

Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Night 2014

I am excited to share with you the wonderful world of Kindergarten and give you a preview of some of the exciting things this year holds for you and your child. Here is our agenda for this evening:

Introductions
Daily Schedule
Classroom Webpage
Class Helper/Sharing Bag
Birthdays
Book Reports
Star-of-the-Week
Word-of-the-Week
Duke/Daisy
Holiday Parties
Stability Ball Chairs
Stoplight Behavior Plan
Yellow Tickets
Character Counts Bulletin Board
Parent-Teacher Conferences
Title One Reading
Volunteer Program
The Giving Tree
Miscellaneous Reminders
Beginning of School Story

**Just a reminder that there is no school for Kindergarten on Friday, August 29th.



My name is Julie Boekhout. I graduated from Galva-Holstein High School in 1991 and from Buena Vista College in 1995. I started teaching at Central Lyon in 1995. In 1997, I married Tim Boekhout. We have 2 children, Brandt and Brecken. We also have three bichons, named Ava, Boomer, and Buster.



Iona Van Dyke is our classroom Grandma. She has been involved with the Foster Grandparent program for 20 years. She is here every day from 8-12.



Mr. Kruse is the Elementary/Middle School Principal.



Mr. Harman is the Assistant Principal for PS-12.



Mr. Ackerman is the High School Principal and Superintendent.

A Day in the Life of a Central Lyon Kindergartner in Mrs. Boekhout's Classroom (2014 – 2015)

8:20 - 8:45	Calendar Activities
8:45 - 9:30	Reading
9:30 - 9:55	Reading Stations: Title One Reading support (M-Th)
9:55 - 10:10	Recess
10:15 - 10:45	Math
10:30 - 11:00	Library with Mrs. Schrick on Tuesday
10:45 - 11:05	Science, Social Studies, or Health
11:10 - 11:45	Lunch
11:45 - 12:00	Handwriting
12:00 - 12:15	Recess
12:20 - 12:45	Rest time...M-Th
12:20 -12:45	Technology on Friday
12:50 - 1:30	Centers...M-Th
12:50 - 1:15	Movie on Friday
1:30 - 2:00	Freeplay
1:35 - 2:00	Guidance with Mrs. Van Bommel (1 st quarter - every other Thursday)
1:30 - 2:00	TAG with Mr. VanBerkum (2 nd semester – small group only) on Tuesday/Thursday
2:00 - 2:15	Recess
2:25 - 2:55	Special..... Art with Mrs. Hoppe Music with Miss Flatebo P.E. with Coach Lorenzen
2:55 - 3:10	Milk and Snack
3:10 - 3:15	Dismissal

The children in my class will rotate turns being our Class Helper for the day. I believe this is a great opportunity to teach them how to be a leader in school and in life. These are some of the responsibilities they will be given:

