

Kindergarten ABC's



Absence

If your child is absent for any reason, please call the school at 598-5951 to let us know. Whenever your child is absent from school for any reason, he/she must bring a note when returning to school stating the reason for the absence.

Arrival

School begins at 8:00 a.m. Children may come into the classroom at 7:45 a.m. They must go to the cafeteria if arriving before 7:45 a.m. Children need a tardy slip from the office if they arrive after 8:00 a.m. Beginning in September, please allow your child to walk down the hallway without you or stop at the classroom door. This will foster independence and responsibility.

Art

We will go to Art twice a week for half of the school year. The art teacher is Mrs. Penny Thompson.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is essential for your child to make the most of his/her education. Please make every effort to have your child at school everyday.



Backpack Buddies

When your child brings home a backpack buddy, please follow the directions of the backpack buddy and return everything the next day for a new friend to enjoy.

Backpacks

Your child's backpack should be big enough to hold a 3-ring folder. Please check your child's backpack DAILY. Rolling backpacks do not fit in our cubbies, so they will not be allowed.

Birthdays

We will celebrate each child's birthday in our classroom. School policy does not allow birthday parties at school. However, cupcakes or cookies are allowed for snack time. Please let the teacher know if you plan to send snacks for the class to school.

Breakfast

Our cafeteria serves breakfast in the mornings from 7:15-7:45 am. Breakfast costs \$1.50.

Bus

If your child rides a bus home, please make sure I know what bus number your child rides.

Book Orders

Scholastic book orders will be sent home periodically for you and your child to look over. If you want to place an order, please make checks payable to Scholastic.



Calendar

A monthly calendar will be placed in your child's T.I.G.E.R. folder to let you know the activities that will take place during the month. There will be some variances in the schedule during the year.

Change of Clothes

Please label seasonally appropriate clothing and place in a large Ziploc bag to keep in your child's backpack in case of an accident.

Checking Out

If your child needs to be checked out early, please send a note to school. Do not come to the classroom to get your child. Please sign him/her out through the office and office personnel will page your child to the office.

Class Constitution

As a learning community we will draft our own classroom constitution. A copy will be sent home to review with your child .

Communication

Communication between home and school is very important. If you feel the need to talk to me, please call the school, send me a note, or email me.

Computers

We have two computers in our class that we use during center time to play educational games. We will also go to the computer lab once a week to learn keyboarding and mouse skills.

Conference

If you need to schedule a conference other than those scheduled by the school please schedule prior to 8:00 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. You may also be able to schedule during my planning time. Please do not attempt to conference with me during my instructional time (8:00 am - 3:00 pm). This not only affects your child but the other children in the classroom as well.



Discipline

My goal is to provide a positive environment conducive to learning. Children are responsible for their behavior and will be given opportunities to make wise choices concerning their behavior. I will focus on positive reinforcement of good behavior rather than negative consequences. Your support in this area will assure your child's success in kindergarten.

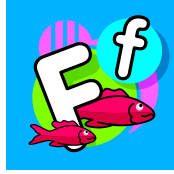
Dismissal

Dismissal is at 2:55 pm. Please do not come to the classroom to pick up your child. If you will be picking up your child, please meet me in the front of the school building. I will dismiss your child as soon as I see you. If your child is a bus rider or if your child goes to ESP, I will take your child to his/her designated area. Please be sure to let your child and the teacher know how he/she will be going home and/or what bus number will be ridden. Please notify your child's teacher and office personnel of any persons restricted from picking up your child. If there is ever a change in the way your child is to go home, please notify the teacher IN WRITING. Children can become confused and upset if they don't know how they are going to get home.



Email

One way to communicate with your child's teacher is by email. My school email account is checked regularly.



Field Trips

We will take several educational field trips during the year. We typically go to a pumpkin patch in the fall and to a play in the spring. All kindergarteners in the county go to Farm-City Day in May.

Folders

Please check your child's T.I.G.E.R. folder daily and make sure it gets back to school every morning.



Guidance

We have Guidance once a week for thirty minutes with Mrs. Bo Jackson.

