

# Welcome to Kindergarten!



We are looking forward to working with your child this year  
and helping them to achieve their full potential!

# MEET THE TEACHERS AND INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS...

(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT BOTTOM TO TOP)

- Lisa Godwin
- Ashley Speakman (IA)
- Beth Vincent (IA)
- Sherri Kearney
- Lori Herring
- Alyson Sparkman
- Kelsey Clemens
- Jennifer Hulst
- Tiffany Jordan
- Leigh Willaford (IA)
- Jennifer Tecca (IA)
- Jalena Murphy



We believe that a good parent/teacher relationship is very important to help your child have a successful year! Throughout the year, we will communicate with you through:

- DoJo (Please sign up before you leave today!)
- Notes
- Telephone calls (Not all bad news!)
- Monthly newsletters – These will be sent home in your child's folder each month and posted on our webpage. (Very important!)
- Mid-term progress reports/Quarterly Report Cards
- Webpage and Email
- Parent/Teacher conferences



We encourage you to contact us any time if you have questions or concerns. To protect instruction, there are only certain times during the day that we can accept/return phone calls.

We are available to take phone calls during these times:

7:30 am – 8:00 am

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Please feel free to leave a message and we will return your call as quickly as we can! We check email and Dojo multiple times during the day, so that is also a quick way to contact us.

# Staggered Entry Days

Your child will only come 1 day during the first three official days on the school calendar.

On your child's **first staggered entrance day**, they will only be with a small group of their classmates. We do this to help them get used to their new surroundings in a smaller class setting.

**Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>** will be the first full day for the entire class.



# How is your child getting home?



This is the MOST IMPORTANT information that we will get from you today!



Before you leave today, please fill out how your child will be transported home each day from school.

- **Bus**- We need the “Drop-Off” address! Not all students go home in the afternoon, so if your child is going to grandma’s house, babysitter, or anywhere other than home, that is the address we need! The address you put determines the bus we put them on each afternoon and we want to make sure they get where they are supposed to go!
- **Car Rider** – Please list any and all people that are allowed to pick-up your child from the car rider pick-up point. This list will also be used as your emergency contact list.
- **Daycare Van/Bus** – We need to know the name of the Daycare

If your child is going to be a bus rider:

Visit the Onslow County School's Webpage to find out your child's bus stop and bus number.

<http://timssql670a.onslow.k12.nc.us/liveweb/webquery/>

- Your child will receive a bus tag on the first day of school, which will have their transportation information on it. DO NOT REMOVE the tag from their bookbag! If the tag breaks or gets lost, please alert us so we can get them a new one.
- There will also be a table set up tomorrow for you to verify your address and to ensure your child gets assigned to the correct bus number. **Please go to the cafeteria BEFORE visiting the classroom!!!**



# SCHOOL DISMISSAL MANAGER



- Coastal will be utilizing an on-line dismissal management system for all transportation needs.
- It is dependable, easy-to-use, and can be updated by parents and guardians from the convenience of their smart phones, tablets, and PCs.
- An email will be sent to you directly from SDM. The email from SDM will contain important instructions and your personal login credentials. Once you receive your credentials, please use them to log into the new system so that you can begin to familiarize yourself with it and set up your child's default dismissal and routine.



# IF YOU ALREADY HAVE THE APP FROM BEING A PARENT AT DIXON...

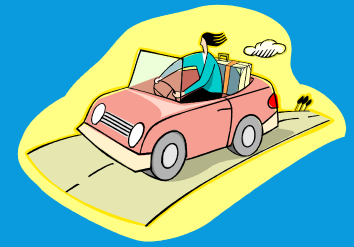
The School Dismissal Manger App must be **uninstalled** (not just deleted) and then downloaded again as a new app.

The app can be found at:

[schooldismissalmanager.com](http://schooldismissalmanager.com)

*It is NOT available at the app store*

Once you receive your welcome letter via email, you can go in and set your child's default dismissal method. Currently, all students have 'car line' selected as the default.



