

*Look beneath the freckles, look beneath the grin,
Look for that which sparkles, buried deep within.
Look beyond the whining, look beyond the tears,
Look beyond the runny nose, the frowns, the mess, the fears.
Search for that which glitters, treasures to unfold,
Search beneath the surface...search and find the gold!*

~Jean Warren~

Mrs. Hieb's Classroom Scoop

Dear Parents:

I am so excited for the opportunity to meet you and your child, and to be a part of their preschool development. I love the energy that is evident in a preschool classroom, not to mention the joy. This letter contains a few things that I hope will familiarize you to my classroom. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. We have the new website which hopefully will be an invaluable resource in communication...as long as I update it, and you check it. ☺ The goal of the school is for the website to

replace paper communication, but please let me know which method of communication you prefer. I would hate for your child to miss anything just because the website isn't a handy method for you. I have no problem with furnishing paper notes if that is what works for parents. The website has an email address for me, but honestly, texting has long been my preferred method of communication. Never worry about bothering me, or whether your concern is too trivial...if it bothers you or your child, please let me know. My cell phone number is 431-5366(JENN-easy to remember).

GUESS AND TELL

In lieu of show and tell, I do a Guess and Tell activity that correlates with the letter of the week. The letter of the week will be on the snack calendar. The way Guess and Tell works is this...help your child select an item that begins with the letter of the week. Next, put the item in a bag or box to "hide" it. Then, help your child develop three or four clues that he/she can present to the class that will let them guess what the item is. Write these clues on a card so I can whisper them in their ear when it is time to present, unless they remember all on their own. Sometimes, kids have brought items to hand out to the other kids, and some have used their snack day for Guess and Tell.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are a pretty big deal in the lives of children, so I will assign a snack day close to your child's birthday. That way some special treats can be brought in. Remember to invite the whole class if party invitations are

delivered at school, or at least all the boys, or all the girls.

PORTFOLIOS

This year, I am going to try assembling a yearlong portfolio of some of the children's work. I have not done this in years past, and historically speaking, children do not appreciate not being able to take home their work. If it seems like not much work is making it home, then I have probably been successful in sweet talking them out of the fruits of their labors.

POPSICLE SALES

If your child stays for lunch on Wednesdays, they will have the opportunity of buying a popsicle after lunch. These are \$.50. For your convenience, you can prepay and I will give your child a sticker on popsicle day to show their popsicle has been prepaid.

FIELD TRIPS

Please let me know if you work somewhere that would be interesting for the preschool class to see. I am especially interested in community helper type jobs such as firefighter, librarian, policeman, mailman, etc.

SUPPLIES

All of preschool's supplies are furnished by the school. However, every now and then we have "wish list" items, such as play dough, that you may furnish, but you are under no obligation to do so. Remember to keep track of the amount spent on your volunteer log.

Please have your child bring a backpack with them to school that is clearly labeled with their name, especially if they stay for after care. Also, it is very handy to include a change of clothes. Sometimes, adapting to preschool is a big step, and accidents happen. It minimizes embarrassment and discomfort if a change of clothes is handy.

PICK UPS

I prefer Fords...bah, ha, ha! I captioned that oddly. ☺ Seriously though, please keep the school advised of who will be picking up your child. Even when someone is on your pick up list, it is nice to have a heads up on who to be expecting for your child.

BOOK ORDERS

Periodically, I will send home a Scholastic book order. The Scholastic company provides bonus points for our classroom for each dollar spent. These are totally voluntary. Online ordering is also available using our class code. Please make checks out to Scholastic.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

I am currently operating under the fairy tale assumption that I won't even

need any this year. ☺Starting the second week of school, I will have a bumblebee chart in my room with three hives...red, yellow and green. Each child has a bumblebee with their name on it. Every bee starts on the green hive. If a child's bee gets placed in the yellow hive, they are removed from the class activity for a short, in class time out. Red hive results in a loss of recess, or "time on the wall". Further misbehavior will result in a parental contact to help remedy the situation. I will also contact you if your child is a chronic red hiver.

BOX TOPS/SOUP LABELS

Don't forget to collect your box tops and Campbell's UPC codes! There is an ongoing contest between classes for box tops. The class that begs, clips and scavenges the most receives an award. We also collect used printer ink cartridges.

TOYS

Please discourage your child from bringing toys to

class. Things get lost and broken and feelings are easily hurt. The exception would be Guess and Tell items, but even these are to be put away after the presentation is made. If your child has a comfort toy, that makes his/her day easier, let me know and we can work something out.

SNACKS

We have snacks every day, and this quickly becomes a favorite job, since the bringer of snacks is also the snack helper. It is also the favored time of the day for those being served. When it is your child's turn to bring snacks, please bring enough for ten children. As a reminder, I will be sending home a snack bag...a white bag with an H on it. If your child brings it home, that is your reminder that it is their snack turn for the next day. This is a new idea I had, so we will see how it works. I will leave it to you to decide on drinks, or just snacks. Please remember, no homemade treats. I also encourage you to utilize the letter of the week in your snack buying...such as apple slices for letter A. Keep

record of the amount spent
for snacks, and record it on
your volunteer sheet for the
year.