Calendar Leader

*lead us through our activities

Volunteer Greeter

*make our volunteer feel welcome

Rest time DJ

*choose music

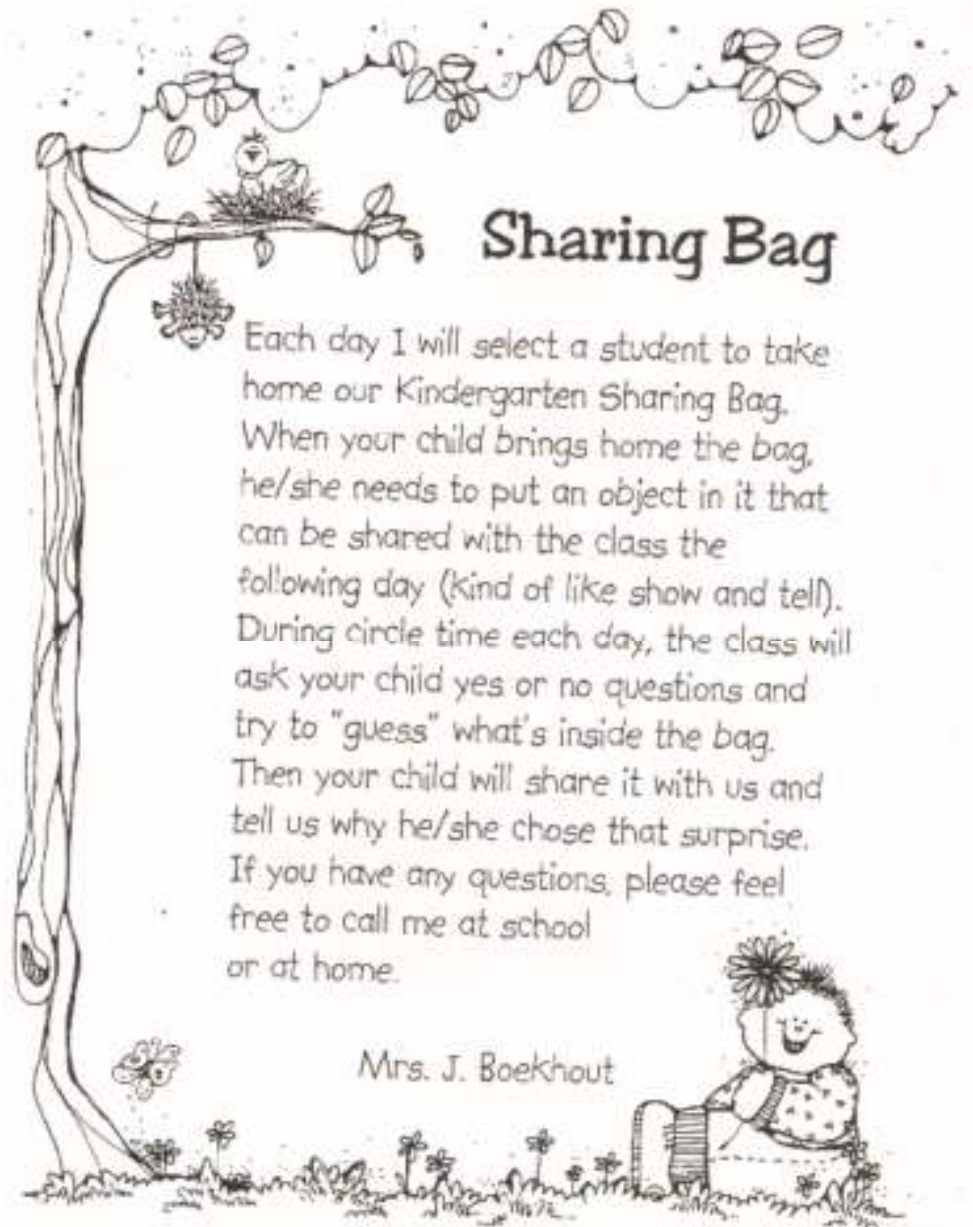
Rest time Electrician

*turn off/on the lights

Freeplay Clean-up Inspector

*make sure room and toys are tidy

You will know when it's your child's turn to be our Class Helper when they bring home the Sharing Bag the night before. Be sure and ask them all about their day of leadership!



Sharing Bag

Each day I will select a student to take home our Kindergarten Sharing Bag. When your child brings home the bag, he/she needs to put an object in it that can be shared with the class the following day (kind of like show and tell). During circle time each day, the class will ask your child yes or no questions and try to "guess" what's inside the bag. Then your child will share it with us and tell us why he/she chose that surprise. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at school or at home.

Mrs. J. Boekhout

We love to celebrate birthdays here at school.
Be sure and ask your child all of the fun things
we did to celebrate their special day!



Hip! Hip! Hooray!
It's almost your Birthday!
We will be celebrating your birthday
here at school on
_____. If you would
like to bring a special
snack, please bring
_____.

I celebrate summer birthdays in May unless you let me know otherwise.



