

Nuts and Bolts of Kindergarten

Dear Parents,

August 7, 2009

Welcome to St. Jude Kindergarten! We have many new and fun activities planned for the children this year. Kindergarten is such an exciting time. It is a year filled with great learning experiences for your child. You will be amazed at the growth you see between now and the end of the year. Below are a few tips for those of you who are new to us.

Attendance: Consistent attendance is essential for your child to obtain the maximum benefit from our program. Please try to have him/her here on time. If your child is tardy, you must sign them in at the school office. Please do not send them in alone or with an older sibling. If your child is checking out early, please send a note or call the office. If your child is running a fever, please keep him/her home. We will send any missed work home with them upon their return. If he/she will be out two or more days and you would like to pick up their work, please call the school office or email the teacher.

Dress: Please label all coats, jackets, backpacks, and sweatshirts. We ask that you send a change of clothes (shorts, underwear, and socks) in a Zip-Lock bag in case of an accident. This bag should **remain in your child's book sack at all times**. The change of clothes does NOT have to be a school uniform. Please refer to the handbook for proper attire.

Newsletter: We will be posting updated newsletters on the St. Jude website for every Monday. We will NO longer be sending home a newsletter at the beginning of each week but will be putting all information on the website. It is very important that you check the website on a regular basis for test schedules, homework assignments, general class information, etc. If you do NOT have Internet access, please let your child's teacher know immediately.

www.stjudebr.org

Birthdays: We like to make every child's birthday a special one. We celebrate the birthday with the child in many different ways. He/she will receive a birthday ribbon, certificate, pencil, and sticker. Parents may bring a special snack (no drinks) to be shared with the class. Please contact your child's teacher prior to his/her birthday to plan for this special day so we do not have two birthday treats on the same day. Birthdays are very special but unfortunately in Kindergarten the parents will not be able to attend the special snack.

Toys: Please leave all toys at home unless advised otherwise. This helps prevent misplaced or broken toys and hurt feelings.

Star of the Week/Snacks: Each week one child will be featured as his/her class "Star of the Week". During this time the child will have a chance to share information about him/herself. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks. "Stars" will be chosen in alphabetical order. **Each "star" is asked to provide snacks for the class for the entire week they are being honored.** Snack items should be minimal - do not feel that you have to provide an individually packaged item (like a Little Debbie cake) for every child every day. Ideal snacks might include Goldfish crackers, Vanilla Wafers, chocolate chip cookies, pretzels, etc. Napkins will be provided. Please do NOT send any peanut/peanut butter products. The first "star" will be honored the week of August 17th.

Take Home Folders: During the week, your child may receive homework, notes, letters, etc. included in what like to call a "take-home folder". Please check your child's book sack EACH night for this folder and return it to school the following day. Every Friday your child will bring home his/her conduct report and class work from that week. Please return the folder and **signed** conduct report on the following Monday. This folder is like our "mailbox" from the teacher to the parents and vice-versa. Any notes from you regarding carpool, homework, etc., should be placed in the folder and the folder will be checked daily in the classroom.

Conduct Reports: Conduct reports record your child's conduct from Monday through Friday of the current week. A child's conduct encompasses all activities of the day; including, enrichment, recess, library, lunch, etc. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions at any time regarding your child's behavior.

Afternoon Transportation: IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that you send a note if there is to be any change in the way your child gets home in the afternoon.

Emergency Information Sheets: If there are any changes to the completed application form regarding emergencies, please notify the office and your child's teacher in writing.

Medication: Children should never have medication in their possession on the school grounds.

That's enough "back to school" news for one day. Please keep this information handy as an easy reference throughout the school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please send us a note/email or call the school office. (769-2344)

Thanks for your help and support!

Yvette Cormier K-1

Brett Robichaux K-2