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Tina Fulco- Room 111
Daniella Harris- Room 5
Jenna Laudi- Room 110
Amal Merhi- Room 112

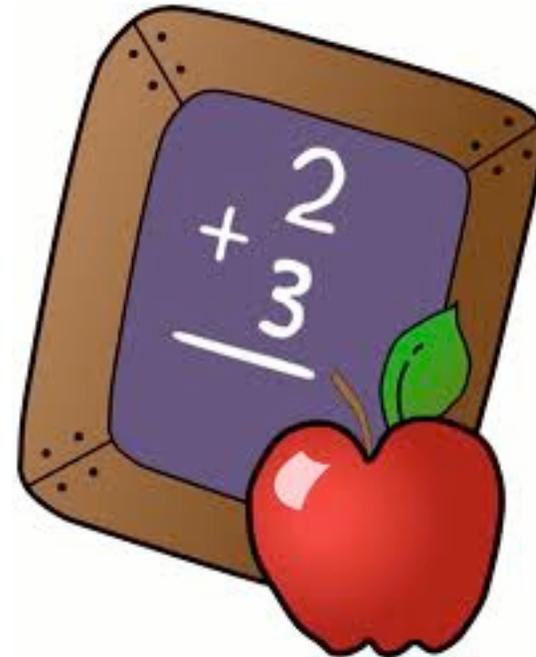


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Totowa Borough Schools
**All About
Kindergarten
2016-2017**
Memorial School



Memorial School

"Where Little People Learn Big Things"

294 Totowa Road - Totowa, New Jersey 07512

Phone: 973-956-0010 - Fax: 973-553-2258 - e-mail: totowacompel@yahoo.com

September 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to Memorial School! Starting kindergarten is a very significant time in your child's life and in your lives as well. The Memorial School staff and I wish to assure you that we will do everything we can to make your child's kindergarten start and kindergarten year the best possible.

Beginning with the first day of school, your child will be involved in many exciting, educational opportunities culminating in the Moving On ceremony in June. The goal of our program is to meet your child's needs not only intellectually, but also physically, socially, and emotionally. We will work diligently to provide your child with wonderful experiences that will help them develop a positive self-concept and attitude toward learning.

The Memorial School staff and I look forward to working with you and your child in the upcoming years. If you ever have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joseph Compel
Principal

Reminders From Memorial School Staff

- **Absence:** Please call the Attendance Office at **973-956-0010** extension **1102** before **9:00 A.M.**

- **Art:** Send in a washable smock for painting projects. It should have your child's first and last name on it.

- **Labels:** Please label coats, jackets, lunchboxes, and backpacks.

- **Bus Tags:** Your child should wear a bus number tag for the **first two (2) weeks**. This will be supplied by your child's teacher.

- **Notes:** Label and seal all notes in an envelope ... especially those containing money. The following information should be on the envelope:

- *Child's first and last name*
- *Teacher's name and room number*
- *Purpose*

- **Daily Transportation Plans:** You must send a note addressed to your child's teacher on the morning that a change in transportation will take place. We will not release a student to others or allow a student to change transportation plans without this note. Some valid reasons for a change of transportation are:

- *A different person will be picking up your child.*
- *Your child will be walking instead of taking the bus.*
- *Your child will be going home with another student.*

Walkers are not permitted to ride a bus and bus students may only ride their **assigned** bus.

Reminders From the Kindergarten Staff

1. When **changing transportation plans** for your child (temporarily or permanently) please notify the teacher in writing immediately.
2. **Your child will only be released to you.** If there is going to be a change, please send a note to the teacher on that day.
3. Please **be at the bus stop** at the end of the day.
4. If you are meeting your child after school, please meet him/her in front of Memorial School **no later than 3:10 PM.**
5. Know that:

We care
about your child !



September 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome!!!!

As educators, we would like to stress the importance of your child's first year in school. In this booklet, you will find ideas and activities for you to use when you interact with your child.

If you spend a few minutes each day doing these things with your child, it will help your son/daughter be better prepared to enter kindergarten. A child who is well prepared is more likely to make faster progress and to find greater success in his/her new school environment.

With your assistance, we will make this year a positive growing experience for your child.

Sincerely,

Marissa Abbaleo
Tina Fulco
Daniella Harris
Jenna Laudi
Amal Merhi

Kindergarten Teachers

How Parents Can Help Their Child With Reading

Here are some tips that have been found to be successful:

- * Read to your child. Every time you do so, you are building an appreciation of books and reading.
- * Teach your child to care for books. Books should be regarded as friends.
- * Put books at the top of the list as gifts.
- * Include magazines and newspapers as sources for reading materials.
- * Listen to your child read. As a form of reading, kindergarteners can describe the pictures in books. Discuss what is happening and also answer questions.
- * Ensure that your child sees you reading each day.
- * Use every opportunity to foster reading. For example: road signs, recipes, food labels, or TV listings.
- * Write notes to your child when you are not at home. Encourage friends and relatives to write to your child and encourage him/her to write back.
- * As your child reads to you, assist him/her with unfamiliar words. Make flash cards or a list of words needed to be mastered. As your child becomes a better reader, encourage him/her to skip unknown words, read to the end of the sentence to see what might make sense, and then if the word is still unknown, you read the word. Try sounding out the unknown word but avoid making it a chore.
- * Help your child to select books that are not too difficult. If five or six words per page are missed, the book is too difficult.



