Welcome to Kindergarten!

Mrs. Farley

2019-2020

Welcome to Kindergarten parents and students! The following information will help answer some of the questions you may have about our class. I am looking forward to working with your student and having a great year! Please read over the information and follow up with me if you have any questions.

**Drop Off/Pick UP**

Your student should be at the school by 8:15 AM or 12:10 PM (Monday-Thursday) and by 8:15 AM or 11:10 AM on Fridays. I will greet AM students outside the Kindergarten doors at this time. PM students will line up in the main hallway in front of the office and I will pick them up at our PM start time. A lot of learning happens right at the beginning of our day, so please respect our start time.

School ends at 11:00 AM or 2:55 PM (Monday-Thursday) and at 10:20 AM or 1:15 PM on Fridays. Kindergarten students will not be allowed to walk home by themselves. Please review the pickup/loading information on our Sunrise website at: <https://sunrise.canyonsdistrict.org/index.php/parking-lot-and-loading-unloading-procedures/> .

Use the west drive through and pull forward to the crosswalk near the kindergarten doors. I will provide a card to put in your car window so I know which student you are picking up. I will assist at AM loading all year long. I will be there for PM loading until about the middle of September. By then, most students and families have a really good routine and the on-duty faculty can provide any assistance after that. If your student is not picked up on time, he/she will be taken to the front office to wait for you there. The office staff will call to let you know your student is waiting there. Keep me informed of any carpools that might be formed or changes in daycare pick-ups.

**Daily Schedule and Attendance**

Every day of school is important. Please read our Sunrise attendance policy at <https://sunrise.canyonsdistrict.org/index.php/policies/> . Follow directions there if your student is going to miss a day for any reason.

Below are the AM/PM class schedules so that you can have a better understanding of the things we accomplish. PlayWorks (PE) time is on Tuesdays for AM kinder and Wednesdays for PM kinder. PlayWorks is in the gym and students are very active during this time so please have your student dress appropriately (running shoes, not flip-flops or winter boots, shorts under dresses, etc.) so they can participate fully. They love this time!

**Monday,Tuesday,Wednesday and Thursday** (See altered Playworks schedules below)

8:15 AM (12:10 PM) – 9:00 AM (12:55 PM) Whole Group Literacy Instruction

9:00 AM (12:55 PM) – 9:45 AM (1:40 PM) Skill-based Literacy Instruction and

Independent Practice Stations

9:45 AM (1:40 PM) – 10:05 AM (2:00 PM) Whole Group Math Instruction

10:05 AM (2:00 PM) – 10:15 AM (2:15 PM) Skill-based Math Instruction and Math Practice Stations AM/Recess PM

10:15 AM (2:15 PM) – 10:30 AM (2:25 PM) AM Recess/PM Skill-based Math Instruction and Math Practice Stations

10:30 AM (2:25 PM) – 11:00 AM (2:55 PM) Daily Oral Language Block/Pack up

11:00 AM – 2:55 PM Dismiss

**Tuesday (AM) and Wednesday (PM) with PlayWorks**

8:15 AM (12:10 PM) – 9:00 AM (12:55 PM) Whole Group Literacy Instruction

9:00 AM (12:55 PM) – 9:45 AM (1:40 PM) Skill-based Literacy Instruction and Independent Practice Stations

9:45 AM (1:40 PM) – 10:05 AM (2:00 PM) Whole Group Math Instruction

10:05 AM (2:00 PM) – 10:15 AM (2:30 PM) AM Skill-based Math Instruction and Math Practice Stations /PM Playworks

10:15 AM (2:30 PM) – 10:45 AM (2:40 PM) AM Playworks/PM Skill-based Math Instruction and Math Practice Stations

10:45 AM (2:40 PM) – 11:00 AM (2:55 PM) Wrap up/Pack up

11:00 AM - 2:55 PM Dismiss

**Friday (Early Dismissal Day)**

8:15 AM (11:10 AM) – 8:55 AM (11:50 AM) Whole Group Literacy Instruction

8:55 AM (11:50 AM) – 9:20 AM (12:15 PM) Small Group Literacy Instruction and

Independent Practice Stations

9:20 AM (12:15 PM) – 9:50 AM (12:45 PM) Whole Group Math Instruction

9:50 AM (12:45 PM) – 10:20 AM (1:15 PM) Daily Oral Language/Pack up

10:20 AM - 1:15 PM Dismiss

We try to stick to this schedule but wa are flexible to assemblies and other school events. For a downloadable copy of the schedule for your session specifically, see our class webpage.

**Homework**

Each student has a yellow (AM) or blue (PM) folder. Please check your student’s folder daily for important notes, reminders and homework.

On Monday, your student will bring home the Literacy homework for the whole week. The literacy packet contains short reading and writing activities for each day. A math homework page is attached to the math lesson for the day and will come home when we complete a math lesson.

These pages are to give our students extra practice at home and is not graded. Please don’t spend more that 10 minutes or so on homework each night, about 5 minutes for literacy and 5 minutes for math, if your schedule causes your student to miss a day, don’t worry, just skip it and try for the next day. A little bit of practice every day is better than a two-hour session at the end of the week. Literacy homework packets should be returned by Friday, or the following Monday. Math homework is due the next day after it comes home.

Attached to the homework is a weekly reading calendar. Students are encouraged to read at least 10 minutes every day in addition to the 10 minutes of homework. At the beginning of the year, this will mostly be you or an older sibling reading to your student. In January, if not sooner, students should be reading simple books on their own or to an adult or sibling. Please record these reading minutes on the weekly schedule, sign it and send it back as part of the homework packet.

