

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

2021

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to Bridge Valley! My name is Mrs. Celeste Wetzel and I will be your child's kindergarten teacher this year. My husband and I have lived in the Central Bucks District since 1986 and our three sons attended CB schools. We now have six "grands" between the ages of one and seven (two of whom are also new kindergartners this year)! This will be my 17th year teaching both AM & PM kindergarten classes. I attained National Board Certification as an Early Childhood Generalist in 2014.

This is a very exciting time for you and your child. Kindergarten is an *adventure* filled with new and enjoyable experiences, and I am excited to take this journey with you! New experiences can sometimes bring up questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to bring these to my attention. As you will see, the home and school connection is very important here at Bridge Valley. I value your partnership and open communication is a key to student success. Expect to receive email communications with the phrase "From your Kindergarten Teacher" in the TO section of each email; this allows your email address to remain confidential on group emails. We will work together to establish a happy, smooth transition for your child and foster their success in school.

In Kindergarten this year, we will learn to identify letters and their corresponding sounds, apply decoding skills, and develop emergent reading and comprehension skills. We will explore patterns, shapes, and numbers as we problem solve in math. Learners will write letters, words, and sentences and discover their potential to create and illustrate stories. We will also learn about science as we observe nature and learn about the human body. In social studies, we will learn about ourselves, where we live, caring for our environment, famous Americans, and patriotic symbols. Social and emotional learning will foster listening skills, identifying feelings, managing emotions, solving problems, and getting along with others. Most importantly, we will build a strong classroom community and learn life-long skills such as respecting others, showing kindness, and being positive leaders.

A 10-minute snack break has been planned each day to help your child give his/her best performance throughout the session. **Please send your child with a healthy snack and a water bottle each day.** Please practice with your child so that he/she will be able to handle opening the snack/drink independently.

Our Kindergarten Welcome/Orientation for students and parents will be held 9:00-11:30 AM on Thursday, August 26th and this event replaces our mid-September Back-to-School Night. We will have the opportunity to discuss classroom procedures, curriculum, and expectations. More details will follow.

If you prefer that your child use a nickname, please contact me as soon as possible so items are labeled correctly prior to our Welcome/Orientation on August 26th.

Please contact me at school or via email with any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to a *dynamic* year working with your child!

Warmly,

Mrs. Celeste Wetzel

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