

A-Z's of Kindergarten for
Miss Foster's Class
2011-2012



A-Z's of Kindergarten for
Miss Foster's Class
2011-2012



A Attendance: Your child must be at school. If your child cannot make it to school due to illness or some other event, please call the attendance line at 327-3807. If your child's temperature is over 100° or s/he is throwing-up or has diarrhea, s/he should not come to school. Your child should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.



Arrival: There will be a teacher on duty on the kindergarten playground 15 minutes before school starts (8:40 AM) Do not drop your child off before this time. Your child needs to come directly to the kindergarten playground.



B Backpacks: Please make sure your child has a medium sized backpack. A backpack is the safest place to put those important papers and school notes.

Bus Kids: If your child rides a bus, make sure s/he knows the bus routine (where to get on and where to get off). If your child rides the bus home, make sure s/he knows his/her bus number and if a sibling or friend is going to pick him/her up from the top of the stairs to take them to the bus. If your child rides the bus to school, please make sure that he/she comes directly to the kindergarten playground when s/he arrives at school.



Breakfast: You are responsible for making sure your child has eaten breakfast before s/he comes to school. If you would like to purchase breakfast here at school, you can for \$1.75. If you chose to have your child eat breakfast at school s/he must be finished by 8:55.



Birthdays: Birthdays will be acknowledged at school. A special snack may be sent to school on your child's birthday.



Book Orders: I will be sending home book orders about every month and a half. If you would like to order books, just fill out the form(s) and make ONE check to Scholastic books.

Be a Friend, Not a Bully: That is our school wide friendship program. We will discuss the characteristics of friends and bullies and learn how to implement friendship strategies. The school also gives out gold tickets to children who are caught being a friend. This year we will also focus on manners.



Box Tops: We collect Box Tops for Education. If you have any, please send them to school. We use them to buy classroom supplies.



C Conferences: We will have a mandatory conference week October 17-21. However, if there is ever anything you would like to have a conference about, let me know and we can arrange it together.

Coats, Jackets, or Sweaters: Please label all coats, sweaters, backpacks, etc. with your child's name. This makes it easier to identify lost jackets, coats, etc.



Calendar: Check the school calendar that we send home for upcoming events.

D Discipline Plan: IF A STUDENT CHOOSES TO BREAK A PROMISE/STANDARD:

1st consequence: Verbal warning to the student to make a better decision about behavior

2nd consequence: Teacher makes a decision for the student

3rd consequence: Time out for 5 minutes

4th consequence: 5 more minutes in time out and note home to the parents.

5th consequence: 5 more minutes in time out and possible visit to the principal.



Dismissal: I will dismiss your children at 3:00. I will walk the children down to the front of the school at the top of the stairs by the flag pole. If a sibling is going to pick up your child, that sibling must come around the outside of the school not through the hallways.

Dress Code: Please wear clothes that are appropriate for play, painting, and other messy activities. Flip flops are not allowed due to safety issues on the playground.

E Events: You will be notified about events well in advance.

Email: I do best responding to your emails. My email is kbfoster@washoe.k12.nv.us



F Field Trips: We go on two field trips during the year. The first one is in October to a farm. The second one is April 27, 2011 to the Sacramento Zoo on a charter bus with our friends from

Esther Bennett. All of the kindergarten classes will go together for the day. We may go to on a walking field trip, but you will be notified in advance.

Fundraisers: We have three fundraisers each year. Each fundraiser serves a different purpose.

1. Principal's Fundraise—Great American Sale. Monies from this event go towards whole school needs, teacher trainings, student scholarships, family emergencies, and other SWE community needs.



2. Teacher's Fundraiser—Cookie Dough Sale. Monies from the Cookie Sale benefit individual classrooms and their students.



3. Family Teams—Wolf Run—Monies support Arts and Fitness.



Family Teams: Instead of PTSA we will have family teams this year. You can sign up to volunteer at any of our school events including wolf run, harvest carnival, skate night, and movie night. If you are interested, kindergarten is especially in charge of skate night and movie night.

G Games: Play board games with your child. Make sure that your child experiences taking turns, winning, and losing.

Grades: We don't give letter grades in kindergarten. On the progress report + = exceeds standard, x = meets standard, / = approaching standard, ED = experiencing difficulty with standard.

H Homework: We have a no homework policy at school. We will be sending home a menu of options for activities that you can do as a family at home.



I Invitations: If you would like to pass out birthday invitations at school, make sure you invite everyone in the class. Otherwise, hand the invitations to the parents of the children you are inviting, or give them to me to put in the Monday Folder, so that children will not feel left out.



J Journals: We will be keeping a journal at school. You might also want to encourage your child to keep a journal at home. Journals are a great way of watching your child's writing progress.

If your child is writing at home, please follow these simple guidelines:

1. Have your child read what s/he has written to you—make sure that s/he points to each word!
2. Get excited about whatever your child has written on the paper.



