

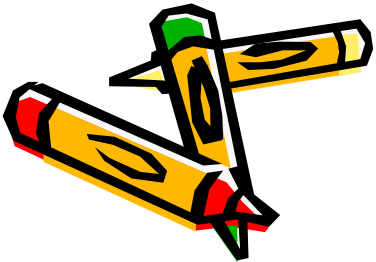


Waters Elementary School Kindergarten 2018-2019

Welcome Students
and Parents!

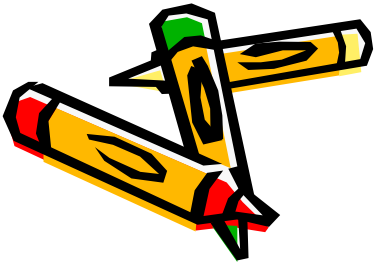
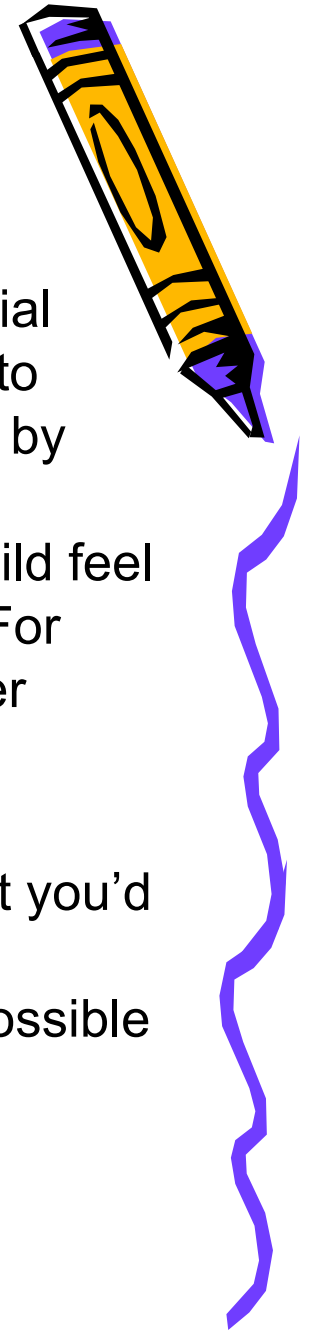
Parent/Teacher Relationship!

- We believe that a good-parent teacher relationship is necessary for maximum school success. Throughout the year we will communicate through newsletters and parent-teacher conferences. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at any time. You may call the school and leave a message @ 773-534-5090 or send us an email at:
 - Mrs. Ramos lcortez@cps.edu
 - Mrs. Novak ccwelch1@cps.edu
 - Mrs. Soto kjsoto@cps.edu



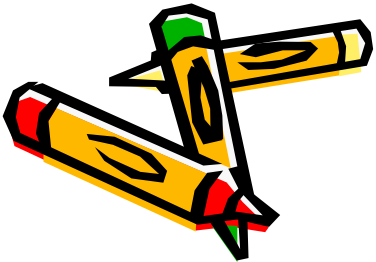
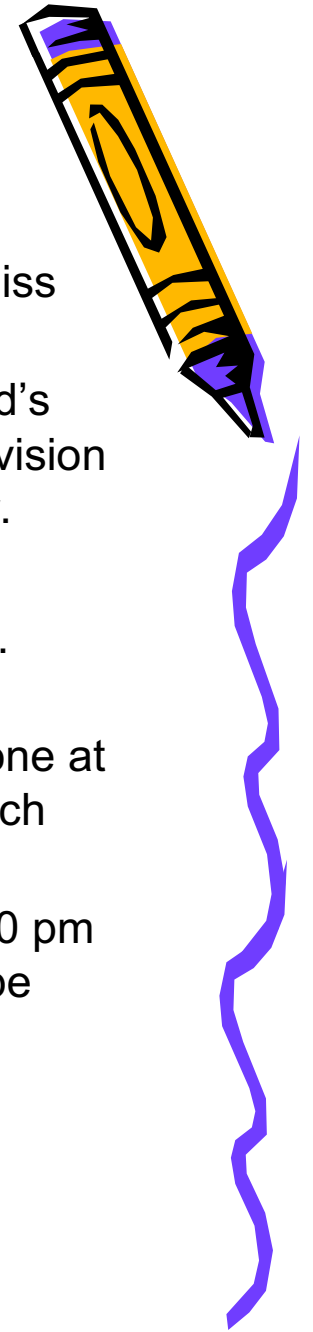
Parent Participation

- Throughout the school year, there will be a variety of special classroom activities and celebrations. We encourage you to attend these functions when possible and to support them by sending needed supplies. We will also be looking for the assistance of a room parent. Your support makes your child feel important and sends the message that you value school. For more volunteer opportunities, you may e-mail our volunteer coordinator for the parent teacher Co-Op at <http://www.watarselementary.org/get-involved.html>
- If you feel you have a special cultural or career aspect that you'd like to share with your child's class, we are open to your suggestions. Please check with your child's teacher for possible opportunities if time allows.