# Changes in Transportation

- Through the on-line dismissal management system, you can make transportation changes as late as 2:00pm on the current day. You will be able to select if your child is to ride the bus home (only the assigned bus to your physical address), be a car rider or go to an after-school care facility.
- Your child will be assigned a number. Place their number card on the dashboard window of your car before you enter the car line. You will be guided to a numbered cone. Your child will then be sent from his/her class directly to your car.
- Please make sure that your child can enter the car and be seated on the passenger side of the car to avoid having to walk in front or around moving cars.
- We ask that you not exit the car while you are in the car rider line.

# Tidbits of Information

- **School Fees - \$25.00 Total** (iPad Fee)
- **Multi-Media “Opt Out” Form** – Please understand that by checking “NO” this will include all forms of media, including the Yearbook, class picture, the class Dojo “Stories”, etc.
- **Field Trips – To Be Announced**
- **SCHOOL BEGINS at 8:45. Early drop-off begins at 8:15.**  
Please be patient in the beginning as we establish traffic patterns and procedures that will work the best for our new school.

**SCHOOL ENDS at 3:30** Again, please be patient. New routines and routes may cause some delays in the beginning.

- **RECESS** – We will have a 30 minute outdoor recess time every day unless it is raining. In the event of rain, we will have a structured recess inside during this time period. Please dress your child appropriately through the seasons. Tennis shoes are the best for your child. Flip-flops and sandals are cute, but can be dangerous for them when playing outside, so they are not in the dress code for Coastal.
- **BOOK ORDERS** – We sometimes send home a book order. We offer this as a resource to you, but you are not required to order. There is a section in your packet which goes into more detail.
- **Dress Code** – A detailed list is included in the student handbook, but we wanted to highlight just a few questions that come up most frequently. Shoes need a back, no spaghetti straps on dresses without a shrug or sweater, dresses/skirts need undershorts, pants/belts need to be kid friendly to avoid accidents.

# LET'S EAT!



- Breakfast (\$1.25) and Lunch (\$2.50) (Reduced .40)
- Milk is \$.50 if you are purchasing as a lunch boxer.
- Families are encouraged to fill out paperwork for free and reduced priced meals. Approval is based upon household size and income.
- Label Lunch Boxes and keep it simple and easy
- [www.lunchprepay.com](http://www.lunchprepay.com), or send bulk pay (daily cash in the folder is difficult at this age)
- Lunch Times will be given to you in your teacher's class schedule.
- Your child can bring a snack from home each day. Please send in a labeled bag. Snack time will be in the afternoon before leaving school every day. Healthy snacks are best. Juice boxes, grapes, apple slices/orange slices, raisins, granola bars or oatmeal bars, etc. Please refrain from sending in peanut products due to food allergies.
- Donations welcome (Individual bags of Goldfish, granola bars)

# Wish Lists and Items needed for Classroom:

- It takes a lot to keep a classroom of 20+ Kindergarteners clean and healthy. Wipes, disinfectant spray, and sanitizer, etc. are always appreciated.
- We will also have specific classroom wish lists in our individual classrooms of items needed for science projects, center activities and craft/art projects.

**Any help you can give is greatly appreciated!**



# Birthdays

We celebrate birthdays during lunch or snack time. If you would like to send in **INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED/STORE BOUGHT** items for a special snack, please feel free to do so! Little Debbie snacks, ice cream sandwiches, popsicles are always popular with the kiddos!

*Please remember that we may have some peanut/tree nut allergies in our classrooms. Make sure to check the ingredients before sending anything in.*

# WAVE Days DAILY SPECIALS A and D



## *What is a WAVE schedule?*

A WAVE schedule is a structure in which students from the same grade level complete all their "specials" in two days. (A and D) This structure allows for uninterrupted instructional days throughout the rest of the week. It also provides an uninterrupted instructional planning block for each grade level team when their students are at their specials.

Students will be able to participate in a variety of specials. We will let you know the specific days each week that our class will be doing the WAVE and which specials they will be visiting on each day.

