

Dear Families,

Welcome to KINDERGARTEN!



I am excited to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to my class. A good learning experience is built on a cooperative effort between parent, child, and teacher. With your participation in and out of the classroom, we can look forward to a very productive and exciting first year here at Jefferson!!!

This is my fifth year teaching kindergarten and I absolutely love it! Before teaching at Jefferson, I taught at both Penny Creek and Madison Elementary. I graduated in 2005 from Western Washington University and then studied to receive my Masters in Teaching from City University.

Outside of school, I like to spend time with my husband and our 2 year old son, Axton. We love to hike, travel and enjoy the outdoors. I look forward to getting to know your child and your families this year!

I have prepared this information packet to let you know about what you can expect this year. Please read through the following information as soon as you are able. I hope that your questions will be answered and if they aren't, remember them for "Curriculum Night," where I can personally answer them for you.

If you need to contact me, please email me. This is the easiest and most direct way to communicate with me and I will respond to you as soon as possible. My email is: [arussell@everettsd.org](mailto:arussell@everettsd.org)

I look forward to working with your student and your family this year, I know they will be successful and make you proud!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Russell  
School phone # 425-385-7438  
Email: [arussell@everettsd.org](mailto:arussell@everettsd.org)

\*\*\*I will have a parent volunteer sign-up sheet during "Curriculum Night." I hope to have your assistance and time this year to help out in our classroom whether it's working with students or behind the scene; we would love to have you!

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



### 1. Homework:

Beginning the week of September 29th, your child will bring home a homework packet each Monday. Here at Jefferson your child is expected to read every night for at least 15 minutes. Please return their homework in their folder on Fridays along with a list of books they have read. When they return their homework on time, a sticker will be put on their folder for their hard work and effort. The homework will not take too much time but is meant to reinforce the material we have been learning in class and allow you as parents to stay informed with your students' work. If you have any concerns regarding the material in the homework packet please let me know.

### 2. Progress Reports:

I send home progress reports each Friday for every student. These give you information regarding your child's behavior, effort and how they work with others and their use of time in our classroom. Please sign and return each Monday. This is the most effective and weekly way I can communicate with you. It will keep you up-to-date on your child's progress and possible help you can give at home. I will also attach the work they have complete that week in class to the weekly progress report. This work if for you to keep and doesn't need to be sent back to me!

3. **Take Home Folders:** During the week, your child will be bringing home papers in their take home folders. This folder will contain vital information from the school and classroom, including homework on Mondays. Organization is one of the key components of a successful student. Please help your student remember to return his/her folder to school everyday. Showing your student

that you care and are involved with his or her progress in class will show them the importance of their education and set their academic future off to a great start!

4. Please send a note or call the school office (425-385-7400) if your child will be absent. If you know you will be gone for an extended period of time please let me know a few weeks ahead of time and I will prepare any homework and work that your child will miss.



5. **Birthdays:** Children may celebrate their special day in class by bringing in treats. Please make sure that all of the treats are the same. I just ask that you let me know if you are coming in or would like to drop something off. There are approximately 24 students in our class.

### School Rules

- Be respectful
- Be responsible
- Be safe

### Classroom Rules

1. Follow directions the first time given. Make sure you are listening.
2. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
3. Respect others. Treat others how you would like to be treated!
4. Try your best and have FUN!

We are a "Make Your Day" school

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"Make Your Day" is an all school citizenship program that encourages students to self-manage their own behavior. Kindergarten students who have followed school and classroom expectations, and have shown a positive attitude for the day will have earned personal points to "make their day" throughout each school day. Students who earn 11+ points out of 15 have made their day. Make Your Day is based on the rule that "Everyone has the right to learn and be physically and emotionally safe, free from interference from others." Students are asked to, "do what is expected and do it the best you can." There are natural consequences for students who choose not to follow school/classroom expectations. Students who make inappropriate choices are choosing to move their clip and take time away

from the class and/or activity based on a series of steps. Those students who have had repeated steps and had to repeatedly move their clip and adjust their points during our school day will take a note home stating that they did not "make their day." Please take time to discuss with your child, the choices he/she is making at school. Focus on generating ideas for changing the behavior instead of punishments. Our ultimate goal is for students to make responsible choices and understand that they do not have the right to interfere with another student's opportunity to learn.

I have a very structured classroom and high expectations for each of my students. I know that each of my students, all at different levels, will learn at their own rate and in their own way. I hope to make their experience an exciting, fun, challenging, and rewarding one as they embark on their first year of school!

I know this will be an exciting year for all of us. Feel free to contact me if you need to via email. I will return your email/call at my earliest convenience!

### **Specialists:**

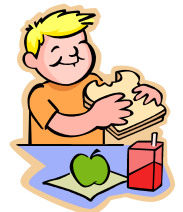
9:35-10:05

**Tuesdays:** TBD

**Thursdays:** TBD

**Fridays:** TBD

**\*No specials on Mondays or Wednesdays\***  
Please make sure your student wears appropriate P.E. attire on Tuesdays and returns their library books each Friday.  
Thank you!



### **Snack:**

11:00

We will have a daily snack in the classroom. I will be asking for donations on healthy snack items that we can share in class. Please no peanut products. Good snacks include: Goldfish, pretzels, RITZ, etc. Thank you!