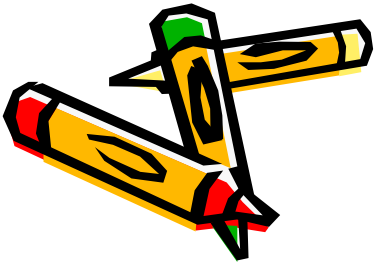
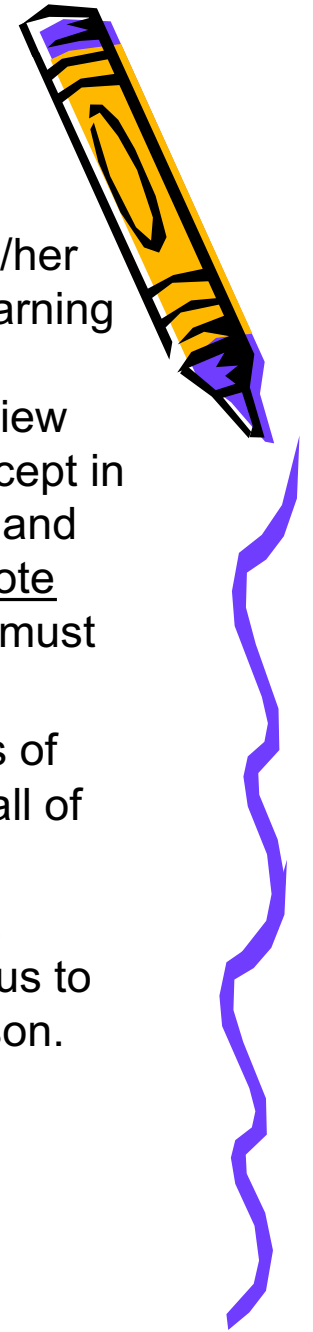
Arrival and Dismissal Time

- The children enter at the north door Wilson (playground) at 8:15 a.m. Please be sure your child arrives on time. We do not want them to miss any important instruction and we want them to develop good habits.
- Please do not drop your child off at the door unless you see your child's classroom teacher standing there. We do not have playground supervision and you should chaperone your child until they enter with the teacher.
- **Breakfast is available upon arrival and lunch is at 10:50 am**
- Kindergarteners will exit the same north door (playground) at 3:12pm. Please ensure your child is picked up on time.
- During dismissal each classroom teacher will be calling the children one at a time. We ask for your patience in this process so we can ensure each child is released safely to the correct adult.
- If you will be late to pick up your child. Please call school prior to 3:00 pm to notify teacher. If child is not picked up at dismissal time, they will be escorted to the main office where you can meet your child.

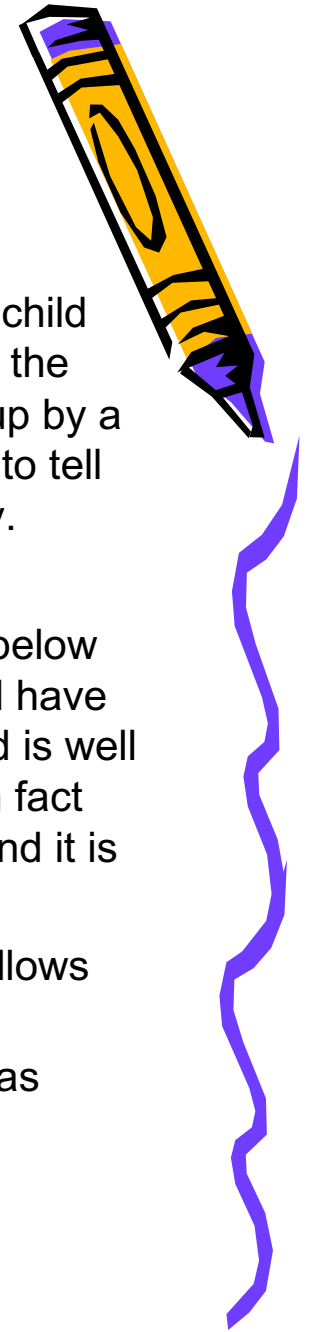


School Attendance

- Your child's regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his/her success. I can't emphasize this point enough!! Most kindergarten learning activities are group oriented and involve interaction with classmates; therefore, it is next to impossible to make up work at home. Please view school as a priority, and see to it that your child attends everyday except in cases of illness or emergency. Please call the office (773) 534-5090 and let them know your child will not be in and you must also send in a note the following the day. If your child is absent for 3 or more days, they must return with a doctor's note.
- Please note the Board of Ed. still makes a robo-call home regardless of previous notification to teacher/school. You may also receive robo-call of absence if your child is tardy.
- You must notify the school as to any changes in your home address, phone number or emergency contact information. It is important for us to have correct information in case we need to contact you for any reason.



After School, Recess & Inclement Weather



After School

- Visit our school website to learn about after school opportunities. If your child will be staying for an after school program, you must send a note stating the time and which program he/she is attending. If your child will be picked up by a different person, you must send a written note. Do not rely on your child to tell us this information because 5- year-olds may relay messages incorrectly.

Recess and Inclement Weather

- The children will be going out for recess everyday unless it is raining or below 32 degrees. If weather does not permit students to go outdoors, they will have indoor recess (typically in the classroom). For the most part, if your child is well enough to be at school, he/she is well enough to participate in recess. In fact the germs that cause colds thrive more readily in the heated indoor air and it is beneficial to go outside and play in the fresh air.
- Kindergarten students may also have an extra afternoon recess which allows students an extra opportunity to develop their gross motor skills.
- On days of inclement weather please try to arrive as close to entry time as possible, as indoor waiting are will be overcrowded.