Gym

We go to gym class twice a week. The P.E. teacher is Mr. David Gilliam. Be sure your child wears tennis shoes on P.E. day. Girls who wear dresses should wear shorts underneath. I must have a note if there is any reason your child should not participate in gym activities.



Handwriting

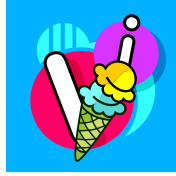
We use Zaner-Bloser handwriting at Sewanee Elementary. You will receive a handout of Zaner-Bloser handwriting. Please practice the correct handwriting strokes with your child.

Holidays

We will be having a Halloween, Winter, and Valentine's Day party. More information regarding these parties will be sent home at a later date.

Homework

Your child will have a short writing and reading assignment each night. Please check your child's T.I.G.E.R. folder for the homework sheet.

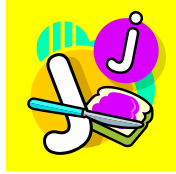


Illness

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a temperature. If your child becomes ill at school, you will be called to come and get your child. If your child is absent for any reason, he/she must bring a note when returning to school stating the reason for the absence.

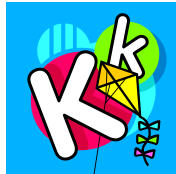
Ice Cream

Kindergarten students can purchase ice cream at lunch on Friday for 50¢.



Journal Writing

Your child's morning work begins with journal writing. Journal writing is a process that begins with scribbles. You should see a growth in your child's writing throughout the year.



Kindergarten Kids

Kindergarten is a special time for your child. I want to make this experience the best possible. If you have any concerns, please contact me.



Library

We have a scheduled library time every week. The Library teacher is Mrs. Cheryl King. Kindergarten students are allowed to check out books. Please return library books on the scheduled day. Check your monthly calendar to see the day library is scheduled.

Lunch

The cost of lunch is \$2.25. If your child is only buying milk, it is 50¢. Your child will have the option to choose from several different meals. Please discuss the lunch options each morning with your child so he/she will be able to make a lunch choice with ease.

Lunch options are:

Everyday: hot tray

MWF: sack lunch (Uncrustables grilled cheese)

TuTh: tuna salad or yogurt tray

You may send lunch money daily, weekly, or monthly. You may either pay the cafeteria or send the lunch money to me. **Money for lunch/milk should be sent in a sealed envelope and labeled with your child's name, amount, and purpose of money.** If you are able and would like to join your child for lunch, please send a note to school with your lunch preference. Adult lunch costs \$3.75.

Kindergarten students may purchase ice cream with their lunch on Friday only. The cost for ice cream is 50¢.



Mr. Maxon

Our school principal is Mr. Mike Maxon.

Morning Work

Your child's morning responsibilities include: making a lunch choice, unpacking backpack, completing journal page, and working in a morning center.

Music

We will go to Music class twice a week for half of the school year. The Music teacher is Mrs. Teresa Brown.



Newsletter

Our classroom newsletter goes home on Friday. Please check your child's T.I.G.E.R. folder.

Notes

Look for notes from the office or from your child's teacher in the front pocket of your child's T.I.G.E.R. folder.



Outside

Your child will have outside recess time daily, weather permitting. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather.



Parent Involvement

We love Parent Involvement! Please be involved in your child's Kindergarten year as much as you can. Remember, you are your child's first teacher and parental involvement and communication is essential to a successful kindergarten year.

P.A.W.S. Book

We will be learning poems throughout the school year. A note regarding your child's poems will be sent home with the poetry notebook called, "My P.A.W.S. Book."

Progress Reports

A progress report will be stapled inside the front cover of your child's T.I.G.E.R. book. Please review the progress report with your child and initial in the appropriate location.

PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization)

All parents are encouraged to join the school's PTO. The PTO meets once every month.



Questions

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's education. I will make every effort to meet with you and discuss your concerns.



Read

Read to your child daily and let your children see you reading daily

Report Cards

County report cards go home every six weeks. Your child's report card will be discussed at the first Parent-Teacher conference. The report card will need to be signed and returned to school.