Dear Parents,

I am excited to tell you that my class will be participating in the Reading Rodeo program sponsored by Pizza Ranch. This is an incentive based program that motivates children to read. The goal for Kindergarten is for each student to complete one book report each month. While reading the book of your choice to your child, please remember to ask them lots of questions and keep them involved in the story. Then I would like each child to write as much of the report as possible, draw the picture with a pencil and color it. Encourage your child to add lots of details to their picture and practice retelling the story to you. After your child shares their book report with the class each month, they will receive a free mini-pizza coupon. Thank you for reading with your child.

Mrs. Boekhout

Name _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

Illustrator: _____

Illustrate:



Write: _____

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/JessicaStanford>

AUG 30 2012

Star of the Week

It's time for your child to be our Star of the Week.

Please fill out the enclosed paper with your child and return it along with 5-10 photographs your child would like to display on our bulletin board.

The pictures can be of your child, family, friends, or anything your child would like to tell his/her classmates about. Your child may also bring a favorite toy, book, or collection to show our class.

Also, if anyone in your family would like to come and read a story during your child's week of "stardom", please contact me to set up a time (5-10 minutes). I know this will be a very special week for them. Thanks for your help.

Mrs. Boekhout





Star of the Week



My name is _____.

I am _____ years old. I like the color _____.

I have _____ sisters and _____ brothers.

My favorite animal is a _____.

My favorite place is _____.

I really want to learn _____.

When I grow up, I want to be a _____.

The best thing about me is _____.

****Every other week I will honor a "Teacher of the Week" so that the children become familiar with other staff members as well.****



Dear Parents,

I would like to introduce someone new to our room this year. His name is Duke and he is a Border Collie. He is good at herding sheep and loves children.

He will be traveling home with your son for 2 nights. I can assure you that he is fully housetrained and very low maintenance.

While he is visiting your home, please write a short note in his Diary about his adventures. Keep it very simple and encourage your child to use their imagination with retelling events while you write what they say. An example might be, "Duke rode the bus home with me. He ate a slice of pizza with us for supper. He snores when he sleeps. I like Duke." Your child may then sign their name at the end. We will read all about his outing on the morning he returns.

Please remember to only keep Duke for 2 nights. Each child is very anxious for their turn! If he goes home on Friday, though, please return him on Monday.

He needs to be returned inside the camouflage backpack, along with his Diary and the 2 children's books about dogs. He loves listening to stories before he goes to sleep!

If he gets homesick (or you have any questions), please feel free to contact me. Thanks for having Duke in your home. Please treat him like family and take good care of him,

Warmest Regards,
Mrs. Boekhout





Dear Parents,

I would like to introduce someone new to our room this year. Her name is Daisy and she is a Maltese. She gets along well with other dogs and loves children.

She will be traveling home with your daughter for 2 nights. I can assure you that she is fully housetrained and very low maintenance.

While she is visiting your home, please write a short note in her Diary about her adventures. Keep it very simple and encourage your child to use their imagination with retelling events while you write what they say. An example might be, "Daisy rode the bus home with me. She ate a slice of pizza with us for supper. She snores when she sleeps. I like Daisy." Your child may then sign their name at the end. We will read all about her outing on the morning she returns.

Please remember to only keep Daisy for 2 nights. Each child is very anxious for their turn! If she goes home on Friday, though, please return her on Monday.

She needs to be returned inside the pink pet carrier, along with her Diary, the 2 children's books about dogs, and her pink leash. She loves listening to stories before she goes to sleep!

If she gets homesick (or you have any questions) please feel free to contact me. Thanks for having Daisy in your home. Please treat her like family and take good care of her.

Warmest Regards,
Mrs. Boekhout



Holiday Parties:

-- Fall Party (Halloween)...We like the children to dress-up as a children's storybook character. If your child could bring the corresponding book or you could create a label for your child to wear stating the book their character is from, that would be helpful. Keep it simple, be creative, and have fun planning with your child.

ex. Google "[homemade storybook costumes](#)"

-- Christmas

-- Valentine's Day

*PTC will send out information in Sept. for parents to volunteer/donate for these parties. You will be contacted by the Room Mother of each party when you are needed.

