

Please read and return to the folder for future reference.



## Welcome to Room 366!

This year, your child will complete one of the most important milestones in his or her life – the first year of school! At Stocker, we understand that you and your child may have met this day with excitement or apprehension, but I hope this letter will help you learn what to expect in kindergarten and answer some questions you may have.

### Parent/ Teacher Relationship

I believe that a good parent–teacher relationship is necessary for maximum school success. We are partners! Throughout the year, I will communicate with you through notes, telephone calls, e–mails, weekly newsletters, quarterly report cards, a class web site, and parent–teacher conferences. If you ever have questions or concerns, you can send a note with your child in the blue daily folder, call me at school at 359–2143, or e–mail me at [vnavarro@kUSD.edu](mailto:vnavarro@kUSD.edu) .

### School Hours

Students attend school from 7:20–2:25. On Fridays, students are dismissed at 11:10. It is important to know that all Kindergartners will enter through the door on the **small playground**. Our class will line up at the red **apple** symbol painted on the pavement. Bus students and car riders will all be expected to line up on that playground in the morning before school. At dismissal time, bus students will be escorted to their buses and children who are being picked up will exit through the northeast door (small parking lot). If you need to pick your child up during the day, you must sign him or her out in the office. One of the secretaries will then call the classroom and I will send your child to the office.

### Changes in Transportation

If you plan to pick up your child that normally rides the bus, or if someone other than a parent is picking up your child, you must send a written note.

We cannot rely on a child to relay those important messages. If I don't receive a note, your child will be sent home by his or her usual method of transportation.

### School Attendance

Your child's regular attendance at school is crucial to his or her success. Most kindergarten activities are group oriented and involve interaction with classmates. It is almost impossible to make up the work. Please view school as a priority and make sure your child attends except in the case of illness.

### Outdoor Recess

Your child will be going outside **every day** unless it is raining or extremely cold (below 0). Please keep this in mind when helping your child to select clothing for the day. Also, we are fortunate to have a variety of playground equipment for climbing with woodchips for safety. Please consider this when choosing outfits and footwear! Along with our new dress code, we also want kindergartners to be safe and comfortable.

### Money

On occasion, it will be necessary for your child to bring money to school. Always send money in a sealed envelope labeled with the following important information:

Your child's name

The amount of money

Purpose for the money (field trip, book order...)

Room Number (366)

This helps us reduce the likelihood of errors or lost or misplaced money. Lunch money has a special envelope that can be picked up in the office. **All checks need your child's name and student ID # on them.**

### Parent Teacher Communication Folder

Each day, your child will bring home a light blue folder filled with important notes and sometimes homework. The folder has a clear front and back pocket which will have important papers to be **left in** the folder for future reference. Inside the folder is a pocket labeled "return to school" and one labeled "keep at home." Please check your child's backpack **daily** and remove notes. Please leave this letter in the back outside pocket for your reference.

### Homework

Homework is designed to reinforce the skills we are working on in class. Our math curriculum has home links which will come home from time to time. Some home link activities are meant to be done at home and not be returned, others will be due the next day. We hope this helps to develop a good attitude

towards homework. Our reading curriculum also has take home books that we will use for homework. Occasionally, I will send home other forms of homework. These will always be sent in the "Return to School" side of the blue folder.

This year, we will also be sending home a weekly goal. This will generally coincide with the letters, sounds, words, and numbers being currently taught.

### Snack Schedule and Birthdays

Each month, you will receive a snack calendar and a guideline for healthy snack ideas. Usually your child will be scheduled to bring snack about once a month. In addition to bringing snack, that day is his/her "special day". Your child will get to perform many fun classroom duties such as putting the number on the calendar and being the leader. This is also his/her chance to bring something to school for **show and tell**. Please limit it to something that fits into a backpack. Please do not allow your child to bring things from home unless it is his/her special day. We will try to schedule your child's special day on his/her birthday in case you want to send a birthday treat.

### Discipline

Establishing good classroom discipline is essential to each child's success, confidence, and well-being. Every child should feel that the classroom is safe and secure and free from all threats of physical or emotional harm. In addition, it is important that each child learn to develop self-discipline and good work habits, to resolve conflicts peacefully, and to think independently. Together, we will learn a list of classroom rules and school rules to follow. If a child has difficulty following these rules, some type of consequence will occur. Our school began a new system last year called PBIS. It stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support. This is a system where children learn and practice expected behavior. If they do not follow it, they are re-taught what is expected. If this is not successful, you will receive a blue behavior reflection sheet to inform you of the problem.

Within our classroom, We also use a card system. If a child has a green card, that means great behavior. If they need a warning for not following the rules, they will get a yellow card for the day. If they continue to have difficulty, they will get a blue card and a consequence such as "time out" will be given. If there are extreme difficulties or if the child hurts someone, the child will get the red card and they will have to go to the office and phone home.

In addition, our school has a program in which positive behavior will be rewarded with a "drop in the bucket." At the end of the day, I will draw a name from the bucket and that child will get to pick a prize from the treasure chest.

## Dress Code

The Stocker parent hand book describes the dress code in great length. For kindergarten, we ask that you also consider clothing that your child is able to fasten independently. Fancy belts and buckles are not usually a good idea! Also, if your child is prone to accidents, you can send a change of clothes in the backpack each day.

## Academics

Your child will learn so much this year, I guarantee you will be amazed! Most kids leave our classroom reading, counting beyond 100, and adding. We use an excellent reading curriculum which introduces letters one at a time throughout the year. We start with a quick overview of all of the letters within the first few weeks, but we get more in depth as the year goes on. In math, we have a very hands-on curriculum which is built upon each year as your child grows. We study trees first in science, and our social studies curriculum has many fun themes which correspond with our reading series. We will be very busy!

I am honored to have the privilege of teaching your child this year. It is going to be a terrific year!

Mrs. Navarro