Restrooms

We will have regular scheduled restroom breaks in the morning, after lunch, and after specials. If at any other time your child needs to use the restroom he/she will be allowed to go. Unfortunately, accidents can happen. Please be sure to have a change of clothes (labeled in a Ziploc bag) in your child's backpack.

Rest Time

We will have rest time every day. Your child will need a blue and red rest mat to keep at school for this time. Your child may also bring a small stuffed animal or doll and a small blanket to have during this time. Please do not send large or bulky items or pillows because we do not have room to store them.

Rules

We are all citizens of the learning community in Kindergarten, therefore we have rights and responsibilities within our school community. As a class we will discuss what those rights and responsibilities are and use those to develop a set of class rules or a constitution together. We expect children will:

*Respect self and others. *Take care of materials and our classroom. *Be safe and responsible.

We will send home a copy of the class constitution for you to review with your child. The school rules in the Sewanee Handbook and the Franklin County Code of Conduct also apply.



Safety

Your child's safety is top priority. I take every precaution when your child is in my care. Please send a note with your child or call the school if he/she is to go home a different way.

School Supplies

A supply list was sent with the welcome letter or was given on the first day of school. During the year, if we run low on supplies, I will let you know in our class newsletter or with a note.

Show and Tell

We will have Show and Tell at the end of the school year.

Site Words

There are basic site words that our kindergarten students are expected to know before leaving Kindergarten. A list of these words will be in your child's T.I.G.E.R. folder.

Snacks

We will have an afternoon snack time each day. Please send healthy snacks that are small and easy for your child to open and eat independently. Some suggestions include granola bars, crackers, fruit, cheese, or vegetable sticks. We encourage you to send water or a boxed juice for your child to drink (no carbonated beverages, glass containers, aluminum cans, or candy, please). I have a small refrigerator to store perishable snacks if needed.

Student Information Cards

If at any time during the school year that your address or phone number changes, please notify me so I can update your child's student information card.

Student of the Week

Each week our classroom will have a designated kindergartener to be the Student of the Week. Your child will receive information regarding the special activities one week in advance.



T.I.G.E.R. Book

Your child will have a take-home folder labeled "My T.I.G.E.R. Book". Please check your child's backpack each day for this folder. A note will be in the folder explaining how we will use it as a communication tool. Your interest and support is vitally important to your child.

Toys

Toys from home are not allowed at school unless your child has permission to bring them.

Transportation

If there is any change in the way your child goes home, please let your child know and please let me know in writing.



Underwear

An extra pair of underwear (just in case) should be placed in a Ziploc bag in your child's backpack. Please allow your daughter to wear a pair of shorts under her dress.



Visitors

You are welcome to visit our classroom at any time but please be respectful of my instructional time and of your child's and others' learning time. Please remember visitors must check in at the office and obtain a "Visitor's Badge."

Volunteers

I can always use an extra pair of hands and another smiling face when I am working with the children. I am in need of helpers who can come on a regular schedule, whether weekly, biweekly, or monthly - as well as helpers who are willing to do simple things for me at home, such as stapling books together or cutting papers. (This is perfect for the parent who would like to help yet has smaller children at home!) More information will be sent home regarding parent participation at a later time.



Website

Please visit our county website often. It is the perfect way to keep up with all the happenings in our school system. <http://franklincountyschools.k12tn.net/>

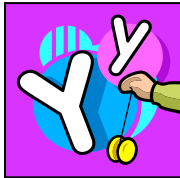
Wish List

A wish list will be sent home with items listed that we use regularly in the classroom. At any time during the school year that we are running low on supplies, I will place a wish list in our newsletter.



"X" Marks the Spot

Kindergarten is the most important spot - where it all begins for your child! Please remember it takes all of us to ensure that your child has a successful school year.



Yearbook

Our annual staff works hard on our yearbook. You will have a chance to buy a yearbook in the spring. What better way to capture those elementary years than with a "Roar of the Mountain" Sewanee Elementary School yearbook!



ZZZZ's

Your child should get plenty of rest each night. It is so important for your child to be alert and ready to learn each day. Set a bedtime and be consistent.