

KINDERGARTEN BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

Purpose: This is an opportunity for your child to share his/her learning environment with family.

Language Arts

Listening - Children attend to teachers and peers in formal and informal settings.

Speaking - Children are encouraged to express their thoughts aloud.

Reading - developed through literature (Macmillan/McGraw-Hill - TREASURES) Children discover story structure, connect background knowledge to new stories, learn sound / symbol relationships, and retell stories. Literature is experienced through Big Books, stories, poems, Nursery Rhymes and songs.

Kid-Writing - Children discover that what is said can be written on paper and what is written can be read. Writing proceeds from drawing, scribbling and developmental spelling to conventional spelling. Adult writing appears under the child's writing to serve as a model. As children write at home encourage them to write the sounds of the letters they hear.

Handwriting - Students recognize lower case letters (small letters) and upper case letters (capital letters). Students are encouraged to learn letter formation through teacher modeling and teacher writing. Children are instructed to form letters as shown on the attached alphabet guide. Handwriting homework will be sent home on a regular basis. Please work one-on-one with your child and emphasize correct letter formation and neatness. This one-on-one help is valuable to your child's development in handwriting.

Guided Reading – When children are ready, I will work in groups using leveled books according to each child's needs. Children will bring home the book we worked on in the group to read to you and return the next day.

Math

Houghton Mifflin – (A Standards Based Program) Children are allowed to explore, discover and construct their own meaning of concepts. Concepts are developed through the use of manipulatives, literature and direct instruction. The program builds on the children’s background knowledge, helping children connect what they know to what they need to know to solve relevant, real-world problems. Problem of the Day is shared during circle time and focuses the children’s learning on a specific problem that relates to the instruction of the day. At the bottom of each math page is a little house with a suggested activity to be done for reinforcement at home. Prior to each unit, a Math at Home page introduces parents to the vocabulary and concepts to be developed during the unit.

Science

This subject is integrated into Language Arts and Calendar time. Units of study include *Basic Needs (Living / Non-living Things)*, *Baby Animals*, *Light, Plants*, and *Weather (including Seasons)*.

Social Studies

This subject is also integrated into Language Arts and Calendar time and concentrates on self-awareness, growth and change, and how they as individuals relate to the world around them.

Second Step

Second Step is a curriculum kit designed for Kindergarten children to reduce impulsive and aggressive behavior. It does this by teaching skills in empathy, impulse control and anger management.

ABC Book :

When we begin learning letters and sounds, your child will be given a notebook. As we learn each letter, your child will complete that letter page in the notebook for homework. Your child should find pictures in old magazines or draw pictures that begin with the letter sound and attach it to the appropriate page. Please follow instructions for labeling pictures found at the front of the book.

Center Time :

Children are given a period of time to spend in small groups (assigned by the teacher) with activities that reinforce concepts being developed in the classroom. Some of the centers will encourage social interaction and creative play. Free choice time will be given periodically.

Special Subjects:

Day A	Library
Day B	Music
Day C	Art
Day D	Gym
Day E	Computers

Please try to return library books on library day, have your child wear clothes that could get a “little” messy on art day, and wear comfortable clothes and sneakers on gym day.

Homework Policy:

All homework should be returned on the next school day. Homework serves not only as practice for the student, but also serves as a communication from school to home to keep you informed of classroom learning. Another purpose for homework is to establish routine and responsibility in young children.

Parent Pick-up from school:

On days when you are going to pick-up your child from school please write a note to inform me. All parents need to sign-out children in the office.

Educational Trips:

If you are planning a trip and your child will miss school, an Educational Trip form must be filled out in advance. Please ask for this form and I will be glad to send one home with your child.

Birthdays:

We will celebrate each child's birthday by singing to him/her. Out of respect for all students, please do not send in invitations to your child's party, unless you are inviting the whole class, or all the boys, or all the girls. It is understandable if you want to invite a small group, but in that case you will need to send them to their homes. Unfortunately, I cannot give out phone numbers and addresses.

Reporting Process :

We have four progress periods (Report Cards) per year. The **first** and **third** Report Cards are shared at Parent-Teacher Conferences. Report cards will be distributed **at** your Parent-Teacher conferences. They will **not** be issued **prior** to the Parent-Teacher Conference.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 18-22

and

April 7-11

The second report card will be issued in February, and the final report card will be issued at the end of the school year.

Always remember we must work together! We all want the best learning experience possible for your child! Call me if you have any questions, comments or concerns at 610- 965-4095 ext.4101, or e-mail at greenawaldm1@sbsd.org

Yours in Education,
Mrs. Greenawald

HELPFUL HINTS

Here are some helpful things for your child to know:

1. Recognizing and naming all letters of the alphabet, capital and lower case.
2. Counting from 1 to 30.
3. Recognizing and naming the numerals from 0 to 10.
4. Recognizing and naming the following colors: red, blue, yellow, green, orange, black, purple, brown, gray, pink, and white.
5. Recognizing his/her name in print.
6. Tying, zipping, buttoning and snapping.

Here are some helpful things for you, as parents, to do:

1. Please dress your child in clothes that he/she can relax in and not worry about getting dirty.
2. Please send a school bag to school every day. Make sure it is big enough to hold large library books and the homework folder. Check your child's school bag nightly for homework or communications from the school. The folder should be returned to school every day and should be checked by a parent each night. I look for any communication from you in that folder.
3. Please put first and last names in ALL articles of clothing that might be left at school, such as: sweaters, coats, hats, both gloves, boots, etc.
4. Emphasize to your child that toys must stay at home.
5. Most children have handwriting experiences by the time they come to school. Parents have taught their child how to write his/her name and each child brings that unique way with him/her. I will be teaching your child to write his/her name like this:

As you work with your child in practicing writing the various letters, please use the attached alphabet as a guide.