

Welcome to Kindergarten Room 121

Mrs. Charmaine Wright and Mrs. Ann Jackson

Dear Parents and Students!

School hours:

Our classroom door will be open at 7:40. Anytime before that is our planning and preparation time.

School is dismissed at 3:05. We will open our door and begin dismissal at 2:50.

Half days are dismissed at 11:50.

Kindergarten schedule:

Circle time begins on the carpet at 8:00. We go over the Calendar, sing songs with music and movement, read poems and stories, predict and study the weather. We also go over important ground rules and practice them.

For example:

1. Walk with slow, quiet feet
2. Speak with a soft voice
3. Interrupt politely by placing a silent hand on the teacher's shoulder
4. Use manner words at all times.

Then I present a new material to the students during group time.

For the first two weeks of school we will be taking several recesses. We will gradually extend their work time after the children are used to the rules and the classroom is normalized. The students will be mostly working with materials on the Practical Life and Sensorial shelves during the first few weeks. Your children will be learning things like dry pouring and knobbed cylinders. These will help the children with their fine motor skills that will prepare them for using a pencil to write.

Once the classroom has normalized, Mrs. Ann and I will start working with the children in small groups on their language, phonics and math. We will be working at our desks with the children while the rest of the class will be doing their own individual lessons around the room. There is a series of letter sounds that the children will learn on the language shelves: red, yellow, orange, green and blue. Once the children have gone through the shelf work and have mastered their letter sounds we will start reading books. For some children they might not be ready until the middle or end of the year and that is perfectly normal.

The math starts with sandpaper numbers that the children trace with their fingers. Then they learn how to count up to 10, then 20, and so on. The nice thing about a Montessori classroom is that it is child-centered. Every child progresses at his or her own pace.

The children eat lunch from 11:00-11:30 everyday. They have recess from 11:30-12:00. When they come back into the room we have a half hour of quiet rest time. Usually by this time of the day the children are very tired.

The children also have specials throughout the week. They are Spanish, Gym, Art, Music and Library. We will post the schedule the first week of school. Please watch for it. The children will be required to wear gym shoes on the days that we have gym class for safety reason.

We will post a monthly snack calendar on the classroom door. Please sign up for at least one day a month to bring in a healthy snack for the entire class. They usually eat around 9:00. We ask that you bring in 100% juice boxes or 100% bottled juice with cups.

Make sure you have turned in your emergency card and lunch information. The cards need to go the office and we would like to copy them to keep in our classroom as well in case we need to get a hold of you. Please include cell phone numbers or as many alternate numbers as possible.

If you child is going to be absent from school please be sure to call the classroom at 734-284-5600 ext. 121. If you do not call, the absence will be considered unexcused. Also please notify the classroom if someone else is going to pick up your child. We are NOT allowed to release any child to an adult that is not on your emergency card without your express permission. This is for the safety of all our children.

A friendly note, some children have a hard time dropping off on the first day or week of school please be firm but loving when leaving. A lingering parent with an upset child only prolongs the situation. Please give a hug and an I Love You, or Have a Great Day and trust that we will take the best care of your child.

We are asking that children leave toys at home. We cannot be held responsible for these items being lost, stolen, or broken. You will be notified of scheduled Show and Tell days in advanced.

Parent Orientation/ Meet The Teacher will be scheduled for the week before school. More information will be in the mail throughout the summer. When you attend this event please bring your child's school supplies with you. This will help eliminate chaos on the first day of school. The supplies are as followed:

- * 4 pocket folders
 - o one of any design
 - o one of each color
 - o red - yellow - green
- * 1 package of #2 pencils (12 count or larger)
- * 2 boxes of crayons (16 count or larger)
- * 2 boxes of colored pencils
- * 6 glue sticks
- * 1 pack of construction paper
- * 1 pack of markers (washable)
- * 1 bottle of Hand sanitizer
- * 1 box of Kleenex Tissue
- * 2 Paper Towel Rolls
- * 1 Dry Erase Board (write your child's name on back)
- * Dry Erase Markers
- * 1 Container of Clorox Wipes
- * 1 pair of scissors
- * Bath towel that fits in a 1-2 gallon Ziploc bag (this is for quiet time)
- * 1 Change of clothing (in Ziploc bag with child's name on it)

Getting to know _____ through your eyes

Your child's name

We will be spending a great deal of time with your child throughout the school year and we're sure we'll get to know them very well. Until then, we'd like you to take a moment to fill out this survey so that we will have enough insight to be able to understand your child and give them the kind of environment they will need to be successful!

1. *My child's strengths are:*

2. *My child struggles with:*

3. *My personal goals for my child this year are:*

4. *Does your child have any fears or insecurities we should know about?*

5. *Is there anything else that would help us better understand your child's moods, attitudes, feelings or anything you simply feel we should know?*

Are there ANY allergies or illnesses we should know about?