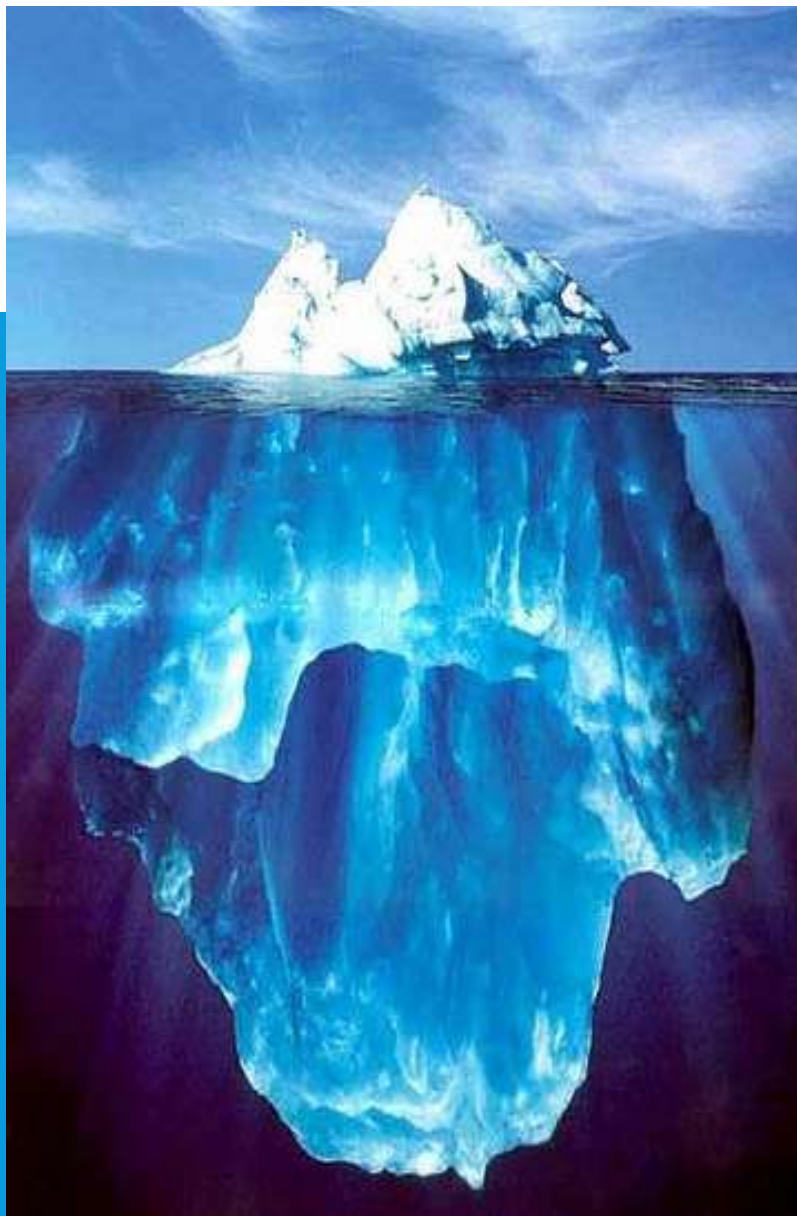


# Daily “7 Habits” Folder

This is the link between school and home!  
Everything goes in the folder except for baggie books.

- If you have a note for us or a paper that needs to be returned to school, please place it inside the first clear folder pocket.
- Any money being transported to and from school should be placed in an envelope or baggie and placed inside the first clear folder pocket.  
(ie. School fees, Lunch money, picture money, field trip money, etc.)  
**Please label what the money is for.**
- Any correspondence, such as changes in address, home phone/ employment phone, notes for an absence, etc. should also go in the first pocket of the folder.

**We do not check book bags, so don't put anything inside of the book bag or in one of it's pockets.**



**PLEASE KNOW THAT EACH CHILD IN THIS CLASSROOM IS UNIQUE AND SPECIAL IN THEIR OWN WAY.**

**DON'T JUST VIEW THEM FROM A SURFACE LEVEL.**

**KNOW THAT EACH ONE HAS A PERSONAL STORY AND SPECIFIC NEEDS THAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT OR SEE... KIND OF LIKE AN ICEBERG.**

**TRUST ME TO PERSONALIZE THEIR LEARNING AND HELP THEM WITH THEIR INDIVIDUAL GOALS AND TRY NOT TO COMPARE YOUR CHILD TO OTHERS.**



# ACADEMICS

What to expect in the year to come!



