



Mrs. Wenning's 2017-2018

ABC's of KINDERGARTEN



If your child is **absent**, please call 330-830-8028 to let us know. A note stating the reason for the absence must be brought to school as soon as possible to avoid an unexcused absence. (Please do not text me to call them off.)

Arrival: Please use the side entrance for dropping off your child in the morning. If arriving late, after 8:55, please park your car and sign your child in at the office.



Birthdays are recognized during our calendar routine. If you would like to send in a treat on your child's birthday would be fine, just let me know! We will recognize summer birthdays around their ½ birthday when possible. Please do not send **birthday party invitations** to be distributed at school unless all children receive an invitation (or all boys or all girls).

Bus Badges should be worn on your child's backpack for the first few months of school. This will help your child, their bus driver and all of the teachers at bus duty. If you need a replacement please let me know.

I will send home **Book It** beginning in October through March. This is a program through Pizza Hut. Read with your child, record the books on the paper and send it back to school at the end of the month. Your child will earn a FREE personal pan pizza.



Parent/Teacher **conferences** are held in October and February. Watch for information and reply accordingly. Conferences will be held on October 3rd, 5th and 11th, as well as February 14th and 22nd.

Communication is important. Feel free to contact me whenever you have a question, comment, or concern. You can reach me by phone 330-830-8028 ext. 5154, in person, by email (mmw2jc@jackson.sparcc.org), or by note in your child's Home Book. This year I will be using Remind -an App for your phone to share pictures, information and reminders. You will need to join our class to participate by texting to 81010 and your message will be @f934k This will be my main form of sharing so please consider getting the app (it's free). We can also chat in this! If you don't have a smartphone you can still get all of the information via text or e-mail. (See attached directions)

Our class will go to the **Computer Lab** twice a week. We will learn computer skills, play educational games and even try typing some of our writing later in the year.

Cool Cat of the Week is a special time when we focus on your child for the whole entire week! There is a paper in the Home Book explaining the activities. I will remind you a week in advance that your child's week is approaching.



Discipline is important to create a classroom that is a positive and safe place for all. Our rules and discipline policy are in the Home Book to review.



My school **email address** is mmw2jc@jackson.sparcc.org. I check my e-mail in the morning, after lunch and in the evening after my kids go to bed. If you should have an unexpected change for how your child is getting home at the end of the day please call the office directly and do not e-mail.



Every **Friday** is **Spirit Day** at Sauder. Children are encouraged to wear purple and gold to show their school Spirit. The PTG offers a variety of t-shirts and sweatshirts available for purchase at Open House and throughout the year.

Foundations is a phonics program that begins in Kindergarten. We will learn correct letter formation, letter sounds, and how to blend sounds together. I will send home a note each time we begin a new unit with some details about what we are learning and suggestions for ways to practice at home.

Our class will have a 35 minute **gym** class on Wednesday and Friday. Your child will need to wear gym shoes on gym day. They may also keep a pair of gym shoes in their locker to change into if they are able to do this independently. Please be sure the shoes are labeled. It is recommended that girls who would like to wear a dress on gym day wear shorts underneath.



Homework in Kindergarten this year will begin with sight word flashcards. Please practice sight word flashcards regularly so your child doesn't fall behind. In January we will also begin a writing journal for homework each week. Going over the papers your child brings home will help keep you informed on their progress and are a great way to start a conversation about their day!



Independence is a goal for students because it builds self-esteem and self-confidence. Kindergarteners are very capable of doing many things on their own and I encourage them to do as much as they can for themselves in the classroom. Please work on the following self-help skills at home with your child: *zipping, tying, dressing, cleaning up after themselves, etc.*

Interim Reports/Progress Reports -Interim reports are sent home midway through the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th nine weeks. Progress reports are sent home at the end of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th nine weeks. If you are concerned about your child's progress at any time please contact me.



Writing takes place every day in kindergarten. One way we accomplish this is through writing stories in our **journals**. Encourage your child to write at home for a variety of purposes –note to family members, shopping list, diary, homework, etc.



Keep updated by checking the Home Book book every day for notes and information. The PTG sends a monthly newsletter via e-mail that is also full of important dates, news on special events and our school's accomplishments. You can follow Jackson Local Schools, Sauder Elementary School, and Sauder Elementary PTG on Facebook.



Our class will visit the **library** once a week on Thursday. Our librarian is Mrs. Koch. Your child will check out a book when we visit the library and return it within the following week. If your child forgets to return the book, they will not be allowed to check out a new book until it is returned. Kindergarteners will not be checking out books the first few weeks.