Items Your Child Needs for School

Label Clothing

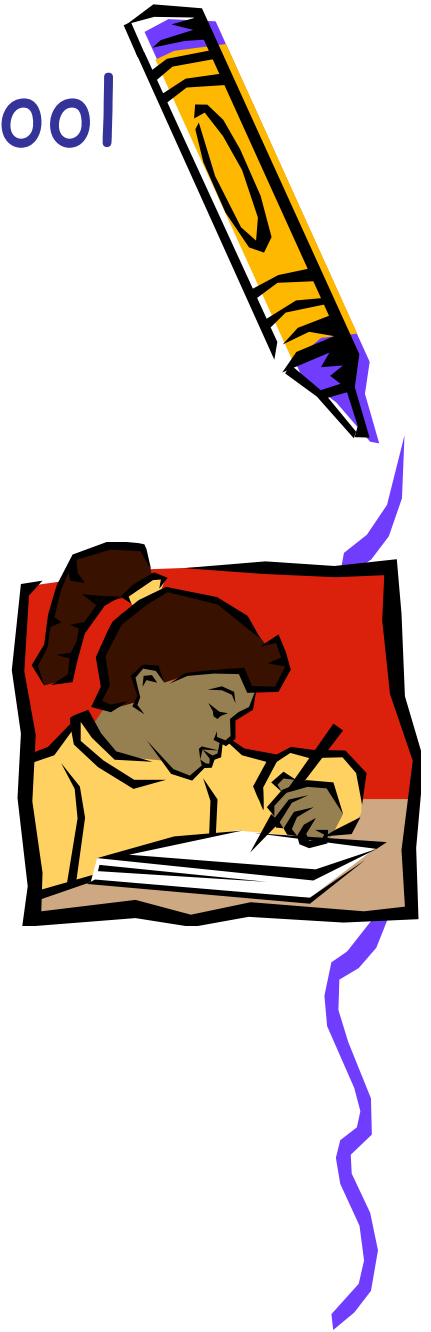
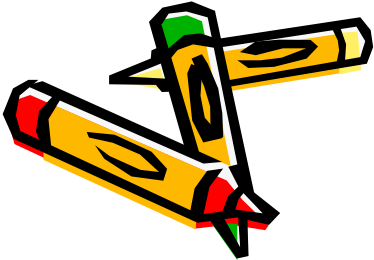
- **Please label** coats, jackets, sweaters, fleeces, hats, backpacks, lunchboxes, etc. with your child's name. It is easier to get things back to the owners if there is a name on it. Any items that are left behind will be placed in the lost and found and donated at the end of the week.

Backpacks

- Your child will need his/her backpack every day because it makes it much easier to bring things home from school. **The backpack needs to be large enough to hold the homework folder without bending it.**
- The blue plastic homework folder is one of the main ways of communication between home and school. Please ensure it is sent to school everyday.

School Supplies

- Please visit the Water's website for this information.



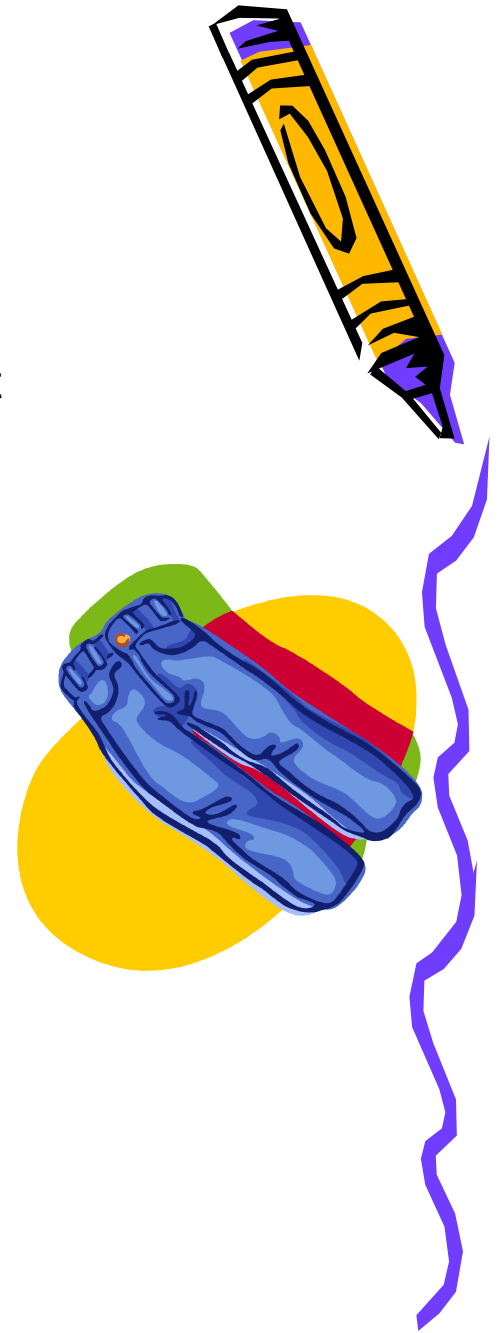
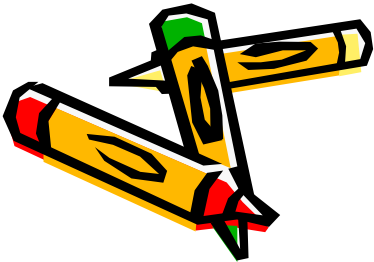
Continued:

Extra Change of Clothing

- Please send in an extra change of clothing including underwear, shirt, shorts and pants with your child's name marked on each piece. Sometimes accidents happen and it is very helpful to have this at school when such occasions arise. Please send the clothing in a large labeled Ziploc bag to be kept at school. Girls must wear shorts under their skirts and dresses.

