

**The ABC’s of Preschool**

**Perry Preschool**

**2019-2020**

**A**

**Attendance:** Your child’s regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his/her success. Most preschool activities are group oriented and involve interaction with classmates. Please call the office and let us know if your child will not be attending that day. 785-597-5156

**Authorization for pick-up:** If your child is being picked up, we must have authorization from the parent for any person, other than the parent to pick up your child. Children must be picked up promptly! A.M. classes at 10:55 a.m. and P.M. classes at 3:05 p.m.

**B**

**Birthdays:** Birthdays are special occasions, and we will enjoy celebrating them at school. If you would like to send treats for your child’s birthday you may do so. This is not something that you have to do, but the children love to be able to share with their friends. This can be as simple as a cookie or fruit snack for each child! We will recognize children on their birthday or close to it. If your child has a summer birthday we will schedule a time during the school year to celebrate!

**Back Packs:** Please send a back pack with your child each day. The back pack needs to be large enough to fit a winter coat. Due to storage space in our classrooms, please do not send back packs that are on rollers. Please check your child’s bag every day. You will find papers, notes, and projects. It is important for you to discuss your child’s work with him/her. You might comment on neat writing, praise colorful drawing, or ask questions about how the page was completed. It is very important that your child knows you are interested in his/her work.

**Book Orders:** Book Orders will be sent home monthly or bi-monthly. If you wish to order you can do so online or fill out the form and send it back with a check made out to Scholastic Book Clubs. These orders are provided as a convenient way for parents to purchase quality books for their child at a low price. As an added bonus, for every dollar that is spent on books, we earn bonus points which are used to purchase books for our classroom! You are never under any obligation to order.

**Box Tops:** PTO collects Box Tops throughout the school year. If you would like to save box tops for our class you can send them in a baggie. Each Box Top gives our school 10 cents and this adds up very quickly!!

**Breakfast:** Preschoolers can eat breakfast each morning from 7:45-8:00. Check with the office for the cost.

**C**

**Calendar:** We will be sending home a calendar for each month in your child’s folder. This will have information about Show and Tell, Birthdays, Book Orders and any other special dates or calendar changes. Please be sure to look at these closely each month!

**Centers:** Your child will have center time and small group time each day reinforcing skills taught. This is a very important time in our preschool day. Children learn through play!

**Clothing:** We will go outside each day if weather permits. The temperature and wind chill have to be 20 degrees or above. Please dress your child appropriately to play outside. We will also do many “messy” activities. Please remember this when choosing school clothes. Please label your child’s clothing (coats, jackets, mittens, hats, gloves)

**Changes in Transportation:** If your child has a change in transportation, please send a written note or call the office (785-597-5156). If no note is written or there is not a phone call, your child will be sent home by his/her usual method of transportation.

**D**

**Discipline:** Establishing good classroom discipline is essential to each child’s success, confidence, and well-being. Every child should feel that the classroom environment is safe and secure, free from all threats of physical or emotional harm. In addition, it is important that each child learn to develop self-discipline and good work habits, to resolve conflicts peacefully, and to think independently. The child that does not follow the rules will take a break from the activities (example: moving away from the group)

**E**

**Evening:** Please read to your child daily. Please ask your child about his/her day. Use the newsletter to discuss what has happened in the classroom and what is going to happen the following week.

**F**

**Field Trips:** We will be taking field trips throughout the school year. We will send notes home for these. These are on the monthly calendar that is in the back of your child’s Daily Folder

**Facebook:** We will continue using our preschool Facebook group to share whole group activity pictures, share information from the school’s webpage, and other information that is pertinent to all families and children.