Stability Ball Chairs

www.wittfitt.com

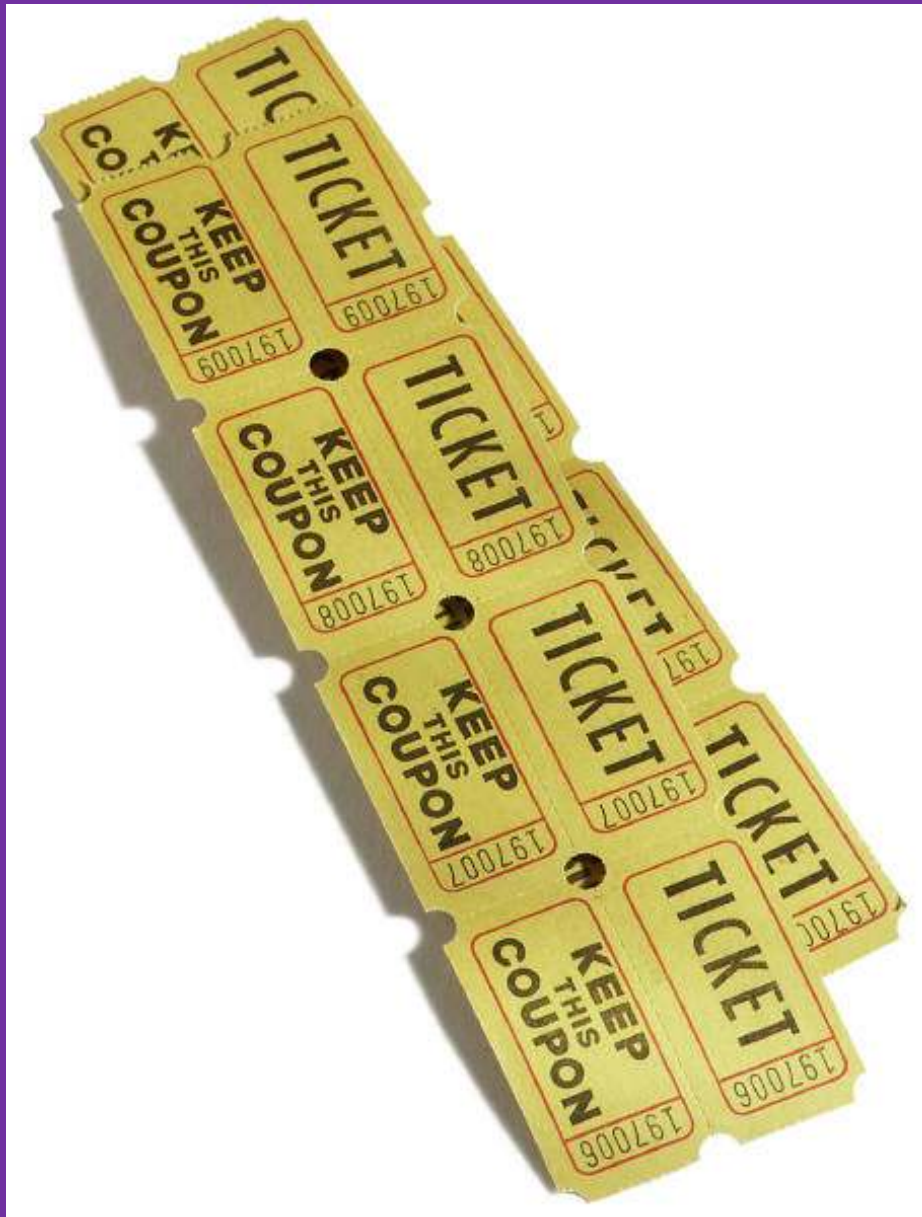


Benefits:

