

## Welcome to Kindergarten at London Elementary

The first year of school is an exciting time for you and your child; however, it can also be somewhat stressful as everyone tries to adjust to a new schedule and new responsibilities. In order to reduce the stress of beginning a new school year, we would like to provide you with some important information concerning your child's kindergarten experience:

Drop off and pick up procedures:

- Children can be dropped off as early as 7:30.
- Children arriving prior to 7:45 will go to the cafeteria.
- Children will be dismissed by grade levels to go to their classrooms beginning at 7:45.
- Children arriving after 7:50 must be brought to the office and signed in on the computer in the office. Parents will print the child a tardy slip that is needed to enter the classroom after 7:50. Children who are late miss valuable instruction time. Please make every effort to have your student at school on time.
- Parents should allow students to become independent by allowing them to walk to class on their own. Parents who walk their students to class will be asked to tell them goodbye at the door as long as the stop sign is in place. We also ask that you do not come to eat lunch with your child until the stop sign is removed. The stop sign will be removed Oct. 14, 2014. We ask this because the separation anxiety is increased the longer the separation process is prolonged. This also gives us an opportunity to bond with your child and establish rules and procedures. Please try to remain positive and upbeat about school in front of your child. If your child senses you are upset, they will become upset. Additionally, if your child cries and this causes you to linger, they will continue to cry.

## Money:

When sending money for any reason (lunch, ice cream, field trips, etc.), please put it in an envelope with your child's name, the purpose of the money, and the amount written on the envelope so that we can ensure money is credited to the proper account. Please place the labeled envelope in the plastic pocket in front of the agenda book. You may pay for lunch and breakfast together in one check or you can pay online using the school website.

## Breakfast and lunch:

- Prices for breakfast and lunch: Breakfast= \$1.10 Lunch= \$2.35  
Reduced lunch= \$.40 (breakfast is free)  
Adult meals are 'a la carte
- Please fill out the free/reduced lunch forms and return them to school if you wish to apply for free/reduced lunch. Any student who qualifies for free/reduced lunch will automatically qualify for free breakfast this year.
- Children will be given a number to use when purchasing breakfast and lunch. These numbers will also be used to log in to the computers in the lab. Please work with your child each night to help them memorize their lunch number.
- Children will be allowed to charge their lunch if their lunch account does not have adequate funds to purchase a meal. All charges must be paid before a child is allowed to participate in field trips, field day, or any other special activity.
- We eat lunch from 10:55-11:25. Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their child beginning Oct. 14, 2014. Branded food and drink from restaurants are not allowed in the cafeteria.

- Your child may purchase lunch in the cafeteria or bring lunch from home. Kindergarten students are not allowed to buy extra snacks at lunchtime. Children are not allowed to have soft drinks for lunch or for snack. Those on lunch duty will assist children with opening items at lunchtime, but due to the amount of children eating at the same time (and only two people on duty) this can take a considerable amount of time. If at all possible, pack items that your child can open.

#### School Clothes:

Please dress your child in comfortable play clothes. We will be going to the gym on Mondays and every third Friday, and we go outside every day weather permits. Sneakers are the best choice of footwear for our daily activities and are required for gym. Time constraints prohibit us from allowing students to change shoes for gym during the day. Please send in an extra change of clothes in a Zip Loc bag (socks, underwear, shirt, and pants, shorts, dress, or skirt) for your child in case there is an accident (bathroom, spills, paint, etc.). We will return these as the seasons change so you may replace them with weather appropriate clothes.

#### Communication:

All parent/teacher correspondence other than email ([kendall.swaim@stokes.k12.nc.us](mailto:kendall.swaim@stokes.k12.nc.us) or [Shanna.nelson@stokes.k12.nc.us](mailto:Shanna.nelson@stokes.k12.nc.us)) or phone calls (336-591-7204) needs to be written in the child's agenda book in the space to the left of the appropriate date. Again, any money needs to be in the plastic pocket in front of the agenda book in an envelope labeled with the child's name, amount of money, and purpose for the money. Your child will unpack his/her folder and agenda book each day, and the book bag will be put in the closet. We do not search through book bags.

Our class website address is: [www.swaimkindergarten.weebly.com](http://www.swaimkindergarten.weebly.com). There is also a link on the London Elementary website ([www.londonelementary.weebly.com](http://www.londonelementary.weebly.com)). For your convenience, this site will provide our weekly homework information, opportunities for enrichment, contact information, and other important information.

## Transportation:

When your child's mode of transportation changes, we must have written notification signed by a parent or guardian. Please write this in the agenda book to the left of the appropriate date. If you email the changes to us, we will email you with a quick response to let you know we received the information. If you do not receive a response from us by 2:00, please call the school to ensure we have the correct information. If the change occurs during the school day and you are unable to contact us through email please call the school office. You will be asked to fax or email the information to the school. If the changes require a different bus stop, after writing the information in the agenda book, please write a separate note to be given to the bus driver. Be sure to include specific information regarding the different stop.

If your child is a car rider, he/she must be picked up from the car rider line. The car rider line forms in the back of the school. When school dismisses, you will be directed to the appropriate area to pick up your child.

## Homework:

Your child will need a "homework helper" to assist them with their assignments. Your child's homework assignments will focus on learning sight words and participating in reading activities. It is extremely important that you show your child the importance of education by making these small assignments a priority.

## Misc.

- Students are allowed to purchase ice cream on Fridays. The price of ice cream is fifty cents. Many parents find it easier to pay for several weeks at a time rather than trying to remember each Friday. Don't forget to put the money in an envelope labeled with your child's name, the amount of money, and the purpose of the money in the plastic pocket in the front of the agenda book.

- Please send in field trip/scholastic money as soon as possible. We have two field trips tentatively planned for this year. One is to the Dixie Classic Fair and another is to see the play *Charlotte's Web* in Winston Salem. The price for both trips, including lunch after *Charlotte's Web*, and a Scholastic News Magazine used in class will be **\$16.00**. We would like for a parent or grandparent to attend the fair with each student. Lunch for the fair will be the responsibility of the parent or grandparent attending. If it is not possible for someone to attend with your child, we will ask for money to be sent in for his/her lunch.
- Please get all required shots, records, and your child's health assessment turned in as soon as possible.
- Two children each week will be asked to bring a snack for the class. We currently have 13 students. Please remember to send the snack in on Monday mornings. Examples of snacks usually enjoyed by the children are fruit, fruit snacks, cereal, pretzels, goldfish, Ritz crackers, Pop Tarts, etc. You do not have to purchase individually packaged items. You may also send juice or water (no soft drinks) if you wish.
- Please do not allow your child to bring toys to school. They will not be allowed to have the toy out during class time and the toys are often broken or lost causing the child to become upset. Also, please do not send your child to school wearing watches or any other distracting jewelry. Aside from causing a distraction, these are also often broken or lost.
- Specials Schedule:  
  
Monday=Gym  
Tuesday=Music  
Wednesday=Media  
Thursday=Guidance  
Friday=Media, Music, or Gym

Behavior:

In our classroom and school, we prefer to focus on positive behavior.  
We ask our students to always remember to R.O.A.R.

As a lion, I will be Respectful, I will take Ownership for my behavior, I will have an A+ attitude, I will be Ready to learn!

Students who R.O.A.R will have the opportunity to earn Lion Loot.  
Once a month, they will have an opportunity to spend their Lion Loot at a school store or they can save their loot to buy special privileges or activities once each quarter.

Common Core: <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>  
<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/common-core-tools/>