How Much Do You Talk With Your Child?

- When your child is having meals, do you talk with him/her?
- Do you talk with your child while getting dressed?
- Do you talk with your child before bedtime?
- Do you ask your child many questions?
- Does your child ask many questions?
- Do you take the time to answer those questions?
- After answering questions, do you ask follow-up questions the same topic?
- When you go to the store, do you take your child with you?
- Do you take the time to explain things to your child?
- Do your conversations last more than a minute?
- Do you and your child play word guessing games?
- Before you leave for the store, do you ask your child to help remember what you need?
- Do you encourage your child to tell others about his/her experiences?

- Lunch:

Students are scheduled for lunch at 12:30 everyday. You may send your child with a lunch or you and your child can decide if you want to purchase a meal from the menu provided by our school food services, Pomptonian. Information regarding selections and prices will be sent home the first week of school.

- Scheduled Conferences:

School wide conferences will be held on November 29, 30, and December 1. Appointments will be made during Back To School Night which is scheduled on Tuesday, September 29th. Any other time a conference is desired, please call or send a note to the teacher. Messages can be left for teachers in their voice mailboxes.

- School Hours: (9:00 A.M. - 3:15 P.M.)

Students should arrive to school **NO EARLIER than 8:50 A.M.**

- Special Subjects:

Each class will have Music, ELA/Technology, Art, Health/Physical Education, and Explore.

The 2016-2017 Parent Handbook and posted “important announcements”, emergency school closings, and general district information can be found on our web site at:

www.totowa.k12.nj.us

We will also use the Notification Alert Automated Phone System for important information.

- Here are some things your child should know...

1. First and last name
2. Address
3. Age, birth date
4. Telephone number



Your child should be able to...

1. Tie shoes
2. Use a tissue (cover your coughs!)
3. Button and zip
4. Put on boots & coats....buckle and unbuckle
5. Name the body parts such as head, eye, nose, elbow, knee, chest, arm...etc.

- Activities for Kindergarten:

Group discussion, flag salute, songs, calendar and weather, language arts, recess, mathematics, family life education, social studies, health, science, technology education, substance abuse education, career awareness, school store, study skills infusion, and fire safety.

- Attendance:

Regular and punctual attendance are important habits for your child to learn and establish from the very first day of Kindergarten. However, when your child is ill, they should not attend school. A written note must accompany the child when he/she returns to school from an absence. Please call **973-956-0010 ext. 1102** whenever your child is absent. **However, if we do not receive a phone call, the attendance secretary will call until contact is made.**

- Bus Safety



Those children who will ride the bus will receive a bus route pass. These passes should be pinned to the child for the first two weeks of school to familiarize the staff, as well as the children, with their bus number.

Buses will discharge and pick up students on Totowa Road directly in front of Memorial School everyday. Bus monitors will be on duty to assist with supervision. **The shuttle bus from Memorial to WPS will discharge the students on Peterson Road next to the gym every day. Parents of shuttle students should meet their child in the back.**

It is advisable for you to familiarize your child with the neighborhood and the children from your area. This helps assure the child when he/she sees a familiar face and landmark. For many students, this will be their first experience riding a bus, so careful instructions should be given regarding bus conduct.

- Change of Transportation:

If your child is transported by bus and is going to be picked up on a particular day, **we must have a note to inform us of that change.** Unless a note is received, your child will board the school bus as usual. A note is also necessary for walkers, when a different person than previously indicated is picking up your child, regardless of who is listed on the emergency contact list.

- Clothing:

Selected articles of clothing for outdoors should be easily fastened and unfastened by the child. Please dress your child for suitable activities and label all articles of clothing. The district dress code is included in the Parent Handbook.

- Kops 4 Kids:

Students enrolled in Kops 4 Kids will be dismissed directly to the program at 3:15. For information on the Before and After School Program here at Memorial School, please call 973-809-4311.

- Delayed Opening and Emergency Closing:

When it becomes necessary to delay the opening of school, school will begin at **10:00 A.M.** Children should not come to school before **9:50 A.M.** Emergency closings, once school is in session, are extremely rare. Experience has shown us that the roads are generally in better condition at 3:15 than at 1:15 p.m. **For inclement weather closings or delays, Notification Alert Automated Phone System will call the phone number that you submitted on your child's registration form. You can also check our district web site, www.totowa.k12.nj.us, then click on the snowman, or call the main school # 973-956-0010 and choose the first prompt (school closing).**

- Arrival and Dismissal Procedures:

Students who are transported to and from school by car or who walk, must enter the school through the front door nearest to Elizabeth Place. All the children will assemble in the auditorium by class under the supervision of teachers and teacher's aides. Your child's teacher will meet the class here daily. At the end of the day, parents should wait on the sidewalk in front of Memorial School. Teachers will escort the students to the front steps and dismiss the students individually. Students in Rooms 109, and 110 will exit by the doorway nearest William Place. Students in Rooms 5, 111, and 112 will exit by the doors nearest Elizabeth Place. Cars will not be permitted to enter the school driveway.

