



## Welcome to Kindergarten!

Mrs. Butkus

Full Day Kindergarten

### Rules for Parents

- ♥ Write your child's **first and last name on all items.**
- ♥ Foster independence in your child by encouraging your child to **enter the classroom in the morning alone.** Resist the urge to do everything for your child, such as put away the backpack, jacket, umbrella, put notes in my box, etc. Your child needs to learn to do these types of things for him or herself.
- ♥ Your child has been given a white binder for the purpose of helping to keep things organized. **The binders will be sent home every night and must come back every single day. Please check the binder every night and remove the things in enclosed folder marked "Leave These Things at Home." Please sign and return anything in the pocket marked "Overnight Express."** Put it back in this pocket. Your child will be taught to check this pocket every day and turn in anything that is in it.
- ♥ **The homework will be placed in the pocket marked "homework" each Monday.** Please do the activities with your child daily (NOT all in one night!) and keep the paper in this pocket for storage each night. Your child will be taught to look for it and turn it in on Friday.
- ♥ **Your child's homework includes filling in the Read Aloud Chart daily.** Read daily with your child and write the name of the book on the **Read-Aloud Chart** for each month. Keep this chart in the page protector provided in the binder. The children will be taught to turn it in near the end of each month. This is part of your child's homework and participation is noted on the report card.
- ♥ **Read all notes** that your child brings home. The most important notes will be in the "Overnight Express" pocket.
- ♥ **Please do NOT use the binder to store** school related items and or all papers for the year, etc. This will ruin the binder, and you will be expected to provide another.

### Things Parents Should Know

- ♥ Your child will need a **backpack** that is large enough to hold his or her binder. Some backpacks with wheels don't fit in the cubbies well. **Remind your child to bring it back and forth to school every day, emptied of excess "stuff."** This is required. If you cannot purchase one due to financial reasons, please let me know.
- ♥ Your child needs a **water bottle with a pop-top lid** to keep at school this year. Please don't send bottles with lids that must be taken off completely, as this creates spills and takes longer for children to get drinks. We will refill it and clean it regularly. This is probably more sanitary than the water fountain, and allows many children to get a drink at one time.
- ♥ Do not permit your child to bring toys to school.
- ♥ In class, we recognize each child's **birthday**, but we are not allowed to have birthday parties at school. **You may pass out invitations at school only if there is an invitation for everyone.** Send birthday invitations for smaller parties through the mail. A phone number and address list will be forthcoming, but will include only those children whose parents have given permission to have this information distributed.
- ♥ **Feel free to send in treats on your child's birthday, but please don't send in treats of various colors and/or flavors.** Help us avoid disappointment by sending treats that all look the same. We will pass them out at recess. The treats should be easy and quick to serve, such as cupcakes or donuts, and should contain no nut products. Please send napkins if necessary.



**Please do not drop off your child any earlier than 8:00 AM.** There is no supervision for your child before this time. **My door will probably be locked before 8:00 AM. Please respect my prep time by not dropping off your child any earlier.** **Leave backpacks, etc. outside by the back door.**



## Attendance

♥ Children will be marked late, even if they arrive only a couple of minutes late. We have found that if we give families an extra few minutes to arrive, these few minutes will continue to grow throughout the year. There is no "grace period." We will align our clocks to the Roynon bell system. Tardies are noted on the report card, as well as absences, and become part of your child's permanent record.

♥ If you arrive late, please walk your child in the classroom. **Do not drop them at the curb and drive away.** We may have left the room and your child will be unsupervised! If attendance has already been submitted electronically, you will have to walk your child to the office to check him or her in.

♥ Please **arrive promptly to pick up your child** after school. We are required to take children to Day Care if their parents do not come within a reasonable amount of time. Call the office if you are running late. Make sure I have your current cell phone number, and I will call you if necessary. Keep another child's parent's phone number with you in case you cannot get through to the office. Many people try to call the school at dismissal time for this reason, and it is common to not get through immediately.

♥ **If your child is absent, please send a note** with the reason for the absence or call the school office at 971-8207. Sometimes doing both really helps.

♥ At dismissal time, please come to the door and pick up your child there. Children will not be sent out to cars waiting at the curb, or to people (even parents) who wave from a distance. Walking all the way to the door will allow the teacher to let parents know about any issues that happened during the day.