**G**

**Good Start:** Starting school is a big step. Many children are excited and can’t wait for school to begin, yet it is perfectly normal for children to feel anxious before and during the first week of school. Here are a few ideas for easing fears and making a smooth transition:

* Acknowledge your child’s fears and apprehensions. Tell your child it is okay to feel nervous, but assure him/her that the feeling will go away soon.
* Praise your child for accomplishing tasks independently. This will show your child that you believe in his or her ability to do things “all by myself” and boost confidence.
* Discuss transportation and afterschool arrangements with your child in advance. Assure your child that you will be there when school is over at the end of the day or at home if they ride the bus.

**H**

**Holidays:** We will have three parties during the year. We will have a Halloween, Christmas and a Valentine’s Day party. For the Valentine’s Day party your child will be able to bring Valentine’s for the class. Notes will be sent home about these special dates. We will also need Room Parents to plan the parties, bring treats, and help with the parties.

**Hours:** Preschool hours for a.m. children are 8:05-10:55. Preschool hours for p.m. children are 12:15-3:05. If you are bringing your child to school in the morning you can drop him/her off any time after 7:45. The preschool children will go straight to the gym. The afternoon children will wait in the hallway, at the North door, with a teacher until class time begins. Please do not drop off afternoon children before 12:10.

**I**

**Illness:** While regular attendance is important, please **DO NOT** send your child to school if he/she is sick. They must be fever and symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school. Please call the office if your child will be absent. 785-597-5156.

**J**

**Jobs:** Every week children will have a new classroom job. Some jobs are: line leader, door holder, caboose, calendar counter, weather reporter, etc. This teaches responsibility and leadership.

**K**

**Knowledge:** Your child is taking an important step…starting Preschool! We look forward to working with you and your child. Together we will guide your child on the journey of learning. May this journey be exciting and fulfilling!

**L**

**Letters of the Alphabet:** The 4 year olds will be introducing and studying the letters of the alphabet. They will be using the animated alphabet curriculum. Notebooks will be sent home weekly with the characters and songs to review at home.

**Loading and Unloading of Students:** Parents will drop their children on the North side of the elementary building. Please enter on the far north drive and follow the road around. An adult is always there to greet students. Doors will open at 7:45 for the morning and 12:10 in the afternoon. Car riders will be dismissed out the same door. Please be patient and mindful of others dropping off and picking up. If you choose to pull into a parking spot you will have to wait for the line of cars to move before you can back out. The cars in line have the right away. We are always at the door so if you pull up we can send them out and you won’t have to get out or even park. Please be respectful to each other as we are modeling kindness and respect for these kids. Please pass this on to anyone who picks up or drops off kids.

**M**

**Math:** Your child will participate in a variety of math activities during center time. We teach Learning Without Tears math curriculum. Your child will learn through hands-on experiences, discussion, and exploration.

**Money:** You will need to send money to school for various things like pictures, book orders, etc. Please send all money to school in a sealed envelope and include the following:

 Child’s Name (Joe Smith)

 Purpose of Money (Pictures)

 Amount of Money ($5.00 Enclosed)

 Teacher’s Name (Smith)

**Medication:** All medication will have to go through the office with proper paperwork.

**N**

**Name:** Help your child learn their name…what it looks like, how it is spelled, practice writing.

**Nurse:** Our school nurse is Abby Martin. Please contact her if your child needs medication on a daily basis.

**O**

**Outdoor Recess:** The children will be going out for recess everyday unless it is raining or below 20 degrees. The guidelines given to us by our administration state that we may take children outdoors if the temperature is 20 degrees and above. Please keep this in mind when helping your child select clothing for the day. We are very fortunate to have a variety of playground equipment. Please keep this in mind when selecting shoes for your child to wear.

**Office:** If you visit the school during the day, please check in at the office. Children that have appointments during the day must also check in and out through the office.

**P**

**Parent/Teacher Relationship:** We believe that a good parent-teacher relationship is necessary for maximum school success. Throughout the year we will communicate with you through notes, telephone calls, and parent-teacher conferences. Please call if you have any questions or concerns at any time. School 785-597-5156 or e-mail msmith@usd343.org (Ms. Smith) djohnson @usd343.org (Ms. Johnson)

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Conferences are held twice during the school year. Notes will be sent home regarding conferences. We encourage you to attend these conferences to discuss your child’s progress in preschool. Check the school calendar for specific dates.

