

Mrs. Laue's Kindergarten

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Welcome to a new school year! I am so excited to have your child in class! Here is some important information!

Special Schedule

Monday: PE

Tuesday: Music

Wednesday: Art + PE

Thursday: Music

Friday: Library + PE/Music (rotates weekly)

School Start Time: School begins at 8:00am. It is imperative that your child arrives at school on time. We do morning announcements at 8:05 and then we begin our learning day. Many days students are headed to specials at 8:10. When students arrive after we have begun, they are missing vital information in the lesson. If your child is eating breakfast, please drop them off by 7:45 so they have enough time to eat. Breakfast stops being served at 7:50.

Morning Drop-Off- We will not be able to open doors and get your child out of the car. There will be staff outside to supervise them and help them get into the building or to their designated morning recess spot. If you feel more comfortable getting out of your car to walk your child to his/her entry point, it is imperative that you park in a parking spot. No parents will be allowed to drop off at the playground behind the school due to safety concerns. All students must be dropped off in the front of the building. Please be mindful during drop off and pick up on your speed and your surroundings. If your child is a parent pick up, and you need to talk to your child's teacher, please park in a parking spot. If you are pulling up to get your child, please make sure you pull all the way forward, we will help your child get safely to your car. Please do not block the pick up line.

Breakfast- Students who are eating breakfast will enter the building and go straight to the cafeteria. There will be adults available to help as needed. At this time, parents are not able to enter the building to help their child eat breakfast.

Dismissal: Bus riders will be dismissed at 2:20 and then parent pick ups will be dismissed at 2:25. Please be prompt in picking up your child after school. Your child has a dismissal tag connected to his/her backpack. **PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THIS TAG.** This helps us ensure that kids are getting to the correct spot at the end of each day. If your child's transportation is changing for a day, please put a note in your child's folder or call the office and let them know of the change. We cannot accept a child's word on transportation changes.

Snack: We will be having a snack in our classroom every day. I have enough to cover us for the first week or so. I am asking that the next time you are grocery shopping to grab a snack for the class. Please refrain from sending in cupcakes with a lot of frosting. Our classroom is carpeted and these tend to make a ginormous mess.

Communication: The easiest and quickest way to get a hold of me is through the SeeSaw messaging app or via email. You can call the school, but during the school day when children are present I will not be able to take phone calls. You may leave me a message and I will call you back when I can. While you will be able to email me or SeeSaw message me when it is convenient for you, please understand that I will not be able to respond after 5:00pm as I will be with my family. I will respond to messages received after 5:00pm as soon as I can the following day. While I understand that social media apps such as Facebook + Instagram are very convenient, please direct all school related questions about your child through the appropriate channels (phone, Seesaw, email). Thank you!

Water: The drinking fountains in our building will be functional again this year. If you would like for your child to bring a water bottle, that is fine too. I will not have extra water bottles for students stocked at school this year. Please remember that water bottles should have **water only**. If they have something other than water, your child will be able to drink it at lunch and will be able to use the drinking fountain during class breaks. Water bottles will be kept in their lockers throughout the day, not in the classroom.

Red Folders: Red folders will be sent home nightly and are to be returned every morning. Any notes or papers you have for me **MUST** be in the folder. I am unable to go through your child's backpack. Please make sure that any note regarding transportation changes is placed inside the folder. It is important that you are checking your child's folder nightly and emptying it.

Independent Skills: Please make sure that your child is able to button, zip, tie and fasten all pieces of clothing independently. If your child is unable to tie his/her own shoes, we would appreciate sending them in velcro shoes. Please have your student practice zipping now, so when colder weather arrives they can independently zip their coat.

Recess: Students will have outside recess every morning and every day at lunch time, weather permitting. Students need to come prepared and dressed for the weather. We will not go outside for recess if it is raining, or if it is below 15 degrees with windchill. 15 degrees is very cold and students should have hats, gloves, and winter coats. Once snow arrives, only students with a full set of snow gear will be allowed to play in the snow. This includes a hat, gloves, snow pants, snow boots and winter coat. Students without all items will still go outside for recess, they will play on the plowed blacktop area. Please have your child practice putting on his/her snow gear independently before the first snow.

Gym Shoes + Extra Clothes: Please make sure that your child has these items. If your child uses his/her extra clothes, please make sure to return a fresh set. This helps when students spill or have bathroom accidents. We have a limited amount of extra clothes. If your child does not have extra clothing and we do not have your child's size in our back up stockpile, you may have to bring your child clothes.

Birthdays: We will celebrate your child's birthday in class and make their special day amazing!! If you would like to send in a special snack for your child's birthday, that is great! Please refrain from cake/cupcakes. Please remember that snack time is short, and the kids will only have 5 to 10 minutes to eat what you send in. Please do not send in juice or other drinks. If your child is having a birthday party, invitations can only be passed out at school **only** if all students in the classroom are being invited.

Homework: It is my belief that children should spend their time at home playing. Generally speaking your child will not have homework. The exception to this is when they are absent, I will send make-up work home with them. If your child does not do his/her work in class, I will send it home with a note and ask for it to be returned the following day. What can you do to help your child at home? Read books to them and play games with them. These two things help students in so many ways. If your child is struggling to grasp a concept, I would be more than happy to give you some ideas on how to support them with that specific thing at home.

Safety: Our main priority this school year is to keep your child safe and healthy. If your child is unwell, please keep them home. Hand sanitizer dispensers have been placed throughout the building and we wash our hands frequently throughout the day.. If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please call Ms. Pam at (815)389-2311 and let her know that your child will be absent and what the reason is for the absence.

I am looking forward to a great year with your child. Throughout the year, if questions or concerns arise please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Together in Education,
Mrs. Laue