# KINDERGARTEN ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE...

## Language Arts –

ⓐKindergarten students are expected to be decoding words and reading independently by the end of the year, while also being able to answer higher order questions to assess their comprehension of what they have read. We will be using programs based on the “Science of Reading” to aid in our instruction.

ⓑWe will be using the mClass Dibels Program to assess students at the beginning, middle and end of year to track student progress.

ⓒThey also must master sight words and should be writing sentences to a topic by the end of the year.

# KINDERGARTEN ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE...

## Math

Ⓢ Students will learn to do addition and subtraction to 10.

Ⓢ We start the foundation of Algebraic thinking through part/part/whole equations.

Ⓢ They will learn how to classify objects, understand spatial concepts, identify 2D and 3D shapes and be able to use higher order vocabulary to describe and compare shapes, learn multiple ways of how to represent a given number.

Ⓢ They will learn to count to 100 by 1's and 10's.

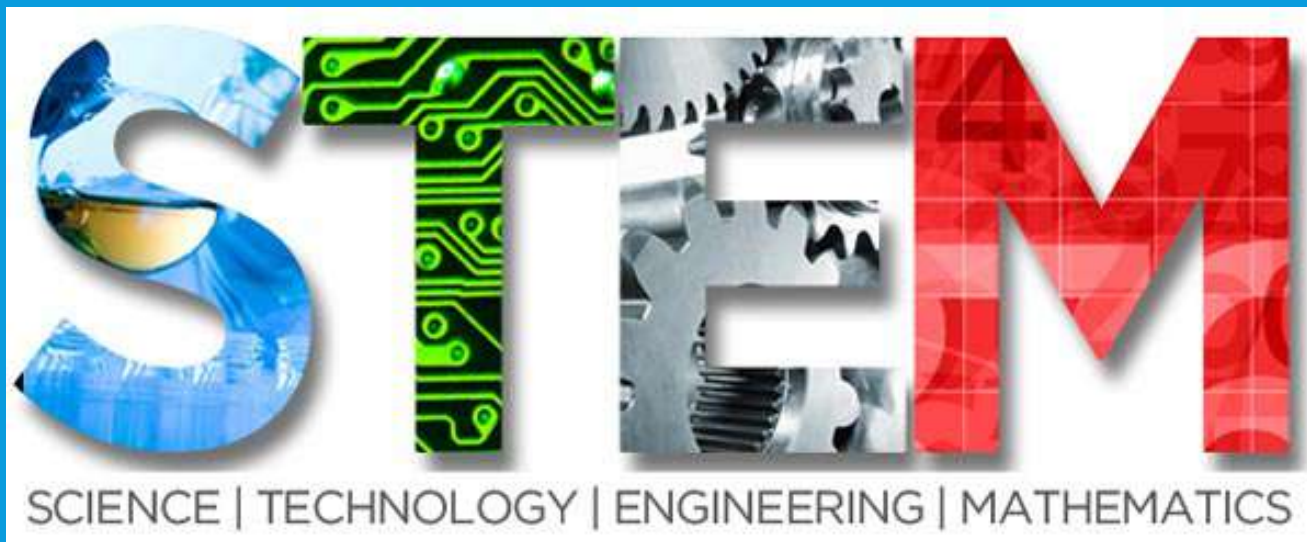
Ⓢ Students will be assessed at the beginning, middle and end of the year using the iReady assessment tool.

