

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Mrs. Jennifer Ward

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SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Drop off
8:30-9:00 AM Gathering/ Snack Time
9:00-11 AM Morning Work time
11 AM-11:15 AM Gathering/Stories
11:15 - 11:45 PM Lunch
11:45 - 12 PM Story time/ Music
12 - 12:30 PM Recess
12:30 - 1:00 PM VPK Gathering
1:00 - 2:30 PM Afternoon Work time
2:30 - 3:00 PM
Gathering/Snack/Storytime
3:00 PM Dismissal and/or After care

CALENDAR & CIRCLE SCHEDULE

Please keep these in a convenient place for reference. If you need a new copy please let us know or check our website, lakefernmontessori.com

FRIDAY FUN DAYS

On Fridays, instead of work we will focus on art, science experiments and science/geography notebooks. We will also have share. Each week we will have a specific letter we will study (A circle schedule will provide dates and letters). Please have your child bring a share that goes along with the beginning sound of the letter of the week, science units, or geography units. Please check the newsletter each month for this information.

DAILY WORK

Students will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of different topics during the year. Reading, language, writing, and math will be taught formally each day. Science, social studies, humanities, and practical life skills will also be taught in the classroom. Our curriculum is a blend between hands-on activities, cooperative learning, digital exploration and more traditional schoolwork. The curriculum is individualized for each student so that he or she can progress at their own pace.

Students are NOT assigned daily homework assignments. If your child doesn't complete their daily classwork, it may be sent home for homework, but we often try to offer additional time in class. Daily practice of sight words, and math facts is encouraged. Children are also encouraged to read each day. Statistically, children that are read to and who read each day do better in school.

Folders will be coming home each Friday with your child's work for the week. Please empty and return the folders to school at the beginning of the next week.

We have spelling tests each week. Spelling words are not something that we practice every day in the classroom. Please take the time to study your child's spelling words with them each night. Spelling words will be sent out each week through Class Dojo.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

We are open from 6:30 am - 6:00 pm for students who need before and after care. Wrap around class drop-off time is 8:00 AM. VPK Drop off time is 11:55 AM. Pick up is at 3:00 PM. If your child has a sibling, you will follow the schedule for the latest arrival time.

CLASS DOJO

Class Dojo is a behavioral program that runs as an app through android or the apple store, or accessed via the internet. Once you set up your account with your child's personal code you will be able to access in real time how your child's day is going. Your child can earn positive points throughout the day for:

- ❖ Being a good friend
- ❖ Following directions
- ❖ Good transitions
- ❖ Helping others
- ❖ Being in uniform
- ❖ Making good choices
- ❖ Being on task
- ❖ Being on time
- ❖ Playing nicely
- ❖ Being respectful
- ❖ Super star work time (+3)
- ❖ Working Independently

However, if we see behaviors that need work, they can lose a point for:

- ❖ Being disrespectful to friends
- ❖ Lack of self-control
- ❖ Pushing Friends
- ❖ Being disrespectful to teachers
- ❖ Play fighting
- ❖ Hitting in anger (-3)
- ❖ Inappropriate use of hands
- ❖ Not following directions
- ❖ Not working

Within Class Dojo, there is a messenger that allows us to send texts and pictures! We have found great success in using this messenger to get reminders out to parents, so please, have each person that needs to be "in the know" sign up! Multiple family members can use this app to keep track of their child's progress, along with receive information about what's going on in our classroom.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- ❖ Change of Clothes (to leave at school)
- ❖ Lunch box (w/ needed utensils)
- ❖ Water bottle with closing lid
- ❖ 24 count Crayola crayons
- ❖ 12 count colored pencils
- ❖ 2 packs jumbo glue sticks
- ❖ 1 pair child safety scissors
- ❖ 1 pack of #2 pencils
- ❖ 4 block erasers
- ❖ 1 box tissues
- ❖ 1 bottle hand sanitizer
- ❖ 2 packs disinfectant wipes
- ❖ 1 box gallon sized zip lock bags
- ❖ 1 pair headphones
- ❖ 12 count Crayola thick markers (primary colors)
- ❖ Full size backpack

FIELD TRIPS

We will be attending approximately 3 field trips this year. Parents are required to attend and younger siblings are invited. Parent involvement is a vital part of field trips, as we do not provide transportation. Each field trip is a part of our learning process, whether it be that it pertains to a unit we are studying or as a lesson in grace and courtesy when out in a public.

