is also required.

I look forward to a wonderful year ahead and hope the explanations are helpful. Thank you in advance for your support. Remember:



Child + Teacher + Parent(s) = Success

Sincerely,

Tricia Marles