# KINDERGARTEN ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE...

⑩ **No naps**

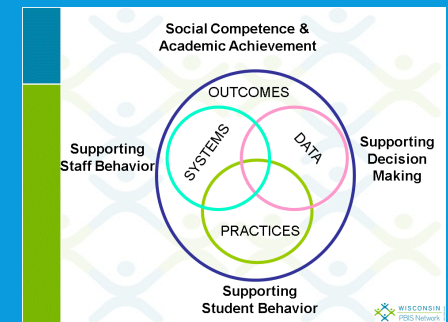
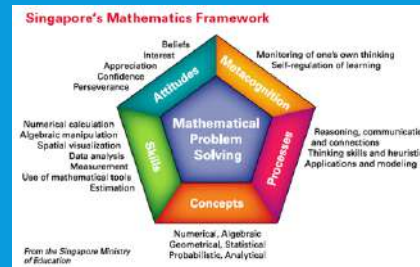
⑩ **Play with Purpose** - Play in our K classroom looks very different than the way a student may play at home or in Pre-school. Please discuss this with your child before they come for orientation. Centers must remain closed until they are taught expectations. Encourage them to look with their eyes and explore their new environment without touching the items that may be on the shelves.

**WE WILL ALSO BE DOING SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS AND THEMATIC PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR THAT INCORPORATE OUR SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS.**



# SOME OF THE PROGRAMS COASTAL WILL BE USING TO SUPPORT ACADEMICS AND SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL LEARNING:

- Amplify Reading
- iReady
- CKLA
- Science Spin
- Let's Find Out
- Leader in Me
- PBIS





**“I’M BORED.”**

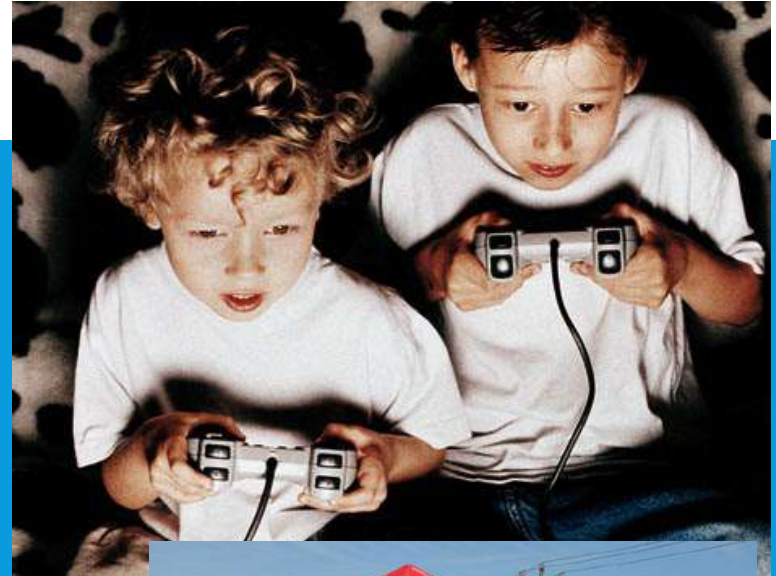
**YEP, THEY PROBABLY WILL BE!**

**BUT, PLEASE UNDERSTAND WHY...**

Kids are entering into an environment where they are being asked to do “unpreferred” tasks. This is going to be boring to them, especially when they are used to the stimulation of video games, tablets, and playing whenever, whatever and however they like. It’s hard.

We promise that your child **WILL** be challenged.

Please be careful not confuse “Boring” with “Challenging.”



