



## What to Expect

Hello and welcome to High Bridge kindergarten! We know that this is a whole new world for all of the students and for many parents as well. With that in mind, we want to lay out some of our kindergarten procedures for you in this helpful document. Please feel free to print this document and keep it handy for these first few weeks.



## Arrival

School officially begins at 7:45 am. Any student arriving after 7:45 must stop in the office and get a tardy pass before going to their classroom.

**Students may not arrive earlier than 7:30 am** unless they are enrolled in before & after care (see the secretary for more information). Students may only enter the classroom after the 7:30 bell rings.

## Breakfast

The school provides breakfast to those students whose parents wish for them to eat at school. Breakfast is served in the multipurpose room until 7:45, and costs \$1.60.

Students desiring breakfast should go straight to the multipurpose room after arriving to purchase and eat breakfast before coming to the classroom. Students use their pin number to purchase breakfast, just like with lunch.

## Dismissal

Our official dismissal time is 1:55. However, kindergarten students are dismissed several minutes before the rest of the school to allow them to find their buses. Our buses are color-coded (red bus, blue bus, etc.)



If your child is normally a **bus rider**, but you plan to have them picked up on a particular day, you must notify the school of any changes in writing. The note can either be given to us or to the secretary.

Students who are **car riders** may be picked up from the lobby when called at dismissal time. Your child will only be released to the people you designate on the emergency card unless you have written a current note stating otherwise. Any students whose parents have not arrived by the designated time will remain inside the lobby near the front door in view of the secretary.

## Lunch

Each morning in class, the students indicate whether or not they will be buying lunch as part of our morning routine. Each student has a clothespin (we call them "clips") with their name and pin number on it, and those buying lunch will wear their clip on their shirt to the cafeteria until they memorize their pin number. They quickly learn to independently enter their pin number into the keypad.

Lunch is from 10:00 - 10:30, and costs \$2.75. Payment for hot lunch must be **sealed in an envelope or ziplock baggie with your child's name on it** and sent to us via your child's blue folder. Please do not place money in your child's pockets or backpacks, as it tends to fall out, get shared, played with, or otherwise lost!!! Menus are sent home monthly, or you can [access the menu here](#). Lunch payments may also be made online through the [Online PrePay](#) system.

## Recess

Recess immediately follows lunch, from 10:30 - 10:45. Students are lead from the lunch room back to the classroom to deposit lunch bags/boxes and assisted with any additional outdoor clothing before going out to the playground. If it is raining or temperatures (with wind chill factor) fall below 45, students will have indoor recess. **Please make sure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing to go outside!**



## Specials

Your child will have the following extra classes weekly:

45 minutes of [Music](#) (twice per week)

45 minutes of [PE](#) (twice per week)

45 minutes of [Library](#)

90 minutes of [Art](#) (several times per quarter)

[Computer Lab](#)



## Parent/Teacher Connection:

Communication and collaboration between teachers and parents are so important in these early years. As we go through this school year, we will communicate regularly with each other through [our website](#), personal notes and telephone calls. Your **child's blue folder** is a *very* important part of our daily communication (more on blue folders below).

If you ever have questions or concerns at school or at home about your child, **please do not hesitate** to call, email using the [Contact](#) link at the website, text me via Class Dojo (see below) or jot me a note. I check email daily and reply to calls and reply to notes within 24 hours.

## Blue Folders:

Every student has a **Blue Folder** which will travel between home and school daily. These folders function as our primary communication lifeline, and must be checked by both you and the teacher on a daily basis. Items for you to see are notes regarding your child, school flyers and newsletters, completed classwork, homework sheets, and





homework.

You may use the Blue Folder to communicate with me by initialing your child's behavior chart daily, sending important notes, returning forms and sending

labeled money envelopes.

Students are responsible for bringing their Blue Folder to school and turning it in on their own every morning for me to check. Be sure to also check them each afternoon when your child arrives home from school.

## Lunch & Special Event Money:

Money is very important to all of us, and we take the utmost care with all money that comes in. Unfortunately, coins and crumpled wads of bills stuffed in a child's pockets or backpacks are easily lost or forgotten. **Therefore, I will only accept money for your child if it is contained in a sealed envelope or Ziploc baggie with your child's name marked on the front.** *This policy applies to money that you hand-deliver as well!!!*

*This policy applies to money that you hand-deliver as well!!!* I cannot accept loose coins and dollars even directly from parents during the school day. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.



## Class Dojo:



Class Dojo is an online program that allows teachers and parents to track classroom behaviors via a point system. Students can choose and customize cute monster avatars. Teachers can award positive points to students and help them celebrate great behavior. Parents can download the Class Dojo app onto their smartphones and tablets and track their child's behavior progress throughout the school year.

Another amazing thing about Class Dojo is the texting feature; parents and teachers can communicate via texting through the Dojo app.

Be on the lookout for instructions on how to sign up for Class Dojo and download the app today!

## Homework:

In kindergarten, homework time is simply an opportunity for your child to practice the skills in reading, writing and math that they have learned during the week at school. It's all about establishing new routines and developing good work habits at home.

Homework at this age should be fun, hands-on, and low-stress. It should only take 10-20 minutes per night to complete. A homework sheet will come home every Monday with instructions on which assignments to complete on which days. All assignments will be completed in your child's spiral-bound homework journal. On Fridays, your child is responsible for bringing their journals to school and turning them in to the teacher. Remember, homework does count for a grade.

Designate a homework spot in the house with paper and crayons readily available. Also, sit with your child during homework time and be there to support them if they need it, but *don't do it for them!!!* Show interest in what your child has learned and can do, and have fun with it! If for any reason, your child is having any difficulty at all with the homework, please let us know right away so that we can work together to solve the problem. There

may be some afternoons when your child is tired, needs a break or is just not feeling well and the homework doesn't get done that day. That's perfectly okay, as long as they have it all completed and turned in by Friday.

## **That's All Folks!**

We have had a great beginning, and the best is yet to come. Please make sure that I get all the forms and emergency cards back as soon as possible.

Thanks, and let's have a superb school year!

Mrs. Jenkins