

## Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten is one of the most important years in school. It is a place where young minds and bodies begin a journey into the world of school. Kindergarten provides a groundwork of skills necessary for each child to begin this journey.

Starting Kindergarten is a new adventure. It's part of growing up! Your child may feel happy, sad, excited, worried, or curious. You, as a parent, might experience some of the same feelings. It's a big change for parents too!

Our mission is to provide a quality educational experience in an environment that encourages, develops and broadens children's learning to help them succeed to become confident, eager and enthusiastic learners who look forward to school. Kindergarten is a time for children to expand their love of learning, their general knowledge and their ability to get along with others. Kindergarten recognizes that children's intellectual, emotional, social and physical needs are inter-related. It takes into account that growth in these areas occur unevenly, at different rates and in a definite developmental pattern. The kindergarten classroom allows children to develop independence, responsibility and achieve success as the assigned tasks are realistic and geared to the way children learn best.

This booklet is prepared for you...the parent of the kindergarten child...by the school staff. It contains information and suggestions that will help bridge the gap between home and school and help make your child's adjustment into school life a normal and happy one.

## **KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE IMMUNIZATION DENTAL, LEAD AND VISION REQUIREMENTS**

Eligibility - Must be five on or before September 15, 2020

Building assignment will be made in August.

The following must be submitted before your child starts school:

1. Present birth certificate or baptismal record.
2. Immunization and physical examination form.

### **IMMUNIZATIONS**

Iowa state law requires immunizations for all students entering kindergarten.

### **IMPORTANT**

**The immunization document must be presented before the child begins classes in August.**

### **Requirements for school entry:**

**D-T-P** 5 doses required, at least one dose on or after age 4

**Polio** 4 doses required, at least one dose on or after age 4

**M-M-R** 2 doses required

**Hepatitis B** 3 doses required

**Varicella** 2 doses required unless had history of natural disease

### **DENTAL SCREENING - Required**

The Iowa Legislature passed a bill July 2008 that requires all **kindergarten** students and **ninth** grade students enrolled in the district to have a dental screening. If your child has had an exam (age 3 till present) you may request the dentist to complete the attached dental screening form. After the dentist signs the form, please bring it to school in August with the immunization records. If your child had a dental exam at Head Start you may request the dental hygienist complete the screening form.

## **VISION SCREENING**

Experts' estimate 80% of learning is obtained through vision. Good vision directly contributes to a child's ability to learn while in school. The new Iowa State law requires that parents of all students entering **kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade** shall ensure that evidence of a child vision screening is submitted to the school.

## **LEAD TESTING – State Requirement**

Many children have had lead testing completed by their physician or other early childhood screening programs. The school will send a roster of student's names to the State Department of Health. Please request results from your physician or early childhood serving program and provide documentation to the school.

## **THE SICK CHILD**

In spite of good care, your child will have some illnesses. Most of them will be minor; some will be serious. All of them will require you to observe your child carefully, have patience, and perhaps lose a night's sleep.

Do not send your child to school ill. Here are some symptoms that indicate your child is ill:

- Vomiting
- Frequent loose stools
- A temperature of over 100.

**DO NOT send him/her to school until he/she has none of the above symptoms for 24 hours.**

## **REQUEST TO STAY INDOORS AT RECESS**

It is our thinking that if a child is well enough to come to school, he is well enough to participate in the daily program. Exceptions are made in certain cases where the family physician requests that a child be excused from outdoor activity. Fresh air and a chance to "run off" excess enthusiasm are a must for elementary children. Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for his recess "run".

If for some medical reason your child cannot participate in outdoor activities, please send a note to your child's teacher so stating, so the nurse can keep it as part of the health record. Your child is not asked to go out in inclement weather.

## POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

### KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- 1 Large Elmer's glue stick (1.4 oz.)
- 2 - Elmer's **White** Glue (4 oz.)
- Small tote basket (6" x 9") (not a pencil box) **Clark & Kluckhohn**
- Pencil box with lid (8 3/8" X 5 5/8") **Franklin**
- Large school bag (large enough to hold snow pants & boots)
- 2 boxes Kleenex (Large)
- 2 pencils (No. 2) - Sharpened
- 3 boxes of **8 crayons**
- 4 broad tip Dry-erase markers
- 2 - Folder/Pockets (Bottom Pockets)
- Scissors - Fiskers
- Plastic** folding resting mat (Red & Blue 1" X 19" X 45")
- Please mark **all** supplies with your child's name.
- Notes will be sent home if your child is to bring a special item.
- Please bring supplies to the open house.**

### ABSENCES AND TARDINESS

In the event it is necessary for a student to be absent for any reason, we ask that each parent notify the **school** either by telephoning the **office** by 9:00 a.m., or send word with a brother or sister to the office. **Parents should not bypass the office and contact the teacher/staff directly.**

### STARTING AND DISMISSAL TIMES

- 8:15** AM Report to Classroom
- 3:20** PM Students dismissed

### CONFERENCES AND REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. Parent-teacher conferences are conducted at the end of the first quarter. Parents may request a conference at any time.

### CLOSING OF SCHOOL

Occasionally, it may be necessary to close school because of weather, for furnace or water problems, etc. In this event, it would be well for you to plan with your child what to do in an emergency of this type. All parents will be asked to fill out an early dismissal card; we will follow the plans listed on the card. As soon as a decision is made to cancel school because of weather conditions, the following stations will be advised: **Radio- 1410KLEM Le Mars; , Le Mars, Television Channel 4, Sioux City or sign up for Plymouth CountyAlert text messages [www.co.plymouth.ia.us](http://www.co.plymouth.ia.us) . Please do not call the school offices or the school administrators, as these lines must kept open for communication.**

## Your child needs to be ready to...

By Martha P. Howlett, Assistant Staff with "My Weekly Reader"

### LISTEN

- to directions without interrupting.
- to stories and poems for five to ten minutes without restlessness.

### HEAR

- words that rhyme.
- words that begin with the same sound or different sounds.

### SEE

- likenesses and differences in pictures and designs.
- letters and words that match.

### UNDERSTAND

- the relationship inherent in such words as up and down, top and bottom, little and big.
- the classification of words that represent people, places and things.

### SPEAK AND

- stay on the topic in class discussions.
- retell a story or poem in correct sequence.
- tell a story or relate an experience of his own.

### THINK AND

- give the main idea of a story.
- give unique ideas and important details.
- give reasons for his opinions.

### ADJUST

- to changes in routine and to new situations without becoming fearful.
- to opposition or defeat without crying or sulking.
- to the necessity of asking for help when needed.

### PLAY

- cooperatively with other children.
- and shares, takes turns, and assumes his share of group responsibility.
- and can run, jump, skip, and bounce a ball with comparative dexterity.

### WORK

- without being easily distracted.
- and follows directions.
- and completes each task.
- and takes pride in his work.

LE MARS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Le Mars, Iowa

**KINDERGARTEN IMMUNIZATION AND  
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION RECORDS**

**This form must be presented to the teacher at Open House in August**

CHILD'S FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Examination: Date of Examination \_\_\_\_\_

General Appearance \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_

Posture \_\_\_\_\_ Tonsils & Glands \_\_\_\_\_

Scoliosis \_\_\_\_\_ Heart & Lungs \_\_\_\_\_

Feet \_\_\_\_\_ Abdomen \_\_\_\_\_

Skin \_\_\_\_\_ Genitals \_\_\_\_\_

Vision Screening Result: \_\_\_\_\_ Urinalysis \_\_\_\_\_

Pass \_\_\_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_\_\_ Blood Count \_\_\_\_\_

Ears \_\_\_\_\_ Blood Pressure \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Loss \_\_\_\_\_

Other Defects \_\_\_\_\_ Teeth (Condition) \_\_\_\_\_

Nose \_\_\_\_\_ Throat \_\_\_\_\_ Neurological \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Test Result (Required) and date \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Examining Physician