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

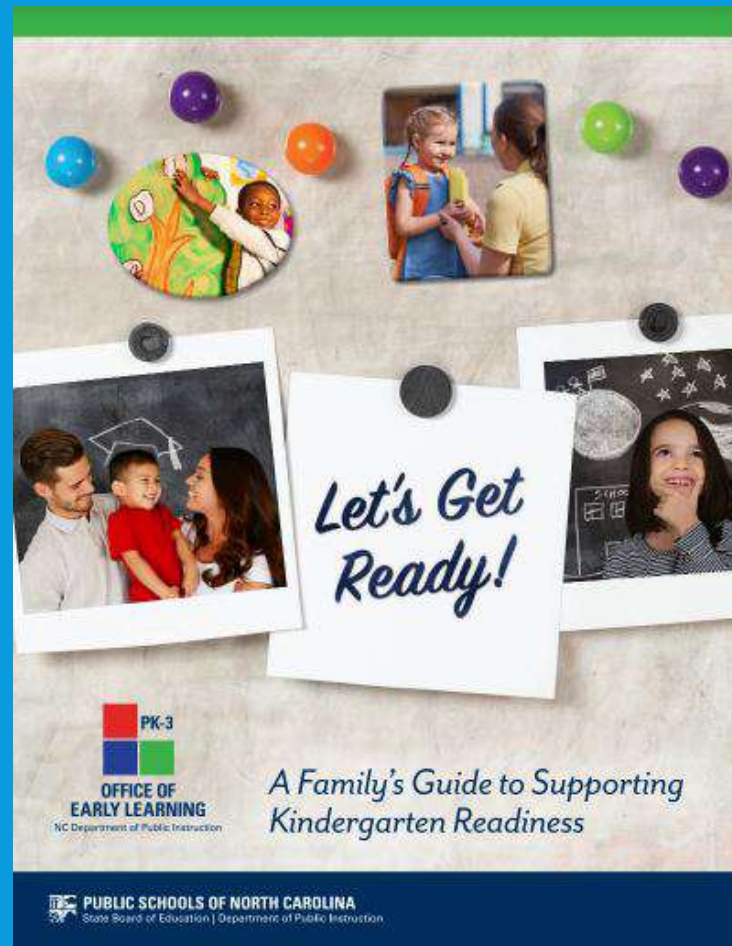
**On order for your child to reach their academic goals, that are required in Kindergarten, it will take the teacher and parents working as a team to help them.**

**Approach academics like you would sports, dance or any other type of extracurricular activity. Practice makes perfect!**

# NC DPI PARENT GUIDE

YOU WILL BE RECEIVING THIS PARENT GUIDE TO TAKE HOME WITH YOU  
TODAY.

IT WILL BE A GREAT RESOURCE FOR YOU TO USE AT HOME.



# INSIDE OF THE NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION GUIDE YOU WILL FIND...

- Transition Timeline - This tool outlines important steps families can take as they work through the transition process the year before kindergarten.
- Support Tips- A collection of interaction, communication, and response strategies for families and caregivers specific to each area of development.
- “Try This” Activities -Choices of child-friendly activities that families and caregivers can do at home to support the development of the skills listed in each section.
- Resources -Links can be found on the back cover of this guide that provide additional information, strategies, and supports.

# CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

We expect the students to help create a classroom environment, which is **safe** and is **conducive to learning**.

☞ We want each child to know that they are respected, loved, and valued in our classrooms. That is why we must teach them to have the correct behaviors. Each child will be expected to follow our school and classroom rules.

☞ A booklet will be provided for you by the district that gives you the Code of Conduct for Onslow County Schools. Please read over it carefully and discuss with your child.

# LEADER IN ME

*Leader in Me* is an evidence-based, social emotional learning process—developed in partnership with educators—that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. It is based on practices of personal, interpersonal, and organizational effectiveness. Distinct in several ways, *Leader in Me* starts from a powerful premise—every child possesses unique strengths and has the ability to be a leader—which shapes the views of staff to value and develop the whole child.

# WE WILL USE THE 8 HABITS TO GUIDE US ON OUR JOURNEY...

- Habit 1: Be Proactive – I am in charge of myself!
- Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind – Have a plan!
- Habit 3: Put First Things First – Work then play!
- Habit 4: Think, Win, Win – Everyone can win!
- Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood – Have an open mind and open heart. Listen and then respond with thoughtfulness.
- Habit 6: Synergize – Together is better!
- Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw – Balance is best!
- Habit 8: Find Your Voice and Recognize the Voice of Others- Every voice matters!

# DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF SCHOOL WE WILL LEARN...

- ⑩ Class rules and expectations.
- ⑩ How to use “The Choice Wheel” to help them deal with conflict.
- ⑩ What it means to have “Think Time” and what that looks like in our classroom.
- ⑩ We will learn about the “What, Why, How” approach to dealing with inappropriate choices.



# TEACHING SELF-MONITORING SKILLS

- ⑩ Our school uses a color system to help students learn to self-monitor their behavior choices. The colors match up with our “Leader in Me” initiative.
- ⑩ This system is not meant to be a form of discipline but a tool to help students visually monitor their choices and make adjustments as needed.
- ⑩ We recognize that our littles are learning and growing, so we will only notify you if there are significant issues.