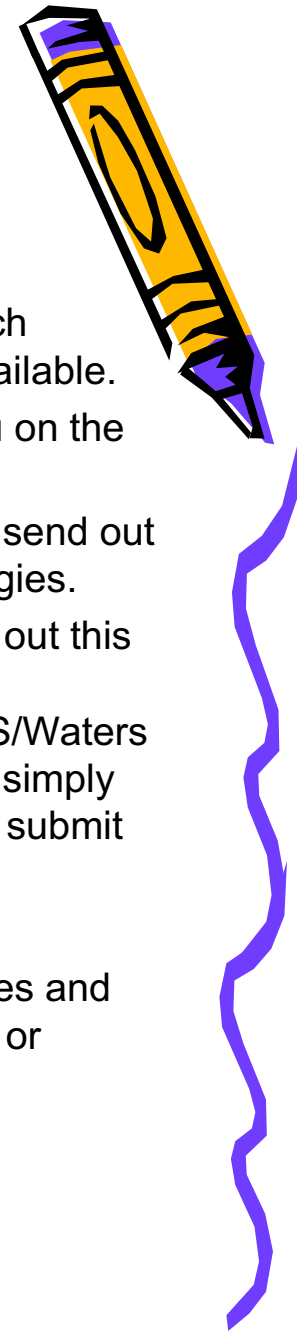
Money

- 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 it:
 - Your child's first and last name
 - The amount of money
 - The purpose for the money
 - Teacher's name





Lunch and Newsletter



Lunch

- All students have an opportunity to participate in our hot lunch program. Lunch applications are being revised and we will forward information as soon as available.
- Our class eats lunch early each day. You will find a link to our monthly menu on the Waters website and Green Notes.
- Snacks: Students will have a healthy afternoon snack. The Room Parent will send out details for sign-up. It is very crucial that you let us know about any food allergies.
- During the first week of school you will receive a lunch application, please fill out this form as soon as possible. Even if your child will bring lunch from home, the completion of this application is important to the school. This form helps CPS/Waters as it **determines our allocation of state funds**. If you do not wish to apply, simply write “Do not wish to apply”, sign and return to the teacher. If you do, please submit completed form and in a few weeks, you will be notified as to qualification.

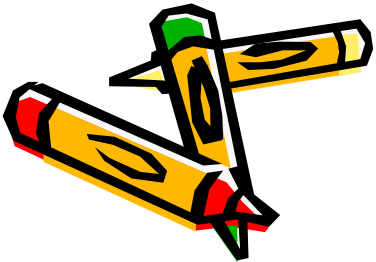
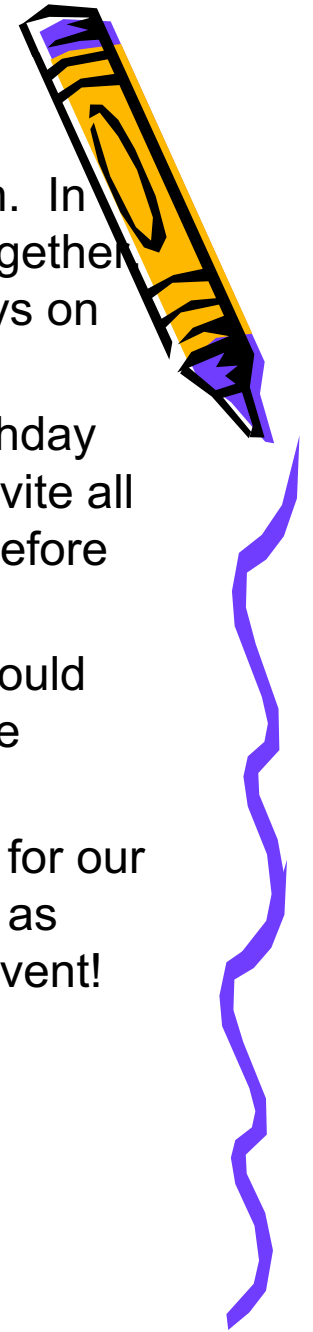
Newsletter

- A newsletter will be sent home once a month describing our classroom themes and goals. The newsletter will also notify you of any upcoming schedule changes or important dates for the month.



