

Welcome Parents!



Please come in and take a:

- Yellow packet
- Green paper
- Green & white homework

Then check in by:

- Putting a checkmark next to your child's name.
- Check your email address.
- Putting a checkmark next to your email address if we have permission to share with classmates.

When You:

*Cut it for me,
Write it for me,
Open it for me,
Set it up for me,
Draw it for me or
Find it for me,*

All I learn is:

that you do it better than me



Kindergarten Back-to-School Night



Daily Schedule



- Morning Meeting
- Handwriting
- MELD
- Reader's Workshop
- Number Corner
- Writer's Workshop
- Recess/Lunch
- Read & Relax
- Math
- News
- Specials
- Snack Recess
- Social Studies/Science
- Free Choice Centers
- Pack Up

Arrival



- Beginning at 8:00 each day there is supervision on the playground. At 8:10, we meet the students on the blacktop and head in to the school building. In inclement weather, we will meet in the auditorium (music room).
- Our school day begins promptly at 8:10. Students arriving after 8:10 will need to be admitted through the office and marked tardy.

Morning Routine



- Unpack backpack (bring a regular sized backpack that your kid can zip/unzip or clip/unclip by themselves, just-in-case clothes, water bottle), take out lunch, snack & on Mondays, Friday Folders
- Do attendance (hot/cold lunch)
- Come down to the rug

Handwriting



- Practice writing letters & numbers at the beginning of the year pulling from Handwriting Without Tears
- Practice spelling of high frequency words
- Students start upon entering the room so they are working right away!
- Handwriting practice on the News correlates with what we are working on in class

Morning Meeting



- Community Building
- Schedule/going over the day
- Character Education through Empowering Education
- Seasonal happenings

MELD Block



- 30 minute block of skill-based activities
- Small groups with multiple teachers/paras/interventionists “flooding” the grade level
- 6 week rotation
- 1st rotation is based on the beginning of the year testing

Shared Reading



- Practice with a familiar song, poem or rhyme
- Learn a couple “Shared Readings” per week and add them to our Shared Reading binders to become familiar reading!
- Purpose:
 - Build fluency
 - Learn new vocabulary
 - Become independent readers

Reader's Workshop



- **Provides multiple opportunities to practice reading:**
 - Whole group mini-lessons
 - Guided reading while others participate in Daily 5
 - Read to Self
 - Read to Someone
 - Listen to Reading
 - Word Work
 - Work on Writing
- **Purpose:**
 - Practice with text that is at students' independent and instructional reading level
 - Build reading stamina
 - Learn and practice reading strategies
 - Gain independence as a reader!

Number Corner



- Calendar
- How many days have we been in school?
- Counting in multiple ways
- Purpose:
 - Build fluency with numbers
 - Learn new vocabulary
 - Become aware of patterns all around us

Writer's Workshop



- Begins with whole-class mini-lesson on a specific writing skill
- Students write in their writing journals about their experiences
- Students share their work through turn and talk partners or Author's Chair
- Purpose:
 - Build oral and written expression
 - Learn writing techniques and skills and creating goals at their level
 - Strengthen writing by increasing amounts of words and details in pictures and writing

Star Student



- Every child will be the “Star Student” at some point throughout the year. The schedule for when your child is going to be Star Student will be handed out the Friday before his/her week starts.
- Here’s the lowdown on the week:
 - **Monday**—
Leonard--Bring two special objects from home that you want to share. This can be anything you want to share with the class.
Hansen—Bring your “All About Me” poster to share with the class
 - **Tuesday**—Share some information about a place you have been that is special to you. You can bring a picture of the place, a keepsake from the place or you could just talk about the place. Be prepared to show the place on a map (I’m here to help, too!).
 - **Wednesday**— Share some information about your family. This could be shared with pictures, drawings or you can just talk about your family.
 - **Thursday**—Bring a favorite picture book from home. Either we can read the book or you are invited to come in and read the book to the class. Be sure to help your child choose an appropriate book (not too long!).
 - **Friday**—
Leonard--Wrap up the week with an “All About Me” poster.
Hansen—Bring two special objects from home that you want to share. This can be anything you want to share with the class.
- The kids will know what to do!

Recess/Lunch



- 45 minute block
- Can buy hot lunch or bring lunch box
(Please let your child know if he/she is buying or bringing lunch)
- Kids get to eat for 20 minutes after they have played outside!

Read and Relax



- 20 minute cool-down
- Get comfortable and read books from the classroom library

Math



- Bridges Math is our curriculum
- It encompasses number corner, whole group instruction, small group exploration as well as many “checkpoints” for teachers to assess students
- There is a monthly homework packet that is connected to what we are doing in class that we will send home in Friday folders. This will have a due date attached the front.

Purpose:

- Focus is building strong number sense (one-to-one matching, comparing numbers)
- Familiarity with math tools
- Using math in everyday situations (differentiated games)

Social Studies/Science



Each month we will focus on a different topic. We will integrate social studies & science.

