

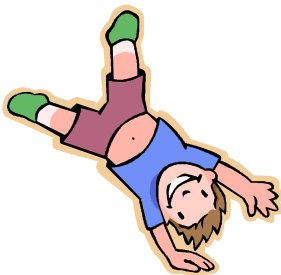
Welcome

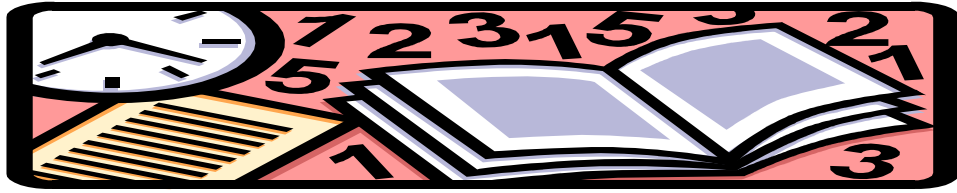


Dear Parents,

This folder is for you! Please read everything carefully. I hope this packet will provide you with information to help you understand our classroom and our school better. If you have questions or concerns throughout the year, please send me a note in your child's red communication folder or call school and leave a message (281)368-2150. I will get back to you as soon as I am able.

Everything in this folder might seem a little overwhelming at first. But as the year progresses, you will be able to refer to it for guidance. We are all going to have a fun filled year! It is very exciting to see the social, emotional, and academic growth that will take place in our Pre-Kindergarten class!





Attendance

Although Pre-Kindergarten is not mandatory in Texas, once a child enrolls in a Pre-kindergarten class, they are subject to follow the rules of attendance. The Pre-K class begins at 7:45 A.M. A child is considered tardy after the 7:50 A.M. bell.

If your child is absent due to illness, a doctor's appointment or a family emergency, the absence is considered excused. Reasons such as out-of-town trips, being tired, parents working, a child not wanting to come to school, are considered unexcused absences. Any time a child is absent, you will need to send a note explaining the absence. The note is put in your child's folder for documentation.

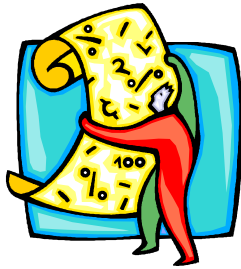
Parents, we want to start good school habits early. Let's make school a positive experience. We want every healthy child to attend class everyday! Your child's education is important!!!



Conferences

Conferences are an important part of your child's education. They are usually held as needed but I will try to meet with you at least once during the school year. Please come ready with questions that you may have but also remember that the time will be limited. I will be able to meet for conferences at 9:25-10:10 AM and also after school starting at 3:00 P.M. If you would like to schedule a conference, please send a note in the red folder or call the school at (281)368-2150. I will contact you as soon as possible to set up the time and date that we can meet.

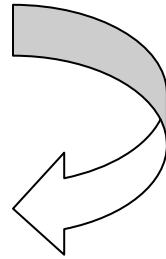
We are here to work together for your child. If you have any questions or concerns, my door is always open. I want this year to be a wonderful learning experience for both you and your child.



Classroom Rules

1. Be a friend.
2. Always talk with a quiet or an inside voice.
3. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
4. Always walk in the classroom and the building.
5. Listen to the teacher and other adults in the school.

Consequences



1. Given a verbal warning and an opportunity to make a choice concerning behavior.
2. Time in the "Thinking Chair".
3. Yellow face- note in the red folder.
4. Red face- note in the red folder and a phone call to parents.



Red Folder

Please look in the red folder every night and initial the conduct calendar. I will try to write in the red folder to inform you of any situation related to your child. We reward good behavior with prizes from the treasure box and with stickers.



Homework and Special Home Activities

- Please look in the weekly newsletter because I will often suggest different activities that you can do with your child at home. One of the most important things that you can do for your child is **read aloud** to him on a **daily basis**. Take the time to talk about the pictures and the cover of the book. Ask your child questions about what is happening in the story.
- Family Projects: There will be occasions that I will send home instructions and materials for a family project. This is an activity for you to do together with your child and you are encouraged to use materials and items found in your house such as macaroni, beads, cotton balls, buttons, craft sticks, pennies, etc.
- As we are studying individual letters, a lunch bag will be sent home and you will be asked to help your child find 2-3 items or pictures that begin with that particular letter and sound. **Please go over the names of the items with your child.** Your child will bring the bag of items to school the next day and present them to the class.



The *First* Twelve Weeks of School

Dear Families,

In an effort to keep you informed about your child's classroom activities during the first twelve weeks of school, the following is a list of concepts that will be introduced.

- 👉 Listening for words that rhyme; have the same number of parts; begin with the same sound.
- 👉 How to handle a book.
- 👉 Understand that letters are different than numbers.
- 👉 Use sentences of at least three words; begin to engage in conversation and stay on topic.
- 👉 Learn new vocabulary words from listening to books read aloud.
- 👉 Focus attention for at least 4 minutes.
- 👉 Repeat familiar rhymes and songs.
- 👉 Begin to use crayons and scissors appropriately.
- 👉 Count objects to five.
- 👉 Recognize color or shape patterns.
- 👉 Match objects that are alike.
- 👉 Identify tools that are used to measure.
- 👉 Show respect for all living organisms.
- 👉 Use their five senses when observing and learning.
- 👉 Solve problems by trial and error.
- 👉 Sort objects by color, size, shape and texture.
- 👉 Understand that the weather can change from day to day.
- 👉 Learn about school and community.
- 👉 Understand classroom rules.