- Assists in improving posture
- Enhances attention and concentration
- Improves learning through movement
- Incorporates wellness into the school day
- Promotes “active sitting”- with little to no disturbance
- Improves blood flow to all parts of the body, especially the brain
- Strengthens core (postural) & back muscle groups
- Improves balance and coordination
- Adjusts for customized fit to the individual

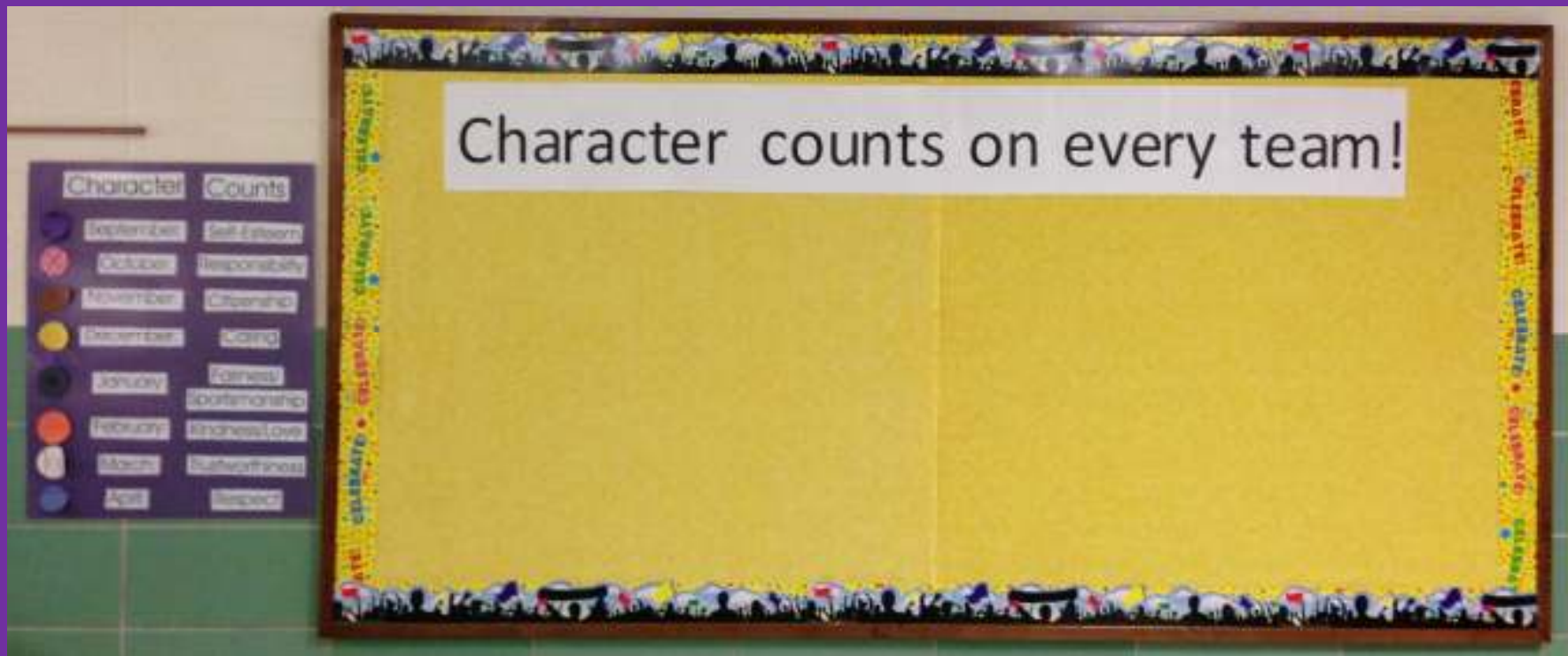


Everyone starts out on **GREEN** each day. If they are not following a classroom rule or being a good listener, they will be asked to change their magnet to **YELLOW** – which is just a friendly reminder. If they are asked to change their magnet again in the same day, they move it to **BLUE** – which equals a 5 minute heads-down at their desk during Freeplay. If they are asked to change their magnet again in the same day, they move it to **RED** – which equals a 15 minute heads-down at their desk during Freeplay. Consistently changing their magnet each day will more than likely initiate communication from school to home. Each day the children record their light color in their Calendar Binder, which gets sent home at the end of the month for you to review with your child.



