**Notes, News and Helpful Info……. 2019-2020**

**Senior Kindergarten**

There are several items in our busy Kindergarten lives that may need further clarification, explanation or exploration for parents. Below is a list of informational tidbits that you may have missed or that you may find helpful.

1. Our school’s theme this year is “.” You will see these words on bulletin boards throughout our school. It is a reminder that we are one community and one family in Christ.
2. CHAPEL: All school services are held on Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. in the church. Approximately once a month, the early childhood children in PK (Pre-Kindergarten) JK (Junior Kindergarten) and SK (Senior Kindergarten) will attend these chapel services to establish bonds with their chapel buddies and to build a sense of community and fellowship with other students in the school. The remaining 3 Wednesdays, the PKs (Pre-Kindergarten), JKs and SKs will have their very own chapel services. All school chapel services are led by our pastors, invited guests, or are class led. Families and friends are always welcome at each of our services. You will be reminded of chapel services and to whom our **chapel offerings** will be designated, in the weekly Principal’s Notes by Mr. Koehne. There is an **offering** collected at each chapel service. Look for further details as the year progresses.
3. STAR OF THE WEEK is another way to emphasize our individual uniqueness and special qualities. In SK, we will honor a child-star-of-the-week on a pocket chart entitled “I Am A Star\*”. Beginning in October, each week a child will be notified that it will be his/her week to share themselves with the class. A progression of photos since birth, family photos, or photos of special events may be brought to school for display (6-8 pictures are perfect). It is not necessary to prepare a poster board since they will be displayed on the Star chart, your child will also have a star poster to complete at home with you. If your family would like to write a feature article about your Star that would be great. (Photos will be returned the following week). During your child’s star week, she/he will also bring home the special show and share bag. Every day of that week, a special item may be brought to school (examples include a special book or toy).
4. NEWSLETTER My weekly newsletter will keep you informed on things we are working on, or any upcoming events in our classroom. The letter will be posted weekly on my site. Each week I will send you notification when a new letter has been posted. I have included the link with my other contact information at the bottom of this letter. The newsletter is password protected so I have also included that information below.
5. SNACK Each child is asked to bring a small snack for our daily snack time. We encourage healthy options, but I leave the choice of snack up to parents. I do ask that Monday-Thursday we avoid sugary snacks. On Friday if you would like to send cookies or a small brownie I am fine with that. Please do not send candy, gummies, or salty chips for snacks. Milk is available at all snack times: White milk will be served Monday-Thursday and chocolate milk on Fridays (white milk will also be available on Friday for those who prefer it).
6. Birthdays & Party Treats Birthdays are special days, so I allow the birthday child to bring in a special treat. I will leave the choice of snack up to you, but the no peanuts/nuts, candy or chips rule will still apply. When we have class parties, special snacks and beverages are provided by the volunteer parents. During parties we will always have a healthy option like fresh fruits and vegetables in addition to any sweet treats. \*\*\*\*\* For those children with food allergies and dietary restrictions, I will communicate to the volunteer parents which foods need to be avoided.
7. Library for SK will be Friday at 9:30 in the learning center. After hearing a story, each student will be able to select two books to take home. These books are dated for return within two weeks. However, all books have to be returned before new ones can be checked out.
8. Music Class We are fortunate to have Mrs. Janel Dennen as our music teacher for fun songs, rhythm and movement.
9. Story Scribes Because Senior Kindergartners love to talk and tell important stories, we need your help! I am hoping to get some volunteer parents to come in a few times a week to take story dictation. The time set aside for this is **8:30-9:30 Tuesdays and Thursday.** If you are available to help out from time to time please let me know. There will be a sign-up sheet at open house. I guarantee you will have as much fun hearing and writing the stories (and getting to know your child’s friends) as the little ones have telling them!
10. PE Class In addition to daily outdoor recess, we have PE class on Wednesdays in the gym, where gym shoes ARE REQUIRED. When weather permits we are outside as much as possible throughout the year, except for rainy days and winter days when the temperature is below 25 degrees. We try to get outside whenever possible. Socks and Gym shoes are required to play on the Big Toy on the playground.
11. Early Dismissal Wednesday is early dismissal day. School is out at 2:15.
12. Bringing Toys to School I’m sure you have noticed that we have a lot of toys in our classroom. I am asking that personal toys don’t come to school. I know how upsetting it would be if they were misplaced or broken during the school day.

Here end my notes, news and helpful info. If you can think of any other questions I have forgotten, please don’t hesitate to ask me.

Jackie Johnson-Lindmark

jjohnson@graceriverforest.org

708-366-6900 ext 163 (School)

<http://msjohnsonssksuperstars.weebly.com/> (Web Page)

Password:GraceSK