

Welcome to Mountain View Elementary And Kindergarten! 2016-2017

When you come into our school, please remember
it is a child's world! Their activities are
THEIR IDEAS
THEIR WORK
THEIR FUN!!!

Sometimes a child's idea of decoration, beauty and good housekeeping does not coincide with an adult's. A child's imagination is great! Children can do wonderful things - paint the wind, dance like a leaf, and find joy and happiness in performing simple tasks. These are abilities that adults may have lost along the way. Enter and return for a visit to the wonderful world of young children. Enjoy their enthusiasm for living and learning!

Author Unknown



Your child will complete one of the most important milestones in his/her life - the **First Day of Kindergarten!** We understand that you and your child may have met this day with excitement or apprehension or a little of both. This handbook contains basic information about what you'll need or want to know about your child's Kindergarten year. We are looking forward to our part in your child's adventure and working together we can help your child grow and thrive.

Kindergarten is...

A place where your child can continue to grow and learn in a safe environment,

A place where you and your child's teacher form a partnership that is vital to your child's future success,

A place where children are at different stages of development and the instructional program matches their needs,

A place where your child will engage in various instructional experiences, including reading, writing, mathematics, large and small group lessons, and learning centers,

A place that encourages your child's curiosity and joy of discovery,

A place where your child is accepted as a unique person,

And a place where self-esteem and confidence are strengthened.

To help you get started we have compiled a list of the most frequently used information. Although this should answer many questions, please contact your child's teacher for clarification or questions you may have.

Absences

When your child is absent for any reason, please call the Mountain View Office (717-1209). The teachers take attendance every day and the secretary is required to call a child's home to verify the absence.

Art

As part of Kindergarten the children get to participate in art class. When art class is at Mountain View Elementary (1st and 4th quarter) the children will attend Mrs. Zoller's class for 25 minutes to explore various art mediums.

Birthdays

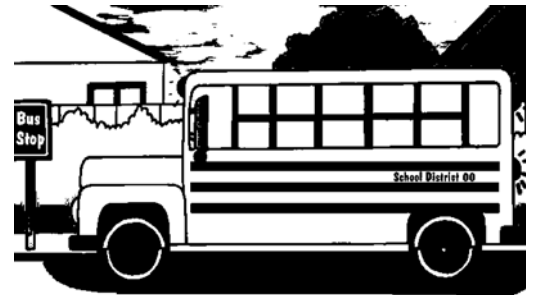
Please check with your teacher for the classroom birthday routine. **Party invitations can only be passed out at school if everyone in the class is invited.**

Book Orders

Throughout the year (usually each month) your family will be given the opportunity to purchase books through books orders. If you wish to order, simply fill out the order and return by the specified date. Send the correct amount in a check written to Scholastic Books in an envelope. For every dollar spent on books for the children, the kindergarten teachers earn bonus points that are used to purchase books for the classroom. You are never under any obligation to order. It usually takes about 2 weeks for the ordered books to be delivered.

Bus Riders

If your child will be riding the bus from school, please notify the teacher immediately of your child's bus number. The first few days will be hectic until all of the bugs are worked out. We thank you for your patience. **You are responsible for calling the bus service** to make the arrangements, as you know your child and schedule best. In Spearfish there are several options. Please call Dakota Bus Service or Prairie Hills Transit.



Car Riders

Please park across the street on East Illinois Street to walk with your child to the playground. The parking spaces are for teachers and staff. You may want to walk with your child to the playground the first days of school. The teachers will meet the children on the playground and at the bell or whistle will walk into the building together. A high five or blown kiss will foster independence and help your child

have a great day at school. As the year progresses, we encourage the use of the Busy Bee Express Way. This area is located on East Illinois Street next to the playground. Feel free to pull up and do a *quick drop off/pick up*.

Classroom Celebrations

Many celebrations may occur in your child's classroom. Please visit with your child's teacher about the ways in which you may help out!

Computers

The children will explore technology with computer class on a rotating schedule opposite of art with Ms. McLellan.

Dismissal

The teachers and children will be on the playground. Please meet the classes there promptly at 2:45 pm, as the children will be anxious to see you waiting with open arms. After the last bus departs a child that has not been picked up will be taken to the Office to wait. Teachers will help the bus riders get into the correct bus.

Dress Code

Some things to think about when helping your child get dressed for the day:

1. T-shirts slogans need to be respectful;
2. Little girls need to dress modestly. Please have the girls wear shorts under skirts and dresses as we sit "criss-cross applesauce" at the carpet.

Guidance Counselor

Ms. Stephan, the school counselor, works with the children in the classroom setting and will be conducting social skills classes. Please contact her at 717-1209 if you feel she can be of assistance to you and your child on an individual basis.

Leaving Early

Your child's academics will take place throughout the entire day. Please note that leaving the school day before the final bell will reflect on your child's attendance.

Library

Every K child will be going to Mountain View Library each week. He/she will be able to check out one book and may return it anytime before the next library class-time. Ms. Tina reads a book to the children, and then they are free to choose a book of their choice. Book checkout will begin after the first few weeks of school.