YELLOW TICKETS

A child may receive a yellow ticket for misbehavior outside of the classroom. For example, the bathroom, lunchroom, hallway, recess, etc. Occasional exceptions for receiving a yellow ticket in the classroom would involve a significant misbehavior. Students may receive yellow tickets from any staff member. For each yellow ticket received the child stands in a supervised area for 5 minutes on the playground. In the event a child is consistently receiving yellow tickets, the child's parents will be notified by the classroom teacher. My students also record their yellow tickets received in their Calendar binder, which goes home at the end of each month.



We love to “catch” children displaying good character! This year our theme is “Character Counts on every team!” Each month we focus on a different character trait and look for these behaviors in all students. A child who is “caught” will receive a sticker and their name on the Character Counts bulletin board describing their great behavior. At the end of the month, one student from each class who received their name on the board for that month will receive a special surprise.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

*10-minute Kindergarten Conferences

The purpose of these conferences is to review the first few weeks of school, share testing results, and continue communication between school and home.

-- Thursday, September 18th from 4:00 – 7:00

-- Please sign-up for a time before you leave tonight.

*15-minute Parent-Teacher Conferences

The purpose of these conferences is to review 1st and 3rd quarter report cards, testing, and continue communication between school and home.

-- Monday, October 27th and Thursday, October 30th from 5:30 – 8:30

-- Monday, March 16th and Thursday, March 19th from 5:30 – 8:30

-- We schedule and coordinate dates and times for all siblings PS - 8.

Title One Reading

Title I is a federally funded supplemental program that Central Lyon offers to help children gain the confidence they need to succeed in the classroom. This program serves as an early intervention hoping that our numbers and needs will decrease in the upper grades. Because Central Lyon School also provides funding for these teachers, permission is not needed for them to work with your Kindergarten student.

Kindergarten students will be identified in the Fall based on a teacher's checklist of alphabet letters and sounds, ELI testing, and teacher observation of classroom work. After these items are compiled, classroom teachers and Title I teachers will conference to discuss results and determine which eligible students will receive support. Students who are "eligible" may vary throughout the year based on needs and continued assessment. These children will receive support mainly in our Kindergarten classroom, with one of the Title One teachers coming into assist the classroom teacher daily in small groups. There may also be times when your child is asked to work in a small group in the Title One classroom. This collaborative approach to teaching pre-reading skills will begin near the end of September.



Mrs. Van Wyhe Mrs. Sprock

"Why Can't I Skip My Twenty Minutes of Reading Tonight?"

Let's figure it out---mathematically!

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week;
Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week:
Student A reads 20 min. x 5 nights = 100 minutes/week
Student B reads 4 min. x 5 nights = 20 minutes/week

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month:
Student A reads 400 minutes a month.
Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year:
Student A reads 3600 minutes in a school year.
Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.

Student A practices reading the equivalent of 10 whole school days in a year.
Student B gets the equivalent of only 2 school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade if Student A and Student B maintain the same reading habits:
Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.
Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to read better?
Which student would you expect to know more?
Which student would you expect to write better?
Which student would you expect to have better vocabulary?
Which student would you expect to be more successful in school?

Kindergarten Volunteer Program

****I have Centers on Monday - Thursday from 12:45 - 1:30.**

*Please list your name below if you or any of your relatives are interested in volunteering.
I will contact you by email with available dates.*

The volunteer calendars will be posted on my webpage. If you are unable to keep an assigned date, please review the calendars and see about possibly switching with someone else. Let me know of any switches though, so I can coordinate my rotations accordingly.