Our class eats **lunch** at 12:20. If **lunch money** is sent to school, please send it in the Home Book. If adding money to your child's account with a check, please write it out to Jackson Local Schools. The easiest way to add funds to your child's account is Pay For It (online). A student lunch costs \$2.50 and includes milk. If your child is packing their lunch but wants to purchase milk only the cost is \$0.50. The lunch menu is available online and a copy will be in their HORSE book. Each day there are two entrées offered. A peanut butter sandwich is also available daily if they do not want the entrée offered. If you would like to come have lunch with your child you can purchase a lunch for \$3.25. To help your child make a smooth transition to Kindergarten, please refrain from coming to lunch during the first month of school. Please let me know in the morning so I can order a lunch for you! If your child comes with with a smiley face stamp on their hand that means that their account is running low on funds.



The children will have **music** class twice a week with Mrs. Potts on Monday and Tuesday.

Medical Information / Medication : It is important that you inform us of any medical concern that you have for your child. No medication can be dispensed without written and signed instructions from your child's physician. **Children are NOT permitted to carry any medication to school.**



News will be sent via Remind and e-mail. This is a secure communication tool that will allow me to share photos and information with you.



Open Door Policy -There are many opportunities for you to participate in the classroom during story snack and special projects. Please remember to sign in at the office anytime you come to school and bring your ID.



Parent Pick Up: When picking up your child after school, please use the entrance between the middle school and Sauder, then join the line-up. A teacher will come to your car and send your child out to you. A note needs to be sent in to school in the morning if you will be picking up your child early.

Mid-day Pick Up: If it is necessary to pick up your child during the day please send in a note letting us know what time to have your child ready. You can pick up your child in the school office.

Parties: There will be an opportunity to volunteer to help with the Halloween and Valentine's day parties.

Please check the PTG newsletter for more information on how to volunteer.



PTG: Sauder has a wonderful Parent Teacher Group that supports our school in a variety of ways. They hold several events for students and families throughout the year as well as raise funds for a variety of uses. Please consider being a part of this group and supporting our school.

Questions: ??? Please call, text or write a note if you have any questions.



Kindergarteners have lunch **recess** from 12:10 to 12:25. We also take another recess break during the day.

Restroom: Your child is allowed to use the restroom whenever needed. At the beginning of the year, we take whole class restroom breaks several times a day. As they get used to our school and the bathroom routines, these transition into sending groups out to use the restroom together.

Reading is an important part of the Kindergarten curriculum. We have many leveled books that we use in the classroom regularly. Be sure to practice the sight word flashcards that are sent home on a regular basis.



The focus of the kindergarten **science** curriculum is on developing an awareness of the world in which we live. Science concepts and skills will be explored utilizing a literacy based, hands-on approach.

The kindergarten **social studies** curriculum focuses on the students and how they relate to others in their families, classroom, school, and community. Social Studies concepts and skills will be explored utilizing a literacy based, hands-on approach.

Snack: A snack will need to be sent in for your child each day. A separate snack bag is recommended! Send in a Gallon sized baggie full of snacks and it will be sent home when it is empty. I keep pretzels here incase they forget!



If your child has any changes in their **transportation** please do not leave a voicemail or e-mail. If you know in advance, please send a note in your child's Home Book. If a change becomes necessary during the day, please call the school directly just in case I don't get to check my messages.



Volunteers and **visitors** must register in the office and pick up a badge. For your child's safety, the only doors you may enter during the school day are the front doors by the office. There is a doorbell and it must be unlocked for you to enter. Please be patient and understanding. This is to help ensure safety in our school.



Family **vacations** are wonderful opportunities for your family; however, please be sure to let us know that you are planning on taking a vacation (during school time). There are five vacation days allotted in a school year. I check my **voicemail** only when the children are at a special or during lunch and recess. If you have an urgent message please let the school secretary know.



Wet and/or dirty clothes can be uncomfortable. Please send an extra set of clothing (shirt, pants, socks, underclothes) in a Ziploc baggie marked with your child's name on the outside of the bag. These will be stored at school and used by your child in the event they are needed.

The children will go outside for recess each day the **weather** permits. Please have your child wear appropriate clothing, especially in winter. Kindergarten kids sometimes have trouble recognizing their possessions so please be sure to label everything.



Parents and family members may **eXit** and enter via the main school entry.

Your ideas...and suggestions are welcome!

Zzzzzz - Make sure that your child gets plenty of rest. Setting and keeping a bedtime is a wonderful gift you can give your child!

