



# September 15, 2017

## from Mrs. Swingley's Class

Dear Family,

We are finally getting into a routine and the students are well aware of what is expected in kindergarten. Learning to be a part of a group is sometimes difficult, but with the wonderful weather and inviting playground, we are trying very hard to follow the rules so we have more time to play.

Your child has worked with colors, shapes, counting, name recognition and now we fall into our letter weeks. If you'd like to send in a special low sugar snack to go along with our weekly theme, plan for 22 students in the class. It would be fun to have muffins for a special Friday snack the 22nd to celebrate "**Mm** Week." We are excited to meet our first letter friend.

We will be having fun exploring with **magnets**, also, and it's a good time to teach your child about the danger of having magnets near computers. (\$\$\$\$\$)

Those of you with older children in our school corporation have been used to the "D'Nealian" Handwriting (slanted and tails). However, we started using the straight "**ball and stick**" printing with the kindergartners several years ago. Continue working with your child on printing the letters at home correctly. Thank you for seeing your child is taking her/his time printing neatly on the homework packs.

I have discovered that many of the children don't know their last name, names of parents or where their parents work. We will be checking again, in October, to see if the students can tell their full name, address and telephone number. This is homework you can work on together. **Tying shoes** is another important skill five- and six-year-olds need to master!

**Our P.T.O. will meet Tuesday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. Join us!**

**Mrs. Cunningham** is our instructional assistant (in all three kindergarten classrooms) on Monday, and Thursday, while her triplet sister, **Mrs. Bumgardner** is the I.A. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. It's a huge help to have another adult with our group of 22. These two young women are wonderful and greatly appreciated.

If your child has mentioned the name, "**Miss Wilson**," she is our cadet teacher from Area 30. She often works with a reading group, helping the students recognize letters, sounds and even sight words, and is doing a great job as an extra hand three mornings a week.

I suggested earlier for you to check out the **Indiana Department of Education website**, in particular, the **Indiana Standards for Kindergarten**. We have our work cut out for us this year, and appreciate your help as we prepare these students for all that is expected during our year at school. Please feel free to e-mail me at [jswingley@sputnam.k12.in.us](mailto:jswingley@sputnam.k12.in.us) anytime. If you haven't yet signed up for [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com), it's an easy way to communicate with private messages or to receive group messages via either your cell phone or email.

I appreciate all the notes, and donations. We started a **Prize Box**, and if you have any fast food prizes, or donations from the Dollar Tree or your place of work, feel free to send them in. Motivational items work well with everyone.

If you signed up to help with parties or send something in, you will be contacted soon as we begin to plan for the **Fall Harvest Party**. Make sure you have completed a volunteer form in the office if you plan to help in the classroom.

Special thanks to Jersi's mom for helping tear out and sort our math workbook pages. That's quite a job. We hope to have them all organized and ready to go next week.

Many of the students are excited about participating in the 100 Book Club. You may list any book you read to your child, or even the small readers they read at home. List the titles and bring in the pages for fun prizes from the PTO and an opportunity for a pool party at the end of the year. Reading every day is so very important for all of us!

Have a good weekend.

*Mrs. Swingley*



Please check our Lost & Found on the stage if your child is missing a nice jacket! They will be taken to the Goodwill or donated if not claimed, so check to see if you're missing anything.