

**WELCOME**

## Volunteers

Something I feel strongly about is that students are more successful in school when they have support from their families. Consequently, our room is always welcoming of visitors. There are also many opportunities for families to contribute in our classroom. I will send home requests for volunteers through Remind. If you have questions on how to use the app, please let me know. (If the volunteer options provided are not feasible, please let me know and we can come up with an opportunity for you to help that meets your schedule and abilities!)

\*\* All volunteers in the school district are required to pass a criminal background check which will be done for free by our district's human resources department. The check must be completed before someone can volunteer in any school. You can complete the form online at the school district website. This screening is required to help ensure the safety of all children, & questions regarding the screening can be directed to the Human Resources Department at 714-8888.

## Contacting Ms. Duval

If you need to contact me, the best way to do so is through Remind. During the day I am busy teaching our class and do not have opportunities for parent conferences. If you wish to schedule a conference outside of student hours, please ask and I am happy to set up a time to meet with you!

### **Snacks and Birthdays**

We will have snack time each afternoon. We would greatly appreciate donations of bulk snacks (pretzels, crackers, dry cereal, etc.) to share with our class!

While we don't have time for birthday parties in the classroom, you are welcome to send a healthy snack or other simple treats with your child in the morning of your child's special day. During snack, your child may share a treat with their classmates.

Please contact me to coordinate your birthday snacks.

**\*\*Please refer to the school policy on passing out birthday invitations at school.\*\***

### **Classroom Rules**

In addition to Sterling's goals to be SAFE, RESPONSIBLE & Respectful, our classroom has 4 rules that are posted in our room:

1. Listen and Raise My Hand to Speak
2. Follow Directions the First Time
3. Keep Hands, Feet and Objects to Myself
4. Say and Do Nice Things to Everyone

I have found that these 4 rules are fairly all encompassing. We will go over our class rules daily for the first few weeks of school to allow students the opportunity to understand them thoroughly.

### **Classroom Rewards**

We also have positive consequences when the class follows our class rules. Our class can earn pompoms by following directions the first time, being productive learners, being good citizens and using our time wisely. This is in conjunction with our school's Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies program where students can earn a pompom for following the school's expectations. When our class jar is full, we have a class party!  
(For more information on PBIS, please see our family handbook.)

### **Consequences**

In addition to teaching the rules of our classroom, we will also learn the consequences of not following the rules.

If I do not follow the rules, the following consequences may happen:

The class will be reminded of our rule

The teacher will remind me of the rule

I will miss part of my play time to talk to a teacher about following the rules

I will fill out a Stop and Think form

I will call home and explain why I was not following the rules

I will go to the principal's office.

### **Other Items to Bring to School:**

- A change of clothing in a gallon Ziploc bag to be left at school
- Bulk snack items to be shared with the class

### **Storage of School Supplies**

In our classroom we sit at tables, on top of the tables will be tubs containing the supplies students will need for the day, pencils, liquid glue and tissue. Other supplies will be available to students in the classroom and as needed for special projects.

### **Homework**

I recognize that family time is important. This year, homework for our class will provide opportunities for your family to engage in learning opportunities together and provide your child with the responsibility for returning their homework to school. The homework will consist of the following:

Weekly- Spelling List (Beginning the middle of September)

Baggie Books (Beginning after 1st Quarter)

Monthly-Homework calendar with after-school challenges for you to complete as a family. Please do as many challenges as you are able to do!

Reading Log for your child to document the days in the month that they have read or are read to.