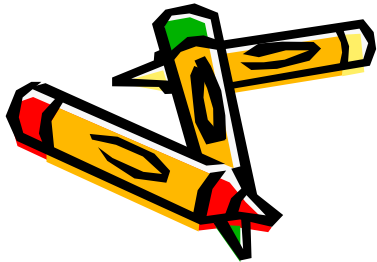
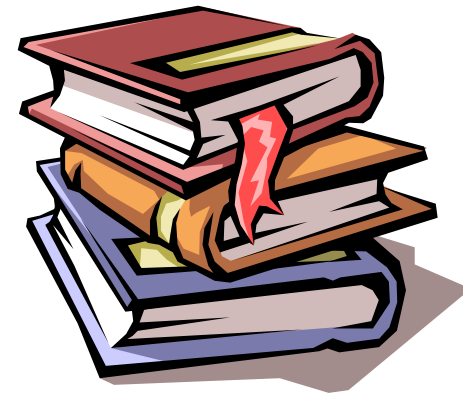
Birthdays

- Birthdays are an important part of people's lives, especially children. In Kindergarten, we get excited about reaching the next milestones together. We read about birthdays, we graph birthdays, and we write birthdays on the calendar to count the days until the big day.
- If you would like your child's teacher to send out invitations to a birthday party, please be considerate in this process. If you are unable to invite all students, please pass out invitations discretely on the playground before or after school.
- **Waters Elementary has a no food policy for birthdays.** If you would like to send non-food items please send 30 of the same item. Some suggestions are: pencils, note pads, erasers, play-dough, etc.
- You may also send a book (typically your child's favorite) to donate for our classroom library. This has been the most popular birthday activity as parents are invited to read aloud to the class. Truly a memorable event!



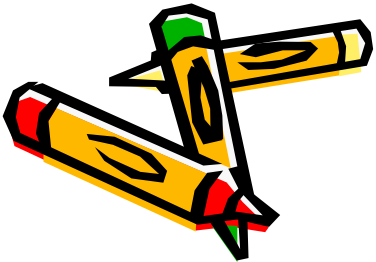
Book Orders

- Your child will be bringing home a form to order books about once a month. If you wish to order, it is very simple to order online. These orders are provided as a convenient way for parents to buy quality books from Scholastic for their child at a low price. As an added bonus, for every dollar that is spent on books, each classroom will earn bonus points which are used to purchase books for classroom use. Of course, you are never under any obligation to order.



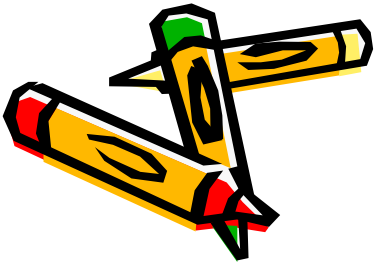
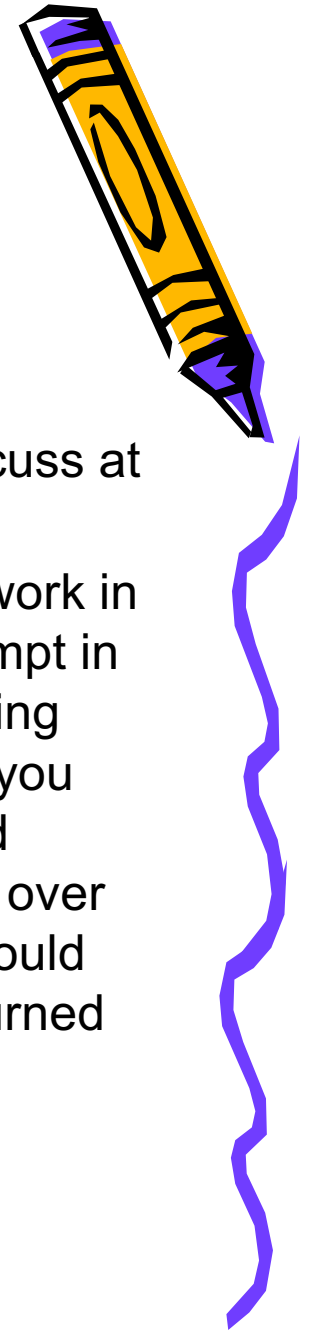
Medication in School

- **Please inform your child's teacher and school nurse of any food allergies or medical conditions and/or if they require any medication.**
- The school nurse will review CPS Medical Policy and any paperwork if needed.
- Do not send any medications to school in child's backpack. All medication requirements must be reviewed by the school nurse.



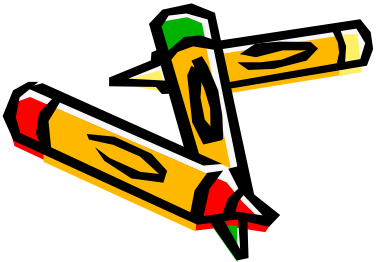
Thursday Home Journal

- As part of your child's homework, we ask that you read and discuss at least one book with your child every night.
- Students will receive a notebook to be used for a weekly homework in the form of a "home journal." Students will receive a writing prompt in their homework calendar. Please assist your child with this writing assignment. As students are just developing their writing skills, you can help them by taking dictation of their attempts. As your child continues to develop their writing skills, they will be able to take over their own responsibilities of writing. Please note, illustrations should always be done by students, not adults. Journals should be returned each Friday, so students can share with their classmates.



