Welcome to Kindergarten!

The following information will let you know about many of our current daily procedures at Ferndale Lower Elementary. Each teacher will personalize certain areas and you will be informed of these specific details in the fall by your classroom teacher.

1st Bell – 8:08 Tardy Bell – 8:13 Dismissal Bell – 3:13 Early Dismissal – 2:13 (Wednesdays)

The 1st Day of Kindergarten

- Place all items in your child’s locker/cubbie
- Find a seat in the classroom
- Parents are welcome to come in while the students get settled
- Mark how your child will be going home for the first day/week (Transportation Chart will be available in each classroom)
- As your child feels comfortable, please say your goodbyes and leave us to begin our day and get to know each other better. I Love You Rituals are a great way to help, [https://www.pinterest.com/markie16/i-love-you-rituals/?lp=true](https://www.pinterest.com/markie16/i-love-you-rituals/?lp=true)
- Parents are invited to meet in the Media Center beginning at 8:35 for our Welcome to Ferndale Elementary Lower Campus Information Session with other parents.

Breakfast/Lunch

- A calendar link will be in the weekly newsletter and posted on the district website
- Students can purchase lunch for $3.00 daily or write a check, made payable to Chartwells, to be placed on your child’s lunch account. The breakfast cost is about $1.50 daily
- Milk is available for purchase - 50¢
- Money should be sent in an envelope with your child’s name on it

Snack

- Students will have community snack each day
- We have a Community Snack system. Families will be provided a list of approved snacks that can be sent into the classroom. Each family is asked to provide class family snack throughout the school year. This allows the teacher to ensure the safety of the snack for students with severe allergies.
- Water Bottles are welcome; classroom procedures will vary. Be sure to write your child’s name on the bottle.
- For students with allergies, please contact the front office so that the proper paperwork can be completed and an Allergy Plan developed.
Classroom Celebrations

We know that birthdays and other celebrations are important and we love to celebrate them. Due to the increased number of food allergies (peanut, tree nut, eggs, seeds, soy, gluten, sugar, etc.), we are joining the many schools that have already adopted a “non-edible” birthday treat policy. What does this mean? It means that all birthday treats that are brought into school must be non-food items. Some examples of acceptable non-edible treats include: pencils, stickers, temporary tattoos, erasers, silly bands, or any other item that might be put into ‘goodie bag’ that is non-edible. Celebrations are important, but we need to insure that all children can participate.

Down Time

- We will have a short rest time everyday in the afternoon (Rest and a calm down time is imperative for learning to take place in the brain)
- Your child may be asked to bring in a beach towel, small blanket or pillow
- It should be small enough to fit inside his/her locker and left at school, please do not send in his/her favorite item that needs to come home everyday.

Lockers/Cubby

- Each student will have his/her own locker
- Bring backpacks (no wheels please) to school daily. Home/School communication folder will be utilized daily
- Toys are not permitted to be brought to school
- Things get left behind; check the lost and found frequently

Clothing

- A change of clothes should be kept at school or in his/her backpack for emergencies
- Kindergarten is messy; dress appropriately
- Label all backpacks and clothing that belongs to your child
- Gym shoes must be worn on PE days

Drop Off

- Parents may use the Kiss and Go Lane or can be dropped off by the bus
- Students will be permitted to enter the building at 7:50 for breakfast
- Students should not arrive more than 10 minutes before the start of class (7:58)
- Students are to place their belongings in their lockers and sit in front of their lockers
- Students may not enter the classroom until the bells rings and their teacher is present (8:08)

Helping Your Child Enter School Independently

- 1st Week – Parents may drop their child off at the classroom door
- 2nd Week – Parents may walk their child to the beginning of the hallway
- 3rd Week – Parents may walk their child to the inside front door
- 4th Week – Parents should be dropping their child off in the Kiss-N-Go Lane

Kindergarten Dismissal

- Bus tags must be attached to your child’s backpack and visible to ride the bus. They will receive them on the first day of school
- Parents picking up should wait in their car in the Kiss & Go Lane or if parked, may walk to the pickup porch
- Older siblings should plan to meet their kindergarten siblings at the bus or on the pickup porch
Curriculum Night
Thursday, September 5th, 2019
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

- Parents Only
- Classroom specific information
- Curriculum information
- Circuit class information - Art, PE, Music and Media 2.0
- PTA/PAC Presentation

Classroom and At Home Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer Coordinator
- Celebration Planner
- Guest Readers
- Field Trips

Home Routines

- Healthy Breakfast
- Check and empty backpacks daily
- Review the yellow communication folder
- Read daily
- Get to bed early to get plenty of rest
- Talk about their day

Communication

- Every Monday, Mrs. Keefe emails a newsletter to families
- A year long calendar is sent home at the beginning of the school year
- District Website has calendar and information
- Each teacher has their own system. Please sign up!

Welcome to your School Family!