

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Here are some important parts of our day that we would like to share with you.

Morning Meeting: This part of our day gives students a consistent time and place each day to explore and practice social skills and to merge social, emotional, and academic learning. This will set the tone for each day of learning by ensuring that all students feel a sense of belonging, significance, and can have fun!

Literacy Instruction: This part of our day focuses on reading, writing, and phonics. Students will have various opportunities for large-group and small-group instruction during this time. This time also includes:

- Literacy centers, which infuse play into our learning!
- Guided reading groups
- Independent work time

Math Instruction: This time of the day focuses on math skills (shapes, numbers, counting, adding and subtracting, etc.). Students will have various opportunities for large-group and small-group instruction during this time. This time also includes:

- Math rotations, which infuse play into our learning through manipulatives and hands-on experiences!
- Guided math groups
- Independent work time

Science & Social Studies: This part of the day includes many hands-on opportunities for learning. Students will learn about Trees & Weather, Materials in Motion, & Animals throughout the year.

**If you would like to see specific learning requirements for your kindergarten student, please visit our Urbandale School websites. You can go to urbandaleschools.com and search our name in the search box.

I look forward to working as partners to bring learning to life for your child this year! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Katelyn McLaughlin & Amanda Springer
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Kinder nuts & bolts

Kindergarten Expectations:

We focus on respect, responsibility, and safety as a school. During the first few weeks of school, the students and I will make specific expectations for our learning environment. They will be shared with you when we have created them.

Communication:

I will be communicating with you in multiple ways this year:

***Students will bring home a Friday folder with important information from school. Please take time each week to go through and **EMPTY** your child's folder before sending back to school on Monday.

***You will receive a Kinder Newsletter at least 2 times per month. In the newsletter, you will find important dates, exciting happenings in the classroom, and learning targets for the week.

***We will be using the digital platform SeeSaw this school year to share information and pictures of our learning. We will share more information on how to join as the school year begins.

Snacks/water bottles:

We will have snack every afternoon at school. You will be responsible for packing your own child's snack in their backpack. It will need to be individually wrapped. Please make sure it is something healthy. Students will also need a water bottle at school each day, as we do not always have extra water bottles available.

Birthday treats:

We will celebrate student birthdays in the classroom. If you would like to provide a treat for all students, we ask that they are individually packaged (ex: Little Debbie snacks).

Backpacks:

Please help your student clean out his/her backpack each evening. There will be many things they will need to leave at home or bring back to school the next day. We are working on building responsibility this year with taking things home, doing our work, and putting it right back into our folder/bag to bring back to school.

We would also request that you pack an extra change of clothes to be kept in their backpack this year in case of an emergency.

Thank you so much for your help this year! We look forward to working together with you to make this a great year of Kindergarten!