### **Monday Folders**

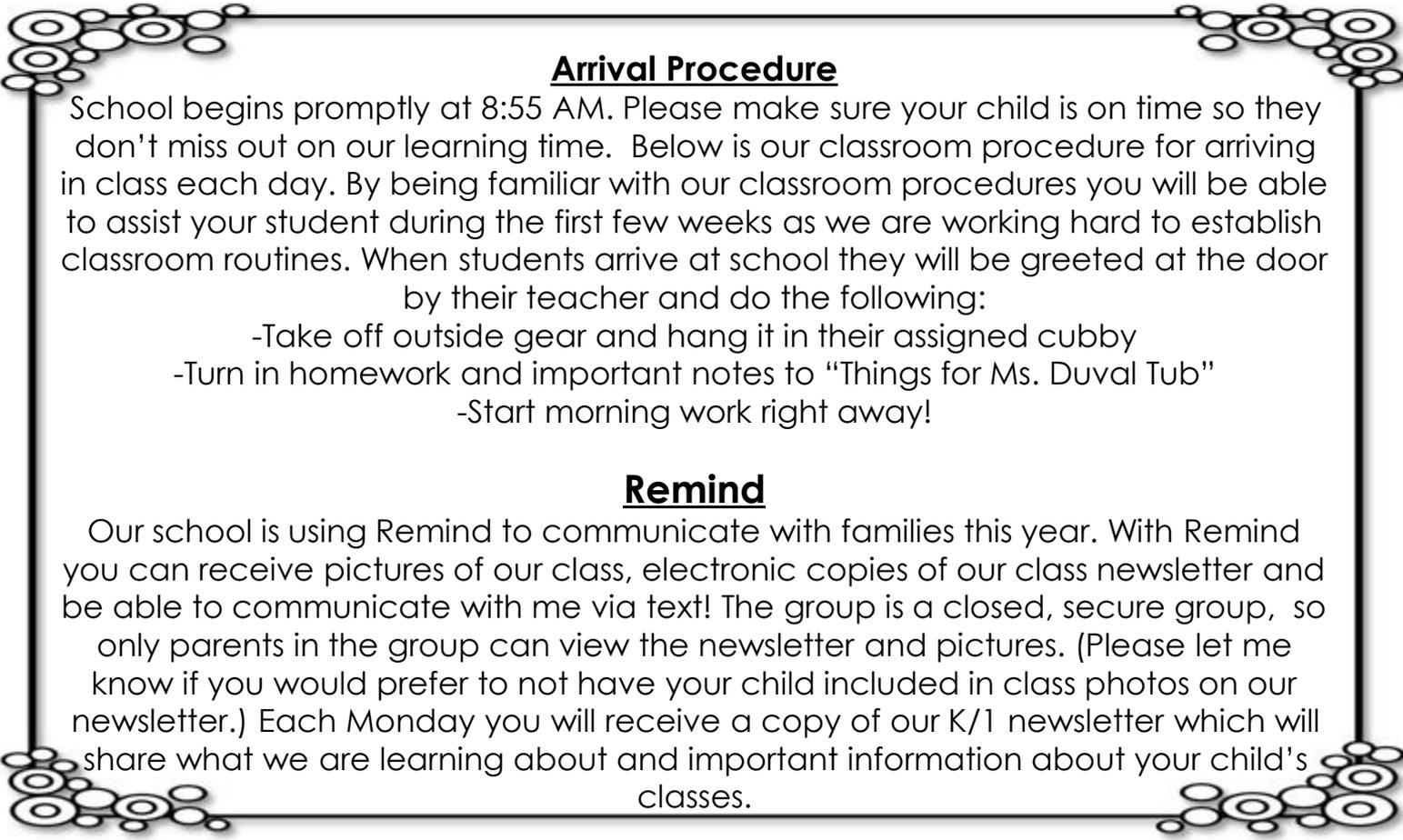
Your child will have a red Monday Folder. Important notes and school information will be sent in your child's folder, so please check your child's backpack Monday evening! I will do my best to make sure that all important papers are sent in the Monday folder, so you will be able to easily find that information. Please return your folder by Friday each week.

\*\*If you have things to return to school, completed homework, lunch money, permission slips, notes for me, please remind your child to put them in the "Things for Ms. Duval tub" right by the classroom door. I do not have time to check each student's backpack each day, so it is my hope that by setting this routine, I will be sure to find those important things.

### **Team Teaching**

This year Ms. Duval, Mrs. King and Mrs. Montgomery will be team teaching kindergarten and first grade. In order to meet the needs of all our students, students will attend a spelling group, taught by a team member for 30 minutes each day. Student will receive literacy instruction from their homeroom teacher. Math will work the same, with each student attending a one-hour math class taught by a team teacher. In addition to math and spelling, we will also switch for science, social studies and health classes each week.

Please know that we are all committed to doing what is best for each child. Team teachers communicate with each other daily on academic progress and behavior. We will also send home weekly letters about what we will be covering in our classes. Feel free to contact any of us if you have a question or concern about your child!



### **Arrival Procedure**

School begins promptly at 8:55 AM. Please make sure your child is on time so they don't miss out on our learning time. Below is our classroom procedure for arriving in class each day. By being familiar with our classroom procedures you will be able to assist your student during the first few weeks as we are working hard to establish classroom routines. When students arrive at school they will be greeted at the door by their teacher and do the following:

- Take off outside gear and hang it in their assigned cubby
- Turn in homework and important notes to "Things for Ms. Duval Tub"
- Start morning work right away!

### **Remind**

Our school is using Remind to communicate with families this year. With Remind you can receive pictures of our class, electronic copies of our class newsletter and be able to communicate with me via text! The group is a closed, secure group, so only parents in the group can view the newsletter and pictures. (Please let me know if you would prefer to not have your child included in class photos on our newsletter.) Each Monday you will receive a copy of our K/1 newsletter which will share what we are learning about and important information about your child's classes.