- August & September—Who Am I and Where Do I Belong? and Johnny Appleseed
- October—Bats & Halloween
- November—Food & Thanksgiving
- December—Holidays
- January—Martin Luther King, Jr.
- February—President's Day
- March—Dr. Seuss
- April—Bears & Planets
- May/June—Art Appreciation & Eric Carle

Snack/ Recess



- 15 minute snack/recess break on the west playground
- Snacks are optional and must be brought by students daily—we do not have snacks for kids here.
- Please have snack separate from lunch with your child's name labeled on it.
- Please only send 1 simple snack as students are spending too long eating and not enough time playing

News



- Whole class interactive writing experience skills block
- Purpose:
 - Review happenings from the day before (content, concepts & skills)
 - Practice with phonics, handwriting, and concepts of print
- How you can help at home:
 - Have your child read as much of the News as possible to you each night
 - Talk with him/her about what he/she wrote on the News
 - Do the math as a fun practice at home. It is NOT due back

Specials



- 45 minute specials each day: Art, Music, PE, and/or Library/Technology
- Wonderful Wednesdays!
- We understand that your child might be just learning how to tie shoes, but please practice this new skill at home frequently or purchase shoes that don't have ties.

Free Choice Centers



- 30 minute block of time at the end of our day
- Students must have completed their work and have made good choices throughout the day to participate in Free Choice!
- Can choose from a variety of centers:
 - Math, puzzles, blocks, Legos, Duplos, marbles
 - Writing, art
 - Library, reading
 - Dramatic play

Dismissal



- Kids will be released at **2:55**. Kids who go to Discovery will be dismissed inside the building to the Discovery teachers. Bus kids (both Primrose & school bus) will be dismissed to a para who walks them to the bus. All other kids will be walked outside and asked to stand with their class till we make sure the person doing pick up is there and make contact with the student. At 3:10, your child will be signed in at the office and you will need sign him/her out.
- When there is inclement weather, you may come into the building to pick up your child from the classroom door.
- If you know about a schedule change for pick-up, please write a note or email your teacher/the office to avoid confusion. Teachers do not always check their email till after school, so if the schedule is change is that day, please contact the office. In the case of an emergency, please contact the office.
- Our goal is to get each child home safely. Relying upon the kids to tell us is no longer enough!

Inclement Weather



- Your child should wear a coat, hat, mittens and boots when it is cold. Please help your child learn how to take these items of clothes off and on by him/herself.
- Label your child's clothing in order to prevent lost items.
- We will **not** be storing extra cold weather clothing items at school. Lockers are to be cleaned out every day!

Tardy & Visitors



- All students who come to school late should sign in the office. They will then receive a tardy slip to give to your child's teacher.
- All visitors should also sign in the office. We know that you have signed in when you have a visitor's badge on. If you do not have a badge, we will redirect you back to the office to get one. Remember—this is for our student's safety!

Birthdays



- Your child is invited to celebrate his/her birthday with his/her friends here at school. We will celebrate all the birthdays from the month on the 3rd Friday of that month. The birthday coordinator will send out a sign up sheet for the parents of these students.
- We will celebrate as an ENTIRE kindergarten community!
- Don't forget...store bought treats that are less than 300 calories and 20 grams of sugar!

Homework



- Reading the daily News that is completed in class is a great connection to what is happening in kindergarten. It is your child's job to read as much of it as possible.
- Even though we do not track it, reading to and with your child is an important part of your child's nightly homework.
- Kids are busy working hard in their first real school experience. We also know that kids are busy with extra curricular activities. Due to this, we encourage your child to engage in creative play at home.

Report Cards



Three times a year, students receive:

- an indicator of their progress toward meeting the standards by the end of the year.
- an indicator of their effort in each content area.

One time per year, students receive:

- an overall indicator of their achievement of the standards in each content area.
- To be on grade level, students are expected to demonstrate proficient achievement of state standards by the end of the year.

We will have fall conferences to discuss your child's progress thus far. Mid year conferences are optional. End of year conferences are a student-led format celebrating their learning through the year.

Kindergarten Expectations



How to be a Steck Star:

- Be safe.
- Work hard.
- Show respect.
- Be kind.

Kindergarten Tuition



- Here is the link for Kindergarten Tuition and Billing, as it does NOT happen at school:
- <http://earlyeducation.dpsk12.org/tuition-and-billing/billing-and-payment/>

Volunteers



- Volunteer sign-up (possible volunteer opportunities: read with kids, Friday Folders, writing time, room parent, parties, field trips, help with website)
- Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom. But before you do, you need to complete a volunteer application which includes a background check.
- Parents DO NOT need to do an application if they are ONLY volunteering for fieldtrips.

<http://volunteerservices.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Non-fingerprint-Background-App.14-15.pdf>

- We'd like to introduce our room parents and communication liaison...

Other Business



- Communication via email, newsletters & Friday Folders, app
- Questions? Refer to your ABC Handbook first and then send us an email.
- We are so happy you are a part of Steck!

Thank you for coming. Have a great night!