In January, we will be participating in a fun reading challenge called *Bonanza Gold Mine*. I will let you know when we start. As students turn in their reading minutes, they travel toward the Gold Mine, receiving small prizes for milestones along the way. After 18 hours of reading at home, students will reach the Gold Mine! A special certificate acknowledging their accomplishment will be awarded. It is a fun way for me to reward students’ great reading habits!

Special assignments will be sent home as needed to support our schoolwork. Please watch for them in your student’s folder.

**Behavior**

Kindergarten is a big year for learning how to behave with peers and in a group setting. Our class will begin the year with lots of practice as talk about procedures, rules, and expectations within our school. Sunrise has four focus areas: Safe- Inside and Out; On Time and On Task; Accept Responsibility; and Respect Self, Others, and Property (aka SOAR).

“Something to Celebrate” tickets

This is the school-wide positive behavior reinforcement system used at Sunrise. When students are seen SOARing, they will receive a special ticket. Besides rewarding students for working hard on Sunrise focus areas, I use these tickets in many ways in the classroom to reward great behavior and fabulous effort on school work as well as kindness and helpfulness. On Fridays, our school does a school-wide drawing, and a few students are drawn from each grade-level to receive a small prize from the office as well.

“I Spy”

In an effort to build a sense of community in our classroom, when our whole class is SOARing or doing especially good work together, we can put a “I Spy” (pom pom) in the jar. When the jar is full, we will have a special activity in class.

Think Time

Sometimes we all have a hard day. Students who choose not to follow school rules will be given verbal reminders of appropriate behavior. If they continue the incorrect behavior, they will be given a warning and encouraged to change their behavior. Any further infraction will result in “Think Time”. This involves the students sitting in an area away from the group or sometimes in a neighboring classroom under that teacher’s supervision to calm down, think about the rule that was broken and what they can do better next time. After a couple of minutes, they will be provided a recording sheet to write/draw about what happened. After the student has completed his or her “Think Time”, he or she is welcomed back to the regular activities. Parents will be notified of any “Think Time” issued.

**Supplies**

Student will not need to bring any supplies to school except a backpack to carry their class homework folder back and forth in. We will provide pencils, paper, scissors, glue, etc.

Many parents often ask how they can support their student’s classroom through donation of materials. If you choose to do so, the items below are materials that could benefit your student’s class. Please note that any donations, though appreciated, are **OPTIONAL**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Skinny Dry Erase Markers in any color | Small prizes for class prize box |
| Washable Markers | Tissues (especially in the winter) |
| Ziploc bags (sandwich, snack, and gallon size)  We use these for everything and love your donations! | Art Supplies (pipe cleaners, glue sticks, scrapbook paper, cardstock, stamps, ink pads, googly eyes, tape, design scissors, feathers, sequins, stickers, etc.) |

**Volunteers**

Kindergarten is a great time to enjoy experiences in the classroom with your student, however, all volunteers must fill out an application through Canyons School District and receive approval to volunteer. Please visit [www.canyonsdistrict.org](http://www.canyonsdistrict.org), click on parent and students, then volunteers, and finally, “Click Here to Complete the Volunteer Application”. It takes about 72 hours for your application to be approved. Please do this in the first week of school so you will be ready to help us when we need it! Your application, once approved, lasts the whole year.

After our classroom is up and running, mid to late September, we will need assistance running practice stations, logging in on computers, daily oral language centers and miscellaneous art projects. I will attach a google document link to our weekly email with the activities for the week that you can help with. Just enter your name in the spot and time I have indicated if you are available to help.. We will be so happy to have you with us!

PTA also needs volunteers for the many great activities, programs, and events they host. They will also be in charge of setting up Room Parents, Jr. Achievement teachers, and Art teachers for our classroom. Be sure watch for sign ups from our great PTA Committee members for the various programs. Please join PTA even if you don’t volunteer. The PTA uses your membership funds to pay for our fieldtrips, our homework folders and many other great programs for our students!

Kindergarten goes on 2 fieldtrips, Wheeler Farm in October and the Zoo in May. Special sign ups and permission slips will go home for those events.

**Parent Contact**

I will use a variety of forms of contact this year to help keep parents up to date on the happenings in our classroom:

* Weekly emails with detailed information about learning and schedules for our class – this is the primary source of information about our class. Please confirm right away that I have a correct email that you look at frequently. If you would like to add another parent or caretaker to my email list, please provide me with that email as soon as possible.
* “Remind” app – sign up instructions for your class are in your student’s homework folder. This folder will come home with your student on the first day of class.
* Phone calls (as needed)

**Teacher Contact Information**

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns you might have. Email is the most efficient way to reach me. I will respond the same day in most cases.

**Email –** [jolene.farley@canyonsdistrict.org](mailto:jolene.farley@canyonsdistrict.org) **Phone –** 801-826-9550

**Class Website**

Please visit our class website for information about our class, a calendar, downloadable class documents you may have misplaced and other home resources.

**<http://farleykinderflyers.weebly.com/>**

Please detach and return this page.

I have read Mrs. Farley’s “Welcome to Kindergarten” packet and discussed important items with my student. Any questions I have are written below or have been emailed to Mrs. Farley.

Student Name \_ \_ \_ \_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Parent Signature\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Date\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Comments/ Questions

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