



Dear Kindergarten Families,

I hope you all are enjoying your precious summer! Miss Denise and I have each been on our own adventures yet we are very excited to begin exploring life with you in August. Our year long Kindergarten expedition is entitled **Alive on Adventure!** As we work and learn together we will begin to find answers to the guiding questions “What is home?”, “What is alive?” and “What is adventure?” As we journey together we will learn about nursery rhymes and fables, about ourselves as living organisms: what’s inside us, what keeps us healthy, what we find fun and exciting, what we love. We’ll learn about the kinds of communities we want to build and what kinds of citizens we want to be. We’ll expand our study to include small animals and large plants. We will kick off our study on the very first day with the classroom as the first adventure site. Our further adventures will extend to the limits of our imaginations!

All of us are thinking, “What will happen? Will school be safe? Where will we go? Will there be new friends? Will it be fun enough?” I can assure you that we have many exciting experiences planned, and we are confident that our kindergarteners will become a powerful crew of people who explore the world safely and with wonder, and then communicate about it in thoughtful and interesting ways.

Our Field Work experiences will include walking trips around the school neighborhood to explore some outdoor areas including nearby parks, and we’ll go to the library and other places downtown. Sometimes we will have *full day* field experiences like going to a pumpkin farm and going camping in the forest. We’ll give you plenty of advance notice about those. We may be making short, spontaneous jaunts off campus as early as the first week of school, so ***please send your child to school ready for adventure every day with sturdy closed-toed shoes, hat, and a reusable water bottle (labeled with your child’s initials or name)!***

Yes, what’s an adventure without GEAR? Many of you have been wondering about school supplies and are ready to start preparing yourselves and your children for the coming year. If you are planning to shop for new shoes, please remember that our goal is for your child to be as self-sufficient as possible. **If your child does not yet know how to tie shoes with ease, please do not send him or her to school with shoes that have laces.** Attached is a list of materials to bring to school on the first day, **Thursday, August 3rd.**

You are invited to attend an informal play date to get to know us and the other families a little better. Please come to Flinn Park (280 Josephine St.) on **Wednesday, July 26th.** We’ll be there for an hour or so between 5:30 and 6:30 with balls, bubbles, iced water and watermelon. We can all play and get acquainted with one another. Please let me know via the contact information below if you will be attending.

I hope you’ll take the opportunity to come to our Open House/Meet the Teachers event at the school on **Wednesday, August 2nd,** 4:00-6:00 p.m. Our Kindergarten Parent Meeting will be held in our classroom during the week of **August 21st-24th,** (time and exact date TBA). Please plan to attend, as this is a *very important* meeting for us as a crew. Be prepared to ask questions and learn more about our policies, procedures, and exciting events to come.

With enthusiasm,

Miss Mary

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Miss Mary and grandson Corbin

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