Please discuss these concepts with your student and practice at home by reading at least 20 minutes each day with your child, then discuss what was read, as well as, how you held the book while you were reading, what words rhymed, etc.. Let your child count objects making sure that he is associating each number with an object. Point out the measuring spoons and cups and explain why you are using them. Point out anything that your child can smell, hear, feel, see or taste. Ask about his/her favorite activity in school.

Suggested read aloud books related to units of study this twelve weeks are:

The Biggest House in the World by Leo Lionni
Jack and Jake by Alike
Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang
The Wolf's Chicken Stew by Keiko Kasza
The Rain Puddle by Adelaide Holl
The Big Seed by Ellen Howard

Building a House by Byron Barton
Don't Forget the Bacon! by Pat Hutchins
The Doorbell Rang by Pat Hutchins
Good Night Moon by Margert Wise
The Empty Pot by Demi
This Year's Garden by Cynthia Rylant

Read nursery rhymes and sing favorite songs.
Your Child's Pre-Kindergarten Teacher.

The Second Twelve Weeks

Dear Families,

In an effort to keep you informed about your child's classroom activities during the second twelve weeks of school, the following is a list of concepts that will be introduced.

- 🐻 Notice beginning letters in familiar words.
- 🐻 Understand that written words are composed of letters that represent sounds.
- 🐻 Use sentences of three or more words; begin to engage in conversation and stay on topic.
- 🐻 Recognize words that name person, place or thing.
- 🐻 Predict what will happen next in a story.
Focus attention on stories being read aloud.
- 🐻 Repeat familiar rhymes songs and patterns.
- 🐻 Begin to identify first and last in a series.
- 🐻 Verbally counts by one's to ten.
- 🐻 Recognize and describe the concept of zero.
- 🐻 Begin to demonstrate "part of" and "whole".
- 🐻 Identify tools that are used to measure.
- 🐻 Identify animals and plants as living things.
- 🐻 Begin to observe changes in size, color, position, weather and sounds.
- 🐻 Begin to recognize that living things have similar needs.
- 🐻 Identify common features in the home and school environment.
- 🐻 Understand roles of community workers.
- 🐻 Participate in classroom jobs.
- 🐻 Identify other people's feelings.



Please discuss these concepts with your student and practice at home by reading at least 20 minutes each day with your child, then discuss what was read. When you are reading aloud point out the letters in a word and talk about them. Use the words "first" and "last" with your child. Use puzzles with increasing numbers of pieces. Let your child sort buttons or pictures from magazines. Talk about what makes a living thing (plant) different from a nonliving thing (chair). Ask your child about his/her favorite activity in school.

Books related to units of study are:

The Story of Betty Bean and How She Grew by Ellen Howard
Feathers for Lunch by Lois Ehlert
Just Shopping with Mom by Mercer Mayer
We Keep a Store by Anne Shelby
Puddle's ABC by Holly Hobbie
Albert's Alphabet by Leslie Tryon

Swimmy by Leo Lionni
At the Supermarket by David Hautzig
The Storekeeper by Tracey Pearson
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin and John Archambault
Kipper's A to Z by Mick Inkpen

Read ABC books to your child.
Your Child's Pre-Kindergarten Teacher.

The *Third Twelve Weeks*

Dear Families,

In an effort to keep you informed about your child's classroom activities during the third twelve weeks of school, the following is a list of concepts that will be introduced.

- 🐻 Identify upper and lower case letters.
- 🐻 Understand what periods and question marks mean.
- 🐻 Recognize words that name action.
- 🐻 Recognize the characters, setting and main events in a story.
- 🐻 Make inferences from a story such as cause and effect.
- 🐻 Engage in simple role playing experiences.
- 🐻 Attempt to write simple messages using creative spelling.
- 🐻 Begin to name "how many" in a group up to 3 without counting.
- 🐻 Reproduce simple patterns.
- 🐻 Begin to make size comparisons.
- 🐻 Begin to describe information on a graph.
- 🐻 Describe the life cycle of a living thing.
- 🐻 Understand evaporation and condensation.
- 🐻 Become aware of what it means to be a consumer (needs vs wants).
- 🐻 Work with a partner to complete an activity.
- 🐻 Identify features of the local landscape (bodies of water, trees, etc.).



Please discuss these concepts with your student and practice at home by reading at least 20 minutes each day with your child, then discuss what was read. When you are reading aloud point out high frequency words such as "a", "and" "the". Use the words "how many" with your child. Use puzzles with increasing numbers of pieces. Let your child compare sizes of objects found in your home. Talk about what makes you a consumer when you go to the store. Ask your child about his/her favorite activity in school.

Books related to units of study to read at home are:

<i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i> by Eric Carle	<i>Vegetable Garden</i> by D. Florian
<i>Chickens Aren't the Only Ones</i> by Ruth Heller	<i>A House Is A House for Me</i> by Mary Ann Hoberman
<i>Ask Mr. Bear</i> by M. Flack	<i>Goodnight Moon</i> by Brown, M. W.
<i>Caps for Sale</i> by Slobodkina, E.	<i>Sheep in a Jeep</i> by Shaw, N.
<i>The Rain Puddle</i> by Adelaide Holl	<i>The Empty Pot</i> by Demi
<i>The Big Seed</i> by Ellen Howard	<i>This Year's Garden</i> by Cynthia Rylant
<i>If You Give A Mouse a Cookie</i> by Laura J. Numeroff	<i>If You Give A Pig A Pancake</i> by Laura J. Numeroff
<i>If You Give A Moose A Muffin</i> by Laura J. Numeroff	<i>Dogs Don't Wear Sneakers</i> by Laura J. Numeroff
<i>If You Take a Mouse to the Movies</i> by Laura J. Numeroff	

Read your child's favorite books.
Your Child's Pre-Kindergarten Teacher.