**Q**

**Questions:** Please call or e-mail your teacher for any questions or concerns. 785-597-5156 or msmith@usd343.org (Ms. Smith), djohnson @usd343.org (Ms. Johnson)

**R**

**Reading:** Children will develop a basic level of phonemic awareness/ phonics. The 4 year olds will do many activities through the animated alphabet that will teach these skills.

**Room Parents:** We will need room parents for AM and PM classes to help with the classroom parties. Sign up will be at the beginning of the year.

**S**

**School Closings:** We follow the USD#343 policy

**Show and Tell:** Show and tell will be on the monthly calendars. They are usually every Friday unless stated differently. Please try to send your child with the item we selected for that particular theme.

**Snack Time:** The AM and PM children will have a daily snack break. Please let us know if your child has any food allergies.

**Supplies:** Throughout the year we may ask for donations of certain supplies if we run low. We appreciate any extra items that you can send, but please do not feel obligated.

**T**

**Take Home Folders:** Each child will have a take home folder that needs to be returned to school each day. One pocket in the folder has items to keep at home. Please take these items out daily and discuss them with your child. The other pocket will have papers that need to be returned to school. On the back of the folder will be a monthly calendar. This will have all of our important dates for the month! It is very important to return these folders daily and to check them each night!

**Toileting:** Children attending the preschool programs are required to be potty trained, unless they are receiving services through an IEP stating differently. We take regular restroom breaks as a whole class and individual children are allowed to go as needed to help prevent accidents.

**U**

**Understanding:** I will work to understand and build a positive rapport with each and every child.

**V**

**Volunteers:** There may be opportunities for you to volunteer throughout the year. It is very important for your child to know that you support him/her in his/her education.

**W**

**Writing:** We will be working with proper grasp with crayons, pencils, and scissors. We will learn to reproduce shapes and letters. We will also have fine motor centers to help strengthen their motor skills such as- stringing beads, lacing cards, playdough, etc.

**X**

**X-Tra Clothing:** Please provide extra clothing, appropriate for the weather, if your child has an accident. Put in a ziplock bag and label the outside with their name. If they bring soiled clothes home, please send a new change of clothes back to school with their name on it.

**Y**

**Yahoo:** We will have a Yahoo Year!!

**Z**

**Zipper:** Your child will practice zipping his/her coat. Please practice with your child on zipping his/her own coat. We will also practice at school. It is very important that the children learn the appropriate way to remove their coats (not inside-out) and put it on. If your child’s coat does become inside out please help them learn how to fix it.

**“I Poem”**

When you see me sitting in a chair “reading” to an imaginary audience,

Please don’t laugh and think I’m “just playing.”

For you see, I’m learning as I play.

I may be a teacher someday.

When you see me combing the bushes for bugs,

Or packing my pockets with choice things I found,

Don’t pass it off as “Just Playing,”

For you see, I’m learning as I play.

I may be a scientist someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle or some plaything at my school,

Please don’t feel the time is wasted in “Play.”

For you see, I’m learning as I play.

I’m learning to solve problems and concentrate.

I may be in business someday.

When you see me cooking and tasting foods,

Please don’t think that because I enjoy it,

It is “Just Playing.”

For you see, I’m learning as I play.

I’m learning to follow directions and see differences.

I may be a cook someday.

When you see me learning to skip, ho, run, and move my body,

Please don’t say I’m “Just Playing.”

For you see, I’m learning as I play.

I’m learning how my body works.

I may be a doctor, nurse, or an athlete someday.

When you ask me what I’ve done at school today,

And I say, “Just Played,”

Please don’t misunderstand me.

For you see, I’m preparing for tomorrow.

Today, I am a child and my work is play!