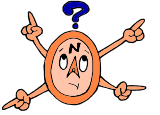
3. Please DO NOT spell a word for your child. Your child is smart and can write down the sounds s/he hears in a word. Your child doesn't know all of the spelling rules yet, so don't expect the words to be spelled correctly—just expect the main sounds to be on the page. The only words that your child should spell correctly are the sight words that we have been working on in class.

K Kinder grad shirt. In March we will be ordering a shirt for your child. Everyone will get a shirt, so s/he can wear it on the Zoo field trip.



L Late: If you are late to school, please go to the office first to get a tardy slip, and then have your child walk to class

Lost and Found: I will have a lost and found in my room until the last day of school. If your child loses something in school, check the lost and found—you never know—it may just turn up there!



Lunch: Hot lunch is served at school, or your child may bring a cold lunch. Students may purchase lunch for \$2.50. Students may also purchase milk to go with cold lunch for \$0.75. Make checks payable to Nutrition Services.

M Minimum Days: We will have one minimum day each week on Wednesday for teacher education. Children come to school from 8:55-2:15 every Wednesday.

N Newsletter: I send home a weekly newsletter in the folder on Mondays. Please read the newsletter for important information about the upcoming week. The newsletter will also highlight sight words we are working on, the science concept of the week, and some read-aloud strategies that we are working on in class. The newsletter is also available on-line at our school website.

O Open Door Policy: I have an open door policy. You are more than welcome to come in the classroom and observe or help at any time. Just sign in at the office first.

P Person of the Week: Each week we will have a person of the week. When it is your child's turn you will receive a note on Monday and it will be in the newsletter. Please send 4-5 pictures for your child to share with the class. All pictures will be returned on Friday.



Parent/Teacher Communication Folder: Every Monday each child will be bringing a Parent/Teacher Communication Folder home. Please take out any information that is inside the folder and return the folder by Friday. Inside on the left flap a conduct grade will be recorded. Please initial the conduct grade. Talk about the conduct grade with your child—celebrate good behavior or discuss problem behaviors. The conduct grades are as follows:



Your child followed personal standards (solve problems, show respect, and make good decisions)

O (Outstanding) = all week

S+ (Above Average) = with one teacher reminder

S (Satisfactory) = with two teacher reminders

S- (Needs improvement) = with three teacher reminders

I (Experiencing Difficulty) = with four or more teacher reminders

Phone number: If you need to call the school or me, here is the number: 327-3800



Parties: We have three parties during the school year—Fall party, Winter Party, and Valentine's Day party. At each party we will cook the snacks we will be eating. We will also have a 100 days celebration in February.

S Sharing Bag: About once a month your child will bring home the sharing bag. Please help your child find ONE item and help them write three clues about the object.



help

Snack: We will eat a snack in the afternoon during recess. Please send your child with a snack that can fit into a Ziploc sandwich baggie. Cheese, fruit, granola bars, cookies, fruit snacks, and chips are all good choices.



Supplies:

1. 1Box of Kleenex
2. 1 package of latex-free band-aids
3. 1 bottle of hand sanitizer
4. 1 package of glue sticks
5. 1 package of Clorox wipes
6. 1 package of baggies (sandwich or large size)
7. \$10 for start up supplies
8. \$40 per person for the Sacramento Zoo Field Trip
9. \$10 per person for a farm field trip
10. \$13 for a Kinder Grad Shirt that will be ordered in March



*Please make checks payable
to Sarah Winnemucca
Elementary School!*

T Toys: Toys are NOT allowed at school. We do have a sharing day when your child will be able to bring something to share. (Toys are okay on that day only.) If your child brings a toy to school on a day other than his/her sharing day, I will keep the toy until you (parent or guardian) come to school to get it.



Tuition: We are a full day tuition based program. Please make sure you turn in you payment of \$65 a week (\$130 for two weeks) promptly to the office!



U Upcoming events: Check the newsletter for upcoming events.

V Volunteers: I love having volunteers in the classroom. I allow volunteers into the classroom starting week 3. Please fill out the volunteer form if you would like to help out. All volunteers, including ones who come on a field trip, must have a volunteer form filled out and on file with the office. Whenever you come into help, you must sign in at the office and get a volunteer badge or sticker to wear.



W Water Bottles: Each child in the class has a water bottle here at school. I wash them every weekend. Your child will be hydrated—please don't send water, juice, soda, or Gatorade bottles to school.



Website: Our school website is <http://www.washoecountyschools.org/winnemucca> Our weekly newsletter can be found on the kindergarten section of that site.

X X-tra important things you can do for your child to help him/her succeed in school. **First**, stress citizenship. Good citizens are generally the best learners. Self-direction is the goal and I praise children who are "responsible."

Second, when your child brings home papers and projects, take time to listen and discuss what your child is doing at school. When you participate in these activities, your child's learning at school is reinforced at home.

Third, read with your child every day. I cannot stress how important it is that your child be exposed to books and the reading process.

Y Year round: We are a year round school. I will send home activities and a math book that you can work on during the track-off time.



Z Zoo: We will be going to the Sacramento Zoo on April 29, 2011 with our friends from Esther Bennett Elementary School. It is our big field trip. Don't worry—we take a charter bus!

