

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

Hi! I am very excited to be your child's teacher this school year. My name is Jennifer Fyke and this is my 18th year teaching kindergarten . I attended Eastern Illinois University. I received a bachelor's degree in elementary education with a concentration of psychology. I live in New Lenox and have 3 children, Noah is 10 and Brynn is 9 and Max is 2.

I have been busy getting the classroom ready for your child. Please email me as soon as possible if your child goes by a name that is different than what is on the front of this envelope. For example, if your child's name is Madison and likes to be called Maddy, let me know. I would like to make sure they can recognize their name on the many things throughout the classroom. When you email, please put your child's name in the subject box. Inside you will find "The ABC's" of my class which is information about the most common kindergarten topics. You can also find this information on my website. I look forward to meeting you and your child on orientation day, August 21st. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Jen Fyke

Allergies: Please inform me of any allergies and/or health considerations your child has by filling out the form in your orientation packet.

Art/Music: Each week we will attend art or music class on Tuesday. They alternate each week.

Backpacks: Make sure your child brings a backpack to school each day. It needs to be large enough to fit a folder, snack and library book. Please make sure your child can manipulate the backpack on his/her own.

Birthdays: We love to celebrate birthdays at school. Please remember food items are NOT allowed to be brought to school to celebrate birthdays. Small items such as bubbles, stickers, pencils etc are allowed. Your child will be recognized on the announcements, the class will sing to your child and your child will get a birthday crown to wear at school. If your child has a summer birthday we will celebrate it at the end of the school year.

Book Orders: I will be sending home scholastic book order forms monthly. If you would like to order, you can do so by returning the order form to school with a check made out to SCHOLASTIC or you may order online using the code: KJQTQ

Conferences: Conferences will be held once a year in November. Attendance is necessary to receive your child's report card. You may request another conference at any time throughout the school year.

Communication: Please check your child's folder daily! A school newsletter will be sent home via email every Thursday along with other notes from the office. I will be sending

a classroom newsletter home on Fridays to let you know what we have been working on in class.

Discipline: We use the Champs program as a school wide model of behavior. These rules are used to foster a caring learning environment. The students are given many opportunities to have positive behavior rewards, but will be corrected for any misbehavior.

Dress Code: Shoulder straps on shirts/dresses need to be at least 3 fingers wide. Please no sandals or crocks, they are not comfortable for the students on the playground with the mulch. Also, we can get messy at school, however most of the paint, markers etc are washable.

Email: This is the best way to contact me. I check it throughout the day and can promptly get back to you. My email address is: jfyke@nlsd122.org You may also call or send a written note to school with your child if you need to contact me.

Folders: Your child will need to bring his/her folder to school each day. Please check the folder daily. In the folder are papers that we completed throughout the day and notes for parents.

Gym Class: We go to gym class once a week on: Monday. Your child will need to wear gym shoes on this day in order to participate.

Homework: I will send homework on Tuesday. This will usually take 10-15 minutes and will carry over skills that we are working on in class. Please make sure your child puts his/her name on their work. I will check homework, put a sticker on it and return it to your child.

Half day schedule: There will be half days throughout the year. Please watch for these reminders in your child's folder. On these days only one session of students will attend school. Students attend from 8:25-11:25.

Independence: I try to foster independence in the children daily. Please allow your child to begin developing his/her self help skills by letting them : pack/unpack their own backpack and folder, zip their coat, tie their shoes etc. This establishes a sense of routine and responsibility that the students will need throughout their school career.

Juice: If your child does not like milk they may bring juice to have with their daily snack.

Kid friendly Snack: We will have a snack time each day. This is a good time for social development. The children will need to bring a small nutritious snack to school each day. Snack time is only 15 minutes so make sure the snack is something they can manage and eat in that time frame.

Library: We will go to library on Friday . Kids will be allowed to check out a book. The book must be returned the following Friday in order to check out a new book.

Milk: You will have the opportunity to purchase milk for your child to drink during our snack break each day. You can choose white or chocolate. The milk form should have arrived in your registration packet.

Notes from home: Please remind your child to give me any papers they may have in their folder from home at the BEGINNING of class. It is very important to convey to your child that it is their responsibility to check their folder each day and give me any necessary papers. I do not check each child's' folder.

Orientation Day: You come to school with your child on this day, August 21st. This is a day for you and your child to meet me and to familiarize yourselves with the classroom, school and bus. Please bring all of your child's school supplies on this day.

Parties: We will have 2 class parties during the school year. We will have a halloween and holiday party. Room mom/dads will organize and plan the parties. If you would like to help with the parties please fill out the volunteer form from the PTO.

Questions: Please feel free to contact me with any concern/question you may have no matter how minor you think it may be!

Report Cards: Report cards will be issued 3 times a year. A parent must sign and return the report card envelope as soon as possible. Assessment sheets will be sent home periodically in between report cards to keep you updated on the skills your child has mastered and the skills they need more work on.

Recess: We will go out for recess daily as weather and schedules allow. Make sure your child is dressed appropriately for safety and weather.

Star Student: Each student will have the opportunity to be "Star of the Week". This is a great way for all of us to get to know a little bit about your child. When it is your child's turn they will get a reminder of what needs to be sent in each day. Please check the "star student" schedule in the orientation folder.

Supplies: Please DO NOT label your child's supplies with their name. We share all of the supplies. **In addition to the supply list, your child will need a pencil box/case large**

enough to hold a box of crayons, pencil, glue and scissors. Please send it to school as soon as possible.

Things from home: Students should not bring toys, stuffed animals, electronic games, or other personal belongings from home. We wouldn't want anything to be broken or lost.

Under the weather: If your child is sick, please keep them at home until they are feeling better. In kindergarten, we love to share everything except germs!! If your child will be absent, remember to call the school and let us know.

Volunteers: We LOVE volunteers. There will be many opportunities to volunteer at school. Parents are welcome to help with projects, copying, laminating, cutting, glueing or special events. You will find a volunteer form in your orientation folder. I will send home a calendar monthly with the day I have scheduled you in.

Work: Most of the work completed in class is done whole group. There are times in which I will get the kids started on an activity and let them finish independently. If your child had trouble with a concept I will write: "completed with help". I try to do a variety of activities that allow for exploration of materials.

Year End Events: There are a few end of the year events that parents are invited to attend so save some of those sick/personal days!!

Zero Tolerance: Bullying is not tolerated in my class. However, I can not hear and/or see everything that happens in the classroom or on the playground. If your child is having a problem with another child please encourage them to talk to me about it or you may give me a call too.