Homework

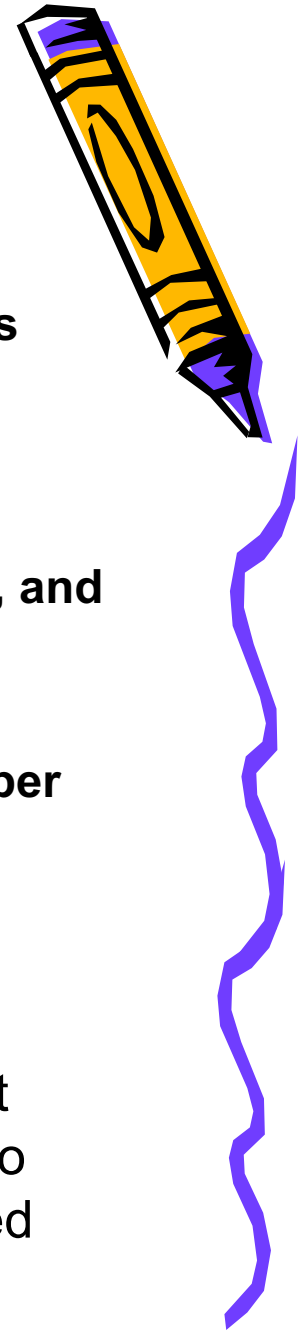
- Homework is to be completed on a daily basis, Monday through Friday. You will find your child's monthly homework calendar in their take-home folder. Please make sure that your child completes their homework every night. In order for the teacher to see that the homework has been done, please put your initials over each date after your child has completed the assignment. Ensure that your child remembers to bring this folder every day. The homework assignments should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. You may help your child with their homework, but do not complete the work for them.
- You should also be reading at least one book to your child every night- this is considered part of their homework.



Progress Ribbons

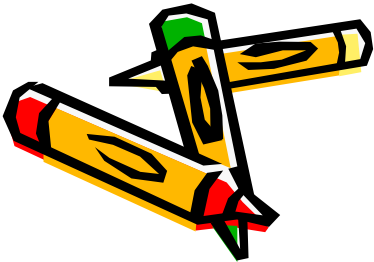
- Kindergarten students begin the year with a ribbon on the wall. As we assess their progress and they learn more concepts we cut out the pictures that represent the following concepts and put them on their ribbon.
- **Capital/lowercase letters**
- **Address**
- **Tie Shoes**
- **Shapes (circle, square, rectangle, triangle, oval, and diamond)**
- **Numbers 1-20**
- **Emergency phone number**
- **Counting to 100**
- **Birthday**

When your child knows all eight concepts, they get to bring their ribbon home! Encourage your child to practice these eight skills in order to take this prized possession home!!!



Field Trip Responsibilities

- We will take several field trips during the school year. In order to make field trips a safe learning experience, there are several things the teachers will ask of the parent chaperones:
- In order to ensure the kindergarten students proper supervision, younger siblings may not attend field trips.
- If you planned to go on our field trip but have to cancel, please let your teacher know as soon as possible, so that we can make arrangements.
- If you plan to go on the field trip with us, you will need to supervise other children in addition to your own.
- Since not all parents can go on every trip, please refrain from purchasing souvenirs, food, etc. for other children in your group.



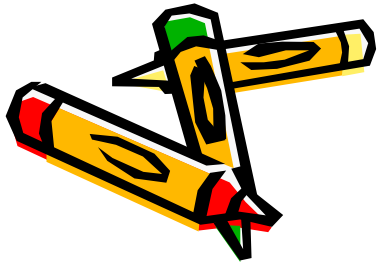
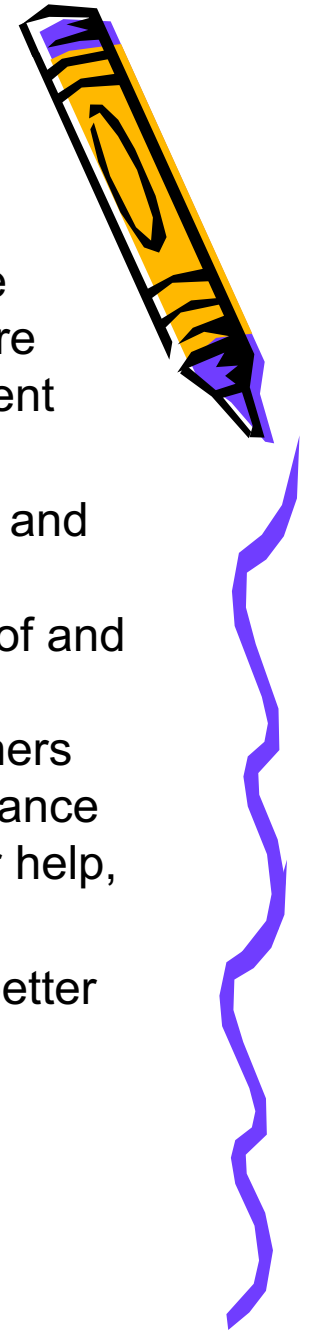
Chaperone Agreement

- A parent who agrees to serve as a chaperone for a school approved field trip acknowledges that he/she is acting on behalf of the teacher in the supervision of the students.
- The parent chaperone agrees that he/she will maintain visual contact with all students who have been assigned to his/her care. At no time will parent chaperones leave students unattended during the course of the field trip.
- Each parent chaperone agrees that a field trip is an extension of the classroom learning environment, therefore all school rules and expectations for student conduct outlined in the Uniform Discipline Code will be upheld.
- The parent chaperone agrees to speak to students in a kind and appropriate manner, respecting the dignity of each child.
- The parent chaperone is aware that school policy does not allow siblings on school trips.
- Though field trips are an exciting opportunity for our students, it is important for Parent Chaperones to realize that the trip is not recreational in nature. Parent Chaperones must understand that shopping in gift shops is not appropriate.
- Using cell phones on trips is not appropriate. Your attention should ALWAYS be on students and their safety education.



