

Sept. 2016

Dear Families,

Mr. Kurschat and Mrs. Yakimik are pleased to be sharing our grade one class and we are both looking forward to a year of learning, fun and excitement. We are looking forward to a year of learning, fun and excitement. Mrs. Yakimik will be responsible for the Language Arts, Social Studies and Art instruction in the morning, and Mr. Kurschat will be teaching Math, Science and Health in the afternoon. The students seem eager to be back and we had a great first day getting settled in and getting to know each other. This is just a quick note to review some of the things you will need to know about.

Agendas:

Your child will be bringing home an agenda each evening with information and notes about our week. The agendas have a pocket in the front for any information that needs to come before Friday envelopes. It is also a great place for you to send anything to us. We will be using the word "pocket" written in the agenda to let you know when there is a note for you in the front pocket. We will be checking the agendas every morning so if you have sent something for us please just use the same notation so we know to look there. Please initial each day when you look at the agenda so we know that you are seeing it.

Friday envelopes:

Each Friday your child will bring home a Friday envelope with all of the school correspondence. Please go through the envelope, empty it and send it back on Monday. If there is paperwork that needs to be sent back you can put it back in the envelope or put it in your child's agenda pocket.

Treats:

We do occasionally use food as part of some activities in the class. If there is anything you do not want your child eating please let us know so we can make other arrangements for him/her.

Allergies: Just a reminder that we have several students in the school who are highly allergic to nuts. Please try not to send nut products.

Water bottles: To cut down on classroom interruptions it is a good idea to provide your child with a water bottle to keep on his/her desk. Please encourage your child to bring the bottle home daily but if they forget we will send them home on Fridays to be cleaned. Please ensure if you do send one that it is a **non-spill bottle** that can sit safely on your child's desk.

Popcorn:

We do have a small concession at school that sells popcorn (75¢) at lunchtime. Our classroom rules regarding popcorn sales are:

- 1) They must first eat their lunch before going to purchase their popcorn
- 2) They can purchase ONE bag for themselves
- 3) No popcorn should be found on the floor

Microwaves:

Microwaves are available for the children to heat up food at lunchtime. They can however be problematic for the grade one students, as the lineups are often long, leaving them limited time to eat. They also have to carry hot food down the hallway. We would encourage you to please send a sandwich type lunch or hot food in a thermos with your child, but if you do wish them to heat something up please indicate how long the food should be heated and include a microwave safe container or small paper plate in which to heat it. We will also be talking a lot about proper nutrition in our health class so we also encourage you to set a good example by packing healthy snacks and lunches.

Toys in the classroom:

We discourage the children from bringing toys into the classroom as they can be a distraction to learning and sometimes cause social problems. If your child wants a toy for recess that is fine, but our rule is that the toy must stay in their backpack until that time and they are responsible for it outside.

Also gameboys and other type electronic devices are NOT ALLOWED AT SCHOOL AT ALL.

Birthdays:

The children may bring a nut free treat to share with the class if you wish. We have 26 children on our class list at this present time. Also to avoid hurt feelings please hand all birthday invitations to either one of us and we will be happy to put them in Friday envelopes, home reader bags or agendas.

Library:

We will be visiting the school library each Friday and the children will be able to choose a book to bring home. Books need to be returned by the following Thursday to be checked into the library so we are ready to go again on Friday.

Gym:

The children will have gym with Mrs. Herman on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure that your child's indoor shoes are safe and appropriate for vigorous activity and running.

Music:

The children will have music with Mr. Kurschat in the music room on Monday and Thursday.

Home reading:

We will be starting our home reading program around the middle of September. The information you will need for the program will come home at that time in your child's home reading bag. The bags are emptied and books exchanged each day so you may also send notes to us in the home reader bags.

Volunteering: We welcome volunteers to help out in the classroom on a regular or occasional basis to work on small group activities, read with individual children, assist with experiments and art projects, or help with class displays and materials. If you are available please fill in the form attached and send it back. We will contact you to set up times.

Correspondence

If you need more information, or if you have any questions or concerns, please email anytime and we will answer as promptly as possible. Our emails are:

jennifer.yakimik@spschools.org

michael.kurschat@spschools.org

Of course if it is something important that needs an immediate response, please call the school 459-3114 or pop in to see us. If you could please provide the best email address to reach you on the attached questionnaire it would be helpful

Thank you so much for helping us to make your child's year a fun and successful one.

Jennifer Yakimik & Michael Kurschat

YES! I can help out in the classroom.

Name _____

Phone # _____

Best time to call _____

Times I could be available

Mon _____

Tues _____

Wed _____

Thurs _____

Fri _____