SCHOLASTIC

Our school takes part in the Scholastic Reading Club. Each month flyers will be send through Class Dojo. There are many inexpensive books available that make great gifts or reinforcements for good behavior. Plus, our school is able to earn free books for the classroom! Information for linking your account to our school will be provided. Orders can be placed online with credit or debit cards, or turned in and paid with cash or checks made out to Scholastic.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

School starts at 8:30 am and ends at 3:00 pm. Please teach your child the importance of being on time. The day is filled with educational experiences, and we want to ensure that your child is benefitting from all of these. Attendance is important, so please have your child attend class regularly. If your child is absent, please message me through Class Dojo, as well as send in a written parent excuse or doctor's note when your child returns to school. If you know your child will be absent in advance, please let me know so I can get your child's makeup work ahead of time. Please note: If your child has more than 18 unexcused absences per year, your scholarship and/or your child's academic grade promotion may be jeopardized.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are special occasions for children. Please give party invitations to the teacher to place in the family files to send home. If you need help with names, please ask a teacher for help in person or through Dojo. We prefer not to hand them out in class, especially if not everyone is invited. This will help prevent hurt feelings. If you wish to bring a birthday treat, please let us know in advance. Treats must be individually wrapped and prepackaged.

ASSESSMENTS

Report cards will be given four times a year, in October, December, March,, and May.. We also provide conferences with the first and last report cards. Conferences will be held via phone or Zoom.

SICK CHILD POLICY

While we stress that we are a preschool and not a typical daycare, we are sensitive to the fact that our parents choose us to provide a safe, nurtured, and structured learning environment for their child while they are at work. At this age, consistent attendance is part of the process of growing and learning in our classroom, but if your child should become ill, it is in his or her best interest to stay home. Your child cannot progress when ill and will recover much more slowly without proper rest and care. If your child has a communicable disease, please notify the school immediately. Children that are experiencing contagious symptoms may not attend school. Do not send your child if he or she has had a fever in the past 24 hours. If your child runs a fever, begins vomiting repeatedly, or has more than one runny stool, you will be contacted to come and pick up your child. Children need to be fever free for 24 hours without a fever reducer before returning to school to ensure they are not contagious. If your child contracts head lice, they must stay home from school until they are found to be free of all lice and their nits. These policies follow the Department of Children and Families requirements for a child care setting.

UNIFORMS

Children need to be in uniform Monday through Thursday. Shirts can be any solid color. They can be either polo or t-shirt. Bottoms need to be solid colored navy blue, khaki, black, or denim. Girls may wear jumpers in any solid color or plaid or skirts in Navy Blue, Forest Green, khaki, or navy blue/forest green plaid. Please have your child wear shorts under dresses and skirts. Flip flops, sandals, and cleats are not permitted as they are not safe for the playground and mulch.

GRADING

Our grading system is a bit different in the primary classroom, as we give $\sqrt{+}$, or $\sqrt{}$ on your student's daily classwork. Spelling tests may have percentages and/or letter grades on them. However, report cards will not have typical letter grades (A-F). Instead, the following will be used:

O=Outstanding (The student consistently performs well above average and exceeds standard expectations)

S=Satisfactory (The student has consistently strong performance and is meeting standard expectations)

N=Not Demonstrated Consistently (The student is not meeting all standard expectations on a consistent basis)

U=Unsatisfactory (The student is working well below grade level)

DAILY NEEDS

Morning Snack: Students will have snack each morning during gathering. Snacks should be healthy, such as fruits/vegetables, yogurt, cheese sticks, granola bars, etc. No sweet or sugary snacks are allowed for morning snack.

Lunch: Students need to bring a lunch box to school each day. Lunches should include a protein/main dish, fruit or vegetable, and a drink, as well as any utensils they will need to eat their meal. Chips, gummies, cookies, or other items may be included, but students will need to eat their protein and fruit/vegetable first. *Lunches are NOT refrigerated, and we do not do heat-ups in class. Please put all hot foods in a thermos and include an ice pack, if needed, to keep lunches cool.

Water bottles: Students need a water bottle brought with them each day to school. We do not have water fountains for the students to drink from, so please be sure they have a water bottle with them every day. We do have water bottle fillers so they may refill the bottle if it is empty. They should have only water in their bottle. No other drink should be brought in unless they have a juice pouch in their lunchbox.