

# Kindergarten ~ Price Harris Elementary News Ms. Middleton



## Welcome to Kindergarten!!

My name is Ms. Middleton and I am going to be your child's kindergarten teacher this year. This is my fourth year as a kindergarten teacher. I have been working at Price Harris for three years and have taught for 25 years. I have three children, a son (19) and two daughters (16 & 12).

This year there are many new rules and things to learn. This is going to be a great year.

### Mask:

All teachers and students must wear a mask while in the building unless they are eating or drinking. While in outside PE activities, mask can be taken off.

### Cleaning:

Extra cleaning is a must this year. Students will be asked to wash or use hand sanitizer each hour while in the room and before eating. Students will have their own supplies. There will be no sharing of supplies, chairs, or work surfaces. Tables and learning trays will be wiped down each evening.

### Drinks:

Each student will need to bring a water bottle to school. Water fountains are only being used to refill water bottles. You can bring a water bottle daily or send one for the week. All water bottles will be sent home over the weekend for washing.

### Snacks:

Kindergarteners get hungry through the day. We usually have a snack in the afternoon. Snacks are provided by the parents. This year, snacks must be **individually** packaged. Ideas would be; popcorn, goldfish, pretzels, fruit snacks, cheese sticks, etc. Anything that comes individually wrapped. I will send notes home throughout the year when we run low.

### Reading:

The district's reading program is called Journeys. We have 90 minutes of reading each day. Reading is broken down into three parts: whole group, small group, and writing. There are many activities during the day with words, letters, sounds, reading, writing, and language.

### Math:

We will be using a program called Engage New York. The math series is broken down into six units that have a variety of activities to help your child learn to count, recognize shapes, and add and subtract and many other skills. Math is full of hands on activities.

### Specials:

Each day, your child will have a special class: PE, music, art, or library. Music and PE will be on Monday and Thursdays. Art will be on Tuesdays. Library will be on Fridays. If the weather is nice, PE will be outside. All other specials will be in the kindergarten classroom.

### Birthdays:

Birthday celebrations are a special time. If you would like to be responsible for snacks your child's birthday, please let me know in advance. ALL snacks must be store bought and in individual packages or wrappers. During snack time that day, we will sing Happy Birthday to your child and have the snack you send. No other celebration or activity will happen for your child during school. **If you send cupcakes in one large box, I will have to politely refuse them. Individual packaging is a must.**

### Holidays:

More information later.

**Homework:**

A homework packet will be sent home on Friday or the last day of the week. The packet needs to be completed and sent back to school by the next Friday. Homework will not take much time if done each evening. There will be 4 days of reading and math. A math game will be included. If you know you have a busy week with practices and appointments, feel free to start the homework as soon as it comes home.

Homework will not start for a few weeks. Don't expect it the first Friday.

**Breakfast:**

Students will be eating breakfast in the classroom. It will be delivered to our room. Students will sit at their spot to eat it.

**Lunch:**

Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. Only one grade level at a time will be eating. Children will be spread apart at tables. If your child, is bringing their lunch from home, it will stay in their backpack until we go to the lunchroom to eat.

**Arrival:**

Latch key students may start arriving at 6:45 am. Latch key students must enter through the gym door. All other students will not be allowed into the building until 8:50 am. You will hear a bell. Please stay in your car or on the playground away from people not in your family. Once you hear the bell, please walk to door 4. Students will have their temperature taken before they are allowed to enter the building. Students will then walk to their classroom alone. I will be standing in the doorway to help the students find me. Door 4 will lock at 9 am. If you are late, you must check into the office.

**Dismissal:**

Students who ride the bus or attend latch key after school will be taken by an adult. All the other students will be taken to the blacktop to wait for a parent or an older sibling. Kindergarteners are not allowed to run off if they see you. They must tell the teacher good-bye so we can see who they are leaving with. Please do not do stand around door 4 waiting

for your child. Not all classes can leave the building at the same time. We will meet you on the blacktop if the weather is nice.

If the weather is extremely cold or raining, students will wait inside the building spread apart. You will need to come to the door and tell the adult the name of your child. Your child will only come out on bad weather days when you come to the door.

If you are running late or unable to pick your child up on time, please call the office and let them know. Your child will be waiting in the office for you to pick them up.

**School Hours:**

Our school hours are from 8:50-4:10.

**Email:**

The best way to get in touch with me is to email me at [dmiddleton@usd259.net](mailto:dmiddleton@usd259.net)

I am also available before and after school most days.

I am looking forward to working with you to provide the best educational experience for your child. Please feel free to discuss any and all concerns you have.

Let's have a super year!

*Ms. Middleton*

