

August 26, 2019

Greeting Senior Kindergarten Parents and Friends,

Welcome to the first SK newsletter of the year. These weekly newsletters will be my main source for providing you with information about school, our classroom and any upcoming events that involve your students.

I hope everyone had a relaxing and restful weekend. I think I can safely say that we got off to a wonderful start last week and had 2 days filled with excitement and adventure. We met new friends and got reacquainted with old ones, we learned about school rules and talked about showing kindness in our words and actions.

This week we will begin working on the first Topic of our math books (numbers 0 to 5). This topic reinforces counting, and focuses on understanding numbers, their quantities, the reading and writing of numbers and the relationship between numbers. Our math curriculum is called “enVision”. It provides students with multiple learning opportunities and focuses on teaching students how to understand the concepts and fundamentals of math, in addition to learning strategies and steps to solving mathematical applications.

In reading this week, we will begin working with the first chapter in our reading program called Wonders. This program will be utilized by students at our school from grades SK-5th grade. Wonders provides countless opportunities to build reading skills and fluency in the Senior Kindergarten class. Since the program continues through 5th grade, students will develop a familiarity with the layout and routines offered year to year. The program also offers opportunities for parents to work at home with their children to reinforce skills being learned at school. The program starts with 3 weeks of whole group instruction designed to introduce letters, letter sounds, high frequency words and phonological awareness activities. These skills will be introduced through stories, songs and discussion. During this period, I will also begin assessment screenings with students to match skills levels for small reading groups. On the fourth full week of school we will begin our small reading groups.

In religion, we will read about how God created our world and everything in it (including us). We will also make our own “In the beginning” books.

This week in Social Studies we will be talking about school rules and why they are important.

In Science we will talk about safety.

**A few housekeeping items….**

* Please remember that SK does not do group snacks, so everyone should bring a **small** snack daily. Although I encourage parents to send in snacks their children enjoy, I am asking that we stay away from salty chips and gummies as a snack (chips can be included as part of their lunch). I am also asking that on Monday-Thursday healthier options be sent to school as a snack. Friday’s, the children can bring in a few cookies or a small brownie. We have “snack milk” daily or water. Juice should not be sent for snack time. If you would like your child to have milk with their lunch, please contact Mrs. Maggio.
* If you have not done so yet, please send a complete change of clothing (including socks and underwear) for your student to keep in his or her locker.
* For safety reasons students not wearing socks and sneakers cannot play on the playground equipment. If possible please just send your child to school in socks and sneakers during the warm weather.
* I am sure you have noticed that our classroom has an abundance of toys. **Students should** **not bring personal toys to school**, unless they are the Star of the Week. I will have more details about Star of the Week coming shortly.
* Children can come into the classroom starting at 8:00. We have free play from 8:00-8:30. This is an important part of the day for children, and they really need that time to get their day started. Please have your student in class no later than 8:15. We will start reading groups in a few weeks, and it is hard for children to come in during the middle of a reading session. They can miss out on a lot of our reading activities for that day.
* In addition to our reading program we will have access to the Lexia reading program several times a week as a supplement and reinforcement to reading skills. This program will be available to senior kindergarten through the iPads and will be one of our daily center activities. If you have not sent in headphones for your student, please do so ASAP.
* Each week your child will bring home a Tuesday folder. These folders will have school information you need to be aware of and information about our class. The folder will also include any completed work for the week. Please check your child’s backpack on Tuesday for these folders. The folder is due back at school the following day (Wednesday) because I work on preparing folders all week, it would be truly helpful if you make every effort to return the folders on time.
* If you know the days your child will be staying for extended care, please email that information to me.
* A pair of headphones came to school this week in a green bag. I don’t know who they belong to and none of children were able to identify them. Please look at the picture below and let me know if they belong to your child. I am labeling all the headphones.

I am looking forward to seeing you on Curriculum night. Hold on to your hats (smile) our kindergarten adventure has begun.

In Him Who Loves Us All

Jackie Johnson-Lindmark

**Important Dates:**

08/28-Curriculum Night

09/02-Labor Day (No School)

09/13-Hot Lunch

09/27-Hot Lunch