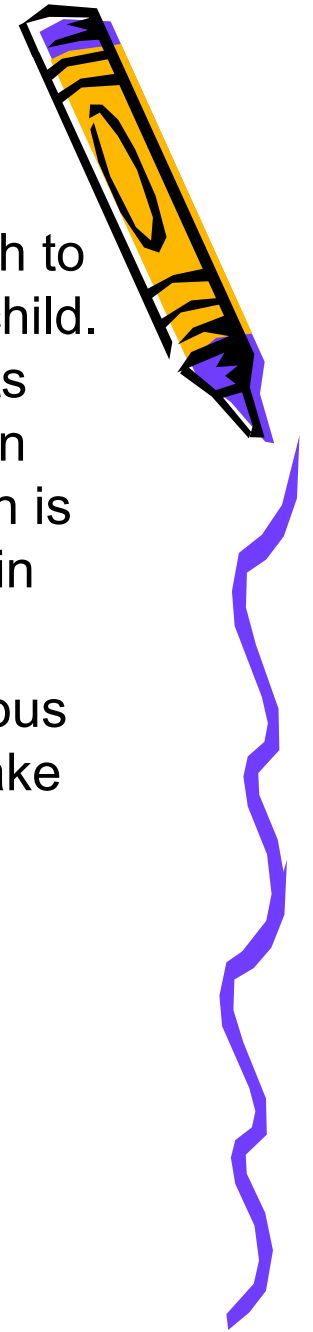
Social Emotional

- As Kindergarten classroom teachers, our priority is to help in the development of the whole child in order to prepare them for future success in school. We address their social emotional development skills which are embedded in our daily curriculum.
- Students will learn important skills that promote self-confidence, and help them feel motivated to learn. Students will have many opportunities to develop these skills; such as, taking ownership of and deepening understanding of expected behaviors, expressing themselves in a positive manner, respecting themselves and others opinions, sharing, following directions and understanding importance of classroom rules, controlling emotions, knowing how to ask for help, expressing needs, and getting along with others.
- Students with positive and healthy social emotional skills have better opportunities to become stronger academically.



Behavior Management

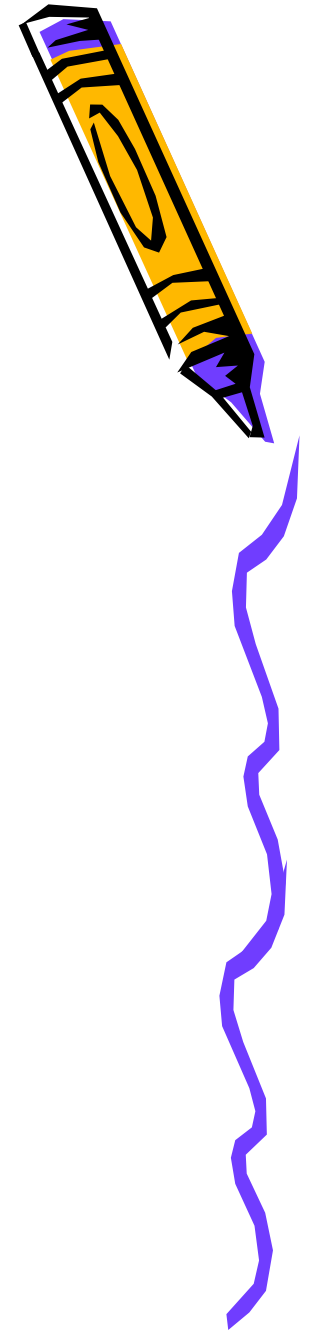
- Waters Elementary mission statement outlines our approach to education. It is our first and foremost goal to educate your child. Developing classroom rules collaboratively with our students allows students to cultivate a sense of ownership and aids in supporting a positive learning community. As every situation is different we have many strategies to manage behavior within the classroom.
- We will work as a parent/teacher team to work out any serious issues, but it is consistency at home and school that will make the difference with your child.
- **Why Should We Follow the Rules?**
 - Everyone will stay safe
 - Everyone will learn
 - Everyone will have fun



Kindergarten Tentative Schedule

Students will receive their official schedule by the 1st day of school.

- 8:15 – 8:20 Arrival
- 8:20 – 8:50 Journals
- 8:50 – 9:00 Bathroom Break
- 9:00 -- 9:05 Calm Classroom
- 9:05 – 10:30 Language Arts
- 10:30 -10:50 Recess
- 10:50- 11:15 Lunch
- 11:15- 11:25 Bathroom Break
- 11:25- 11:30 Calm Classroom
- 11:30 12:15 Science/Social Studies
- 12:15 - 1:15 Specials (Art, gym, drama, music, computer)
- 1:15 – 1:20 Calm Classroom
- 1:20 – 2:15 Math
- 2:15 – 2:45 Choice Time
- 2:45 – 3:10 Snack/ prepare for Dismissal
- 3:12 Dismissal



