



# Welcome to Kindergarten!

**Classroom Webpage:**

**<http://www.versnersview.weebly.com>**



It has finally arrived – the first day of Kindergarten! The first day of school is often filled with excitement and nervousness especially at this age for both the kindergartner and the parents. Believe it or not...I feel these same feelings as a teacher. I hope that this letter will help answer some questions you may have about this school year and help ease any nervousness.

I would like to take this time to introduce myself. My name is Ms. Zandra Verner. I started working as a kindergarten teacher for Montague in 1999. I graduated from Hope College with a degree in elementary education, and I received my Master's Degree in Reading from Western Michigan University. My husband and I live in Whitehall. We have one son who lives in Muskegon. I am originally from Pennsylvania from a little town north of Pittsburgh called Worthington. Most of my family still lives in and around the area I grew up.

## **Parent/Teacher Relationship**

I am excited about working with your child this year, and it is important to me that he/she has a successful year both academically and socially. I believe that a good parent-teacher relationship is necessary for this success. Therefore, I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at any time. You can call me at school (981.4670) or at home (894-8055), send me a note, or email me at [vernerz@mapsk12.org](mailto:vernerz@mapsk12.org).

## **Parent Participation**

A variety of special occasions occur during the school year that would not be as successful without parent volunteers either by helping in the classroom or sending in treats. When a child brings in a treat or has his/her parent help in the classroom, he/she feels special, and at the same time, it demonstrates to him/her that school is important to his/her parents. At the beginning, I do ask that you allow sufficient time to pass before coming to volunteer or visit. This allows the children to bond as a class. A few months into the school year the children will begin having stations. In the past, I have had parents who have been able to commit to volunteering on a regular basis to help out during this time. If you are interested and able to volunteer, please make sure to send me a note to let me know you are interested in volunteering.

## **School/Home Communication**

I have found that a two-pocket folder works well to ensure that notes/papers from home or school are not lost, and it also helps your child to become a responsible student, as it is your child's responsibility to take his/her folder out each day and check for any notes/papers. If for some reason the folder is lost, please be kind enough to replace it. Thank you.

## **School Attendance**

It is important that your child attends school regularly and promptly. When a child misses school or arrives late on a regular basis, it often affects his/her schoolwork and overall success. Many of the activities that take place are hands-on and group oriented; therefore, it makes it difficult for children to make up missed work. Please view school as a priority and see to it that your child attends every day except in cases of illness or emergency.

## Changes in Transportation

If a change in transportation is needed, please do not rely on your kindergartner to tell me. **A written note must be sent in with your child describing the change. If no written note is received, your child will be sent home by his/her usual method of transportation.**

## Money

Because it is very easy for a kindergartner to lose money, I ask that when it is necessary to send money to school that you use a sealed envelope with the following information written on it:

- Your child's first and last name
- The amount of money
- The purpose for the money (book money, breakfast, milk, etc)
- My name

The above information helps to make sure that the money makes it to the proper place. Please do not rely on your child to tell me why he/she is bringing money to school. At this age, it is very easy for them to forget or give the wrong information.

## Snack Time

Each day, your child will need to bring in **one** small, **healthy** snack. Please remember to send any items your child will need in order to eat his/her snack; for example, spoons, forks, etc. In order to maximize our time together for academic purposes, I try to limit snack time to 10 to 15 minutes, so please take this into consideration when sending a snack with your child.

## Special Schedule

Your child will go to a different special class each day. Our specials are from 2:30 to 3:20.

**Mon: Art      Tues: Music      Wed: Health      Thurs: Computers      Fri: P.E.**

## Food Allergies

It is not unusual for the class to prepare food items throughout the year. Please send me a note outlining your child's food allergies if he/she has any. **If I do not receive a note, I will assume that your son or daughter does not have any allergies.**

## Birthdays

Birthdays are an exciting time for this age. If your child wishes, he/she may bring treats for the class **on his/her birthday**. Please send a note a day or two in advance, so I can give you an exact number of children in the class and set aside some classtime for the party. Please do not send invitations to school with your child **unless the whole class is invited**.

## The End

I am looking forward to a great year working with you and your kindergartner. I want to thank you in advance for all your support in helping to make this a successful year!