



Kindergarten News

Welcome to Kindergarten!

My name is Laurel McDowell and I will be one of your child's Kindergarten teachers at Grey Mountain Primary. I will be the classroom teacher from Monday to Thursday at 11:30 and Barb Reid will teach every Friday.

I am originally from Nanaimo, B.C. but I have been teaching in the Yukon for 15 years now, specializing in the primary area.

Throughout the years I have adopted ideas from several different educational philosophies. These insights are reflected in my daily teaching practices with the children. I love spending time with children and feel privileged to share in their early learning discoveries about the world around them. I strive to provide a warm, fun and nourishing environment that enables your child to absorb through the senses and educate the hands, heart and mind.

I look forward to getting to know both you and your child this school year. And for those parents who are sending a sibling this year, I feel lucky to have the opportunity to spend the year with you again!

This month's concepts being learned:

Theme - "All about Me" - learning about each other and making new friends through a variety of activities.

Language Arts- starting our literacy program called "Foundations".

Math -working on sorting and patterns.

Science -using our 5 senses to explore the world around us

Social studies -practicing daily routines and classroom expectations.

Art -opportunities to practice cutting, colouring, painting and pasting.

Computers and Library will be taught by Ms. Reid-your child will have a Library class each Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

They will be allowed to take books home to share with you during home reading time. Please send these books back to school each Thursday so they may exchange them for new ones.

P.E. and French will be taught by Mme. Ott

Classroom events

Special helper, show and tell and the "Me bag."

We will start "special helper" and show and tell next week. One child is the "special helper" each day. Each child will have many opportunities throughout the year to be the "special helper".

The roles and responsibilities of this special person include calendar activities, show and tell, first in the line, taking the attendance to the office, and other various classroom duties.

Your child will know when it is his/her turn as indicated on the list in the classroom. We will send a reminder home in their lunch kit to remind them to bring their show and tell.

During the month of September we will be sharing from our "**Me bag**". This bag is to contain 4 or 5 items that are important to your child and will help us get to know them a little better.

Our class will begin learning presentation and listening skills by sharing from their bag during show and tell. Please include a **family picture** with the names written on the back.

After September you can help your child select a special item from home to discuss with the class.

This is **not** the same as Thursday when the **all** students may bring a toy to school.

There will be an **open house** lunch on September 6th. This is a great opportunity to come into the class and ask any questions you may have. We will discuss the kindergarten program, routines, and volunteering.

If you have not yet done so, please ensure you have brought an **extra set of clothing** (socks, underwear, pants and shirt) for your child to keep at school as well as a pair of indoor running shoes.

A classroom **newsletter and calendar** will be going home with your child each month to let you know what is happening in our classroom.

If you have any **questions or concerns** throughout the school year, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school at **667-5189**. I will be available Monday-Thursday between 8:00am and 3:30pm.

Sincerely,

Laurel McDowell