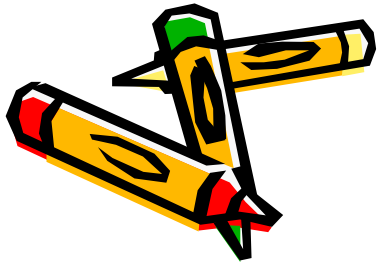
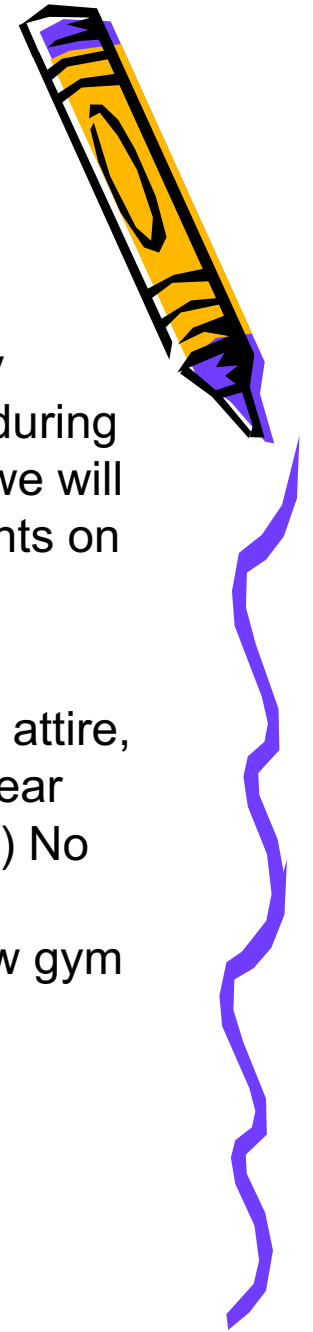
Additional Information

Bathroom Breaks

- The classroom goes to the bathroom as a group two times a day (morning and afternoon). If students need to use the bathroom during instructional time, they may raise their hand for permission and we will send them with a buddy. This process will be shared with students on the first day of school.

Gym Time

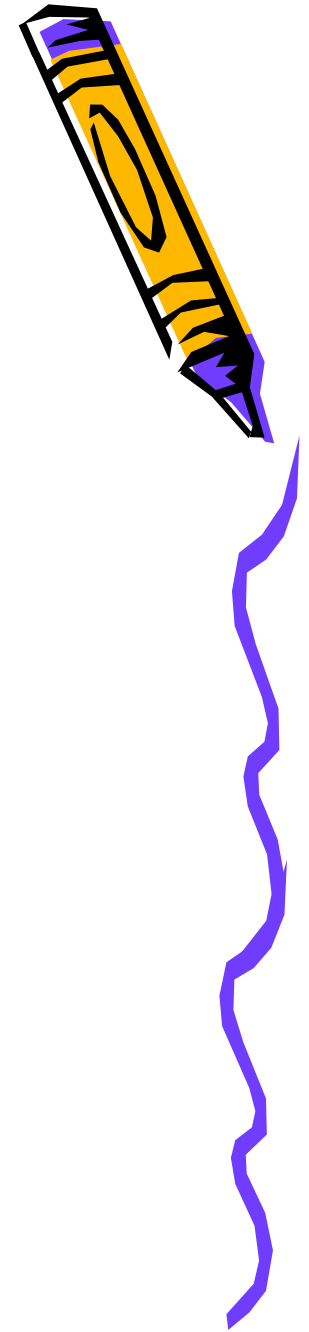
- Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately in comfortable attire, including gym shoes that cover the entire foot. Students **must** wear gym shoes with non-marking soles (also NO cros, sandals, etc.) No gym uniform is required. ***Please refer to Mr. Kurz's physical education syllabus for PE requirements.** Also, we have a new gym floor and proper shoe requirements will be strictly enforced per Administration.



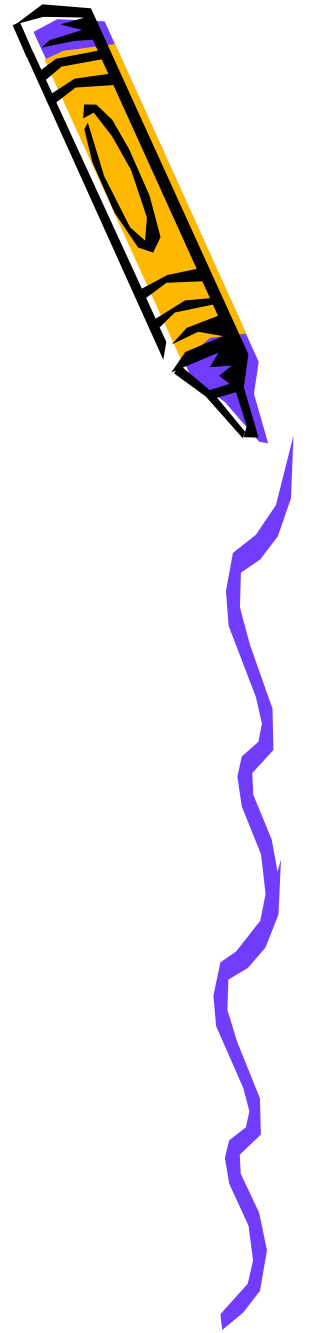
Contact Information

- Principal: Mrs. Titia Kipp
- Assistant Principal: Ms. Nilsa Alvarez
- School Phone Number – Main Office: 773-534-5090
- School Website – www.waterselementary.org
- You can also visit the kindergarten page on schools website
- Kindergarten Teachers: Mrs. Ramos 105
Mrs. Soto 107
Mrs. Novak 108

Sign up for Waters Weekly Green Notes by emailing
communications@waterstoday.org



Questions?



Let's Have a Great School
Year!