## Need to Talk?

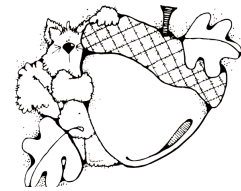
♥ Call the school at (909) 971-8207 and ask the secretary to put you through to me. If I am not teaching, she will. If I am teaching, they will put you through to my voice mail. Or: Email me at: [H.Butkus@bonita.k12.ca.us](mailto:H.Butkus@bonita.k12.ca.us)

## Snacks and Lunch

♥ The children may eat a light snack during the morning recess time. Please send **just one item.** This is not meant to be a lunch period, and they have only 20 minutes to eat and play.

♥ Please do not send any items with peanuts in them. There are some children at our school with severe **peanut allergies.** Or, if you do send items containing peanuts, please write this on the side of the lunch bag or tape a note to the lunch box saying, "This snack contains peanut products." Your child should know that he or she has food containing peanuts that day and will need to sit apart from students with peanut allergies.

**Save the nuts  
for the  
squirrels!**



♥ Please do **NOT send juice or milk with your child as a SNACK.** (these items spill and draw ants). Have your child save these items for lunch. A water bottle is fine for recess time.

♥ Once our schedule changes to the longer day, the children will be visiting the cafeteria for lunch. They may bring a lunch from home or buy their lunch from the cafeteria. Lunch tickets good for 10 lunches may be purchased in the school office or cafeteria before school. Kindergartners tend to lose the change from their lunch money. **A lunch ticket or exact change works best.** Last year, lunches were \$2.50 each. Money should come to school in an envelope marked with your child's name. We will collect it upon arrival. Your child should know each day if he is "bringing" or "buying" lunch each day.

♥ Please note: a free lunch is just a free *lunch*. It is not a free snack for recess time. Many free lunch students are very hungry by recess time. **Your child will need a snack from home each day.** Make sure your child knows that they need to save the juice or milk for lunch time.

## Dress Code

- ♥ No spaghetti strap tops or midriff shirts or blouses. (We shouldn't be able to see your child's belly!)
- ♥ No tank tops that show the chest are allowed, such as "muscle man" shirts. (We should not be able to see your child's chest!)
- ♥ See-through shirts or shirts with a see-through mesh are not allowed.
- ♥ Sports shirts and hats, (such as Dodgers or Lakers,) are not allowed, due to gang affiliations.
- ♥ Sandals and clogs without heel straps are not allowed, nor are any other shoes without a heel strap.
- ♥ Hats and sunglasses may only be worn outside only at recess. All hats must be solid color. (I have no idea why this is important.)
- ♥ The district does not allow bandannas on boys or girls due to gang affiliations.
- ♥ If little ones play with their jewelry, (especially watches or bracelets) they may be asked to remove them during work time.

## Volunteers

- ♥ We are always happy to have volunteers! Our program depends upon it!
- ♥ If you would like to help, please send in the Volunteer sheet enclosed in your packet. We like having Moms, Dads, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Friends, etc.!
- ♥ We are especially in need of those that can help weekly.
- ♥ There will be opportunities for working parents to help out for one-time special events throughout the year.

## School Hours

- ♥ August 24-Sept. 18: 8:15-11:35 Minimum Days
- ♥ Sept. 21 - March 26: 8:15-1:20 Dismissal:  
Every Thursday is a Compact Day; 1:2-35.
- ♥ March 29 - June 10: 8:15-2:15  
Compact Days continue each Thursday as usual;  
dismissal is at 1:15.

## Rules for the Children

- ♥ Follow all of the teachers' and the assistant's instructions.
  - ♥ Clean up after yourself.
  - ♥ Walk inside and on the cement outside.
  - ♥ No yelling inside. Use a quiet indoor voice.
  - ♥ Raise your hand when you want to talk and wait to be called on.
  - ♥ Listen while the teacher or others are talking.
  - ♥ Treat the other children in the way you wish to be treated. No hitting, etc.
- Consequences: Short time outs, loss of playtime, a phone call home.... or in severe cases- a trip to the principal's office.
- Note: Cell Phones are not permitted.** If your child has a cell phone and the teacher sees or hears it, we are required to take it away and return it to a parent only.

## This year, your child will learn:

- ♥ The letters (out of order) and their sounds.
- ♥ To read the 50 *minimum* sight words and color words.
- ♥ To write his or her name.
- ♥ To read simple sentences.
- ♥ To count to 100
- ♥ To add, subtract, and do word problems in math.
- ♥ To write numbers and simple equations.
- ♥ To tell time to the hour, to measure, identify coins and their values.
- ♥ To graph and compare quantities. Etc, etc., etc.



We will talk more about this at Back To School Night, so please plan on coming.

**Send a backpack every day, and check it every night!**