If you would like to volunteer in our classroom and did not get a chance to sign-up at our Kindergarten Night, please email me at jboekhou@centrallyon.org or call me at school, 472-4041. We would love to have you help!



The Giving Tree

This is our classroom *Giving Tree*. Whenever we need items for activities in our classroom, I will write requests on the tree. If you choose, you may take an apple off the tree and send the requested item with your child to school. I will try to plan ahead and also write the date the item is needed to allow you plenty of time to purchase it. If there is no date, you may return the item at your earliest convenience. When your child brings the item to school, he/she will get to put an apple in our basket at the bottom of the tree stating their name and the gift they gave. Much like the story, "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein, I believe this is an excellent way for the children to experience the joys of giving. I would like to see this idea replace the teacher gifts that are sometimes given at holidays. This is a much more beneficial way for parents to give to benefit the entire class (and teacher) throughout the year. I will update the tree as often as needed, but most certainly during Parent/Teacher conferences. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity!



Miscellaneous Reminders

*Breakfast is served in the Elem. Gym from 7:50 – 8:10 each morning. If your child chooses to eat breakfast here, encourage them to get in line right away to allow themselves enough time to eat.

*Book Fair/Hot Lunch Week is October 6-10. There will be a day designated for you to eat with your Kindergartner and attend the Book Fair in the Elem. Library.

*Please be sure to send a note or call the office by 2:30 if there is a change in your child's afterschool plans.

*If your child arrives late or needs to leave early, you must sign them in/out through the Elem. Office.

*All visitors/volunteers must sign in and out at the Elem. Office.

*If your child needs to be administered medicine at school, be sure to send it in the original bottle with very specific information. It will be administered in the Elem. Office.

*Throughout the year we collect special papers/photos from you and those will all be returned at the end of the year.

Thoughts at the Bottom of the Beanstalk

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Jack who was about to climb his very first beanstalk. He had a fresh haircut and a brand new backpack. Even though his friends in the neighborhood had climbed this same beanstalk almost everyday last year, this was Jack's first day and he was a little nervous. So was his mother. Early in the morning she brought him to the foot of the beanstalk. She talked encouragingly to Jack about all the fun he would have that day and how nice his giant would be. She reassured him that she would be back to pick him up at the end of the day.

For a moment they stood together, silently holding hands, gazing up at the beanstalk. To Jack it seemed much bigger than it had when his mother had pointed it out on the way to the store last week. His mother thought it looked big, too. She swallowed. Maybe she should have held Jack out a year....

Jack's mother straightened his shirt one last time, patted his shoulder and smiled down at him. She promised to stay and wave while he started climbing. Jack didn't say a word. He walked forward, grabbed a low-growing stem and slowly pulled himself up to the first leaf. He balanced there for a moment and then climbed more eagerly to the second leaf, then to the third and soon he vanished into a high tangle of leaves and stems with never a backward glance at his mother.

She stood alone at the bottom of the beanstalk, gazing up at the spot where Jack had disappeared. There was no rustle, no movement, no sound to indicate that he was anywhere inside. "Sometimes," she thought, "it's harder to be the one who waves good-bye than it is to be the one who climbs the beanstalk." She wondered how Jack would do. Would he miss her? How would he behave? Did his giant understand that little boys sometimes acted silly when they felt unsure? She fought the urge to spring up the stalk after Jack and maybe duck behind a bean to take a peek at how he was doing. "I'd better not. What if he saw me?"

She knew Jack was really old enough to handle this on his own. She reminded herself that, after all this was thought to be an excellent beanstalk and that everyone said his giant was not only kind but had outstanding qualifications. "It's not so much that I'm worried about him," she thought, rubbing the back of her neck. "It's just that he's growing up and I'm going to miss him."

Jack's mother turned to leave. "Jack's going to have lots of bigger beanstalks to climb in his life," she told herself. "Today's the day he starts practicing for them...and today's the day I start practicing something too: cheering him on and waving good-bye."

-author unknown