Meals

The children will have lunch at school. They may bring a lunch from home or they may purchase a lunch from school for \$2.45 a day. Lunch tickets may be purchased thru your child's teacher or in the school office. A free/reduced lunch form is available in the Office.

Breakfast is available between 7:45 and 8:10 each morning for a \$1.10.

Money

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

1. Your child's first and last name
2. The amount of money
3. The purpose of the money (lunch, book order)
4. Teacher's name

With many kindergarten children and several reasons to collect money, it reduces the likelihood of errors. Also, if the envelope is accidentally left on the bus or dropped in the hallway, this information will ensure that it will be returned to the correct classroom.

Music

The children will also be going to Mrs. Ewing's music class, which includes singing games, movement and beginning rhythm instruments.

Outdoor Recess

The children will be going outside in all kinds of weather. Please be aware of outside conditions and help your child select clothing



for the day. It helps to keep a hat and a pair of mittens in backpacks at all times. And the kindergarten rule is that the children must have snow pants and boots to play in the snow on the playground. Without the appropriate winter clothing, it is disappointing to have to stay on the playground sidewalks and watch.

Parent/Administration Relationships

School Principals are advocates for all students in the school. We maintain an 'open door' policy and welcome input from any and all parents. We encourage you to stay in communication with our teachers, support staff, and office in an effort to best support our students and teachers. If you have a concern or question, we encourage you to contact the teacher first.

Parent/Teacher Relationships

We believe that a good parent/teacher relationship is necessary for maximum school success. Throughout the year we will communicate with you through notes, emails, telephone calls, newsletters, progress reports and parent-teacher conferences. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at any time. Every child at Mountain View Elementary will be bringing home a Take Home Folder. Please use this folder to correspond with your child's teacher daily. You also can call us at school (717-1209) before or after school, or e-mail us at:

Summer Brock - sbrock@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Kristi Delahoyde - kdel@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Danya Foote - dfoote@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Laurie Johnson - ljohnson@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Monique Keck - mkeck@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Jennifer McBurnett - jmcburne@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Jill Reede - jreede@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Natasha Robbins - nrobbins@spearfis.k12.sd.us

Megan Weaver - mweaver@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Tammie Wood - twood@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Parent Volunteers

Thank you for your willingness to donate your time and talents for improving the quality of our student's education. We appreciate your support as a parent and volunteer in the classroom and building. Watch for notes and a sign-up sheet.

As a volunteer, we appreciate your refrain from taking pictures of students other than your child and advise that posting photos/names via social media or other means of distribution is not permitted. Thank you for your understanding.

Photos

School time is a great time to take photos of your child. Please be considerate when sharing these photos.

Physical Education

The children will go to the gym for physical education with Mr. Martin. Please help them to dress appropriately with tennis shoes and comfy clothes on this day.

School Attendance

It is important for your child to have regular and prompt attendance to ensure his/her school success. Most kindergarten learning activities are group orientated and involve interaction with classmates. Please view school as a priority and help your child see value in school activities.

School Nurse

Barb Graslie and Karen Moye are the school nurses for several buildings in the Spearfish School District. Any child that has vomited and/or has a fever or a 'green nose' within the last 24 hours must not be brought to school. The child will not feel well enough to participate and will also put the rest of the children and teachers at risk for catching those germs. You will be called to come and pick up your child.

Session Times

The Spearfish School District Kindergarten school hours are Monday through Friday. The morning bell rings at 8:15 and the children are dismissed at 2:45 pm. Supervision on the playground begins at 7:50 a.m. Please do not plan on dropping your child off earlier than that.

Snacks

A snack time may be available in your child's classroom. Please check with your child's teacher for the routine she uses. Since there seems to be more and more peanut allergies, the kindergarten classrooms have become **NO PEANUT CLASSROOMS!**

Snow Day Policy

Listen to the local radio and TV stations for announcements of no school or a late start.

Special Education

Ashley Custis is the Special Education teacher for Kindergarten.

Tardy Policy

It is also important for each child to get to school on time, as it is a disruption for the class as a whole and difficult for your child to make the transition into the day. The bell rings at 8:15 and your child will be marked absent after that time.

Title 1

As the year progresses and academics change, students may qualify to receive Title 1 support with Danita Klinkel. If you have questions or concerns, please visit with your child's teacher or contact Mrs. Klinkel.

Transportation

Please fill out the form to indicate for school records how your child will go home from school. You will choose whether your child will be a bus rider (please provide bus number), car rider, or will go to Kid's Club. This is the way the teachers will send your child home each day **unless a written note is sent with your child**. If there is a change in transportation plans, **please notify the teacher in writing or call the Office at 717-1209** before 2:15 pm. Young children often get confused as to changes in routines so the teachers will continue to send your child home the usual way without notification.

Goals for Kindergarten...

Develop self-esteem

being respected
experiencing
expressing



by-
and valued
success
feelings appropriately

Learn by-

exploring and making choices
working and playing independently, in pairs and in large and small groups
expressing thoughts and ideas
solving problems appropriately

Increase knowledge and skills by -

Listening, reading, speaking, and writing
collecting, observing, naming, and categorizing objects
counting and comparing
sharing stories and ideas from books and experiences

Thank you for your help, support, and cooperation.

We look forward to a wonderful year!

The Kindergarten Teachers