# SOME THINGS WE MAY SEE OUR SWEET BABIES STRUGGLE WITH...

- Ⓣ Excessive talking
- Ⓣ Interrupting the teacher during rug time
- Ⓣ Touching/Hitting/Kicking Others
- Ⓣ Inappropriate or hurtful language
- Ⓣ Not doing their work in a timely manner
- Ⓣ Not paying attention to the teacher
- Ⓣ Not playing in centers correctly



Remember, they are 5 years old! They are in a new environment with 20+ kids and navigating this new world can be hard. We will work **TOGETHER** to help them find success!

## **When student behaviors need to be addressed, we will be using the **What, Why, How Approach** -**

- **First, we will ask them “WHAT”** caused them to move a color. It is important to give the student an opportunity to take ownership of the problem/incident. This also helps the teacher understand the situation more clearly, so we can be fair.
- **Second, we will ask them “WHY”** they chose to break a school or classroom rule.
- **Lastly, we will ask them “HOW”** they could have handled the situation differently and **“HOW”** they think they can make a better choice moving forward. This also gives them a chance to take ownership in the situation and gives them a voice in the process.

# We will always focus on the positive!

- Daily rewards and incentives for good choices will be given. So, if you have any small toys/prizes that you would like to donate to our individual treasure boxes, we would be most appreciative.



# ATTENDANCE

- 10 Your child's regular and prompt attendance is crucial to their success. We do lots of group-oriented activities and sometimes it is hard for your child to make up the work.
- 10 We realize that there are times when your child cannot attend. We do require a note to be sent in upon their return to explain their absence.
- 10 Please, please keep your child at home if they are running a temperature or if they have been sick during the night!
- 10 Although we stress attendance, we would rather your child miss one day and avoid spreading the germ to the other children (and teachers!) in the classroom!!!! In the time of Covid, this is more important than ever.
- 10 A detailed plan to address student or family sickness will be provided for you by our district.

# Accidents Happen!!!!

We will be giving each parent a Large Ziplock Bag for you to send in an extra set of clothes for your child. This set of clothes will be kept here at school in case of an emergency situation.

We expect all students to be potty trained by this point in their lives, but every once in awhile, an accident does occur. Having their own clothes at school helps us handle the situation in a respectful and efficient way.

Depending on the type of “accident” that occurs, we may need your assistance.

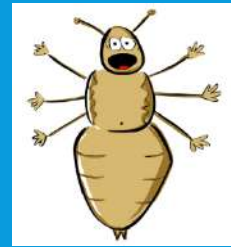
It is not proper for us to assist your child in the rest rooms with personal hygiene, other than monitoring the washing of hands or helping them with buttons. We **do not** help them wipe their privates. Please make sure your child understands this and can be independent in taking care of themselves.

This is for their safety, as well, as the safety of the teachers. Thanks for your understanding!

How -  
to

Talk about that  
dreaded  
4 letter word...

# LICE!!!!



Unfortunately, this little critter seems to show up at one time or another in the school year! Please know that we will be taking precautions here at school but we need your help at home!

- Please do a nightly/morning head check.
- Keep your child home and treat if any are found.
- Let us know, so we can do head checks here at school.
- Law protects against discussing cases of lice within a class or school.
- You will be personally notified only if your child is found to have lice.



# Classroom Visits

We will be following COVID guidelines this school year, so we will be letting you know what the district and school policy will be as soon as know those details.

## **The first day of school...**

You are encouraged to walk your child into school on their first staggered day (**9:00 am**) and take pictures or video tape, but don't linger too long. There are going to be some children who cry and may not want to stay. They are going to beg you to stay. They are going to say, "Please don't leave me!" And your heart is going to break.

## **But here is what you MUST do...**

Give them a big hug and kiss, tell them you love them, that you will see them after school and then...leave.

This will help them settle into the routine quicker and set the expectations day one.

Before we close...

Are there any questions?

