

Dear Families,

We are so excited to welcome your child to Kindergarten at East Syracuse Elementary School. Your child will enjoy learning the foundational skills necessary for success in the subsequent years all while having fun with their peers in engaging, hands-on activities. Our room, Room 3, is the first room on the right in the Kindergarten wing. We look forward to meeting you and your child and having an amazing year. If you ever have any questions, comments or concerns, then please reach out to us so that we can help. Please always feel confident in reaching out to us as we are here to help. Your child's safety and learning are our top priority; of course their happiness is as well.



On the first day of school please send in the following items all labeled with your child's full name on each article:

- Full sized backpack (large enough for a 2 pocket folder to fit inside)
- Change of clothing (socks, 2 pairs of underwear, seasonally appropriate shirt and shorts/pants) placed in a gallon sized ziplock bag. Please label everything including the bag.
- Headphones for their Chromebook or iPad
- Beach towel for quiet time
- Sneakers (Children need to wear sneakers for gym class and we prefer that they wear them on the playground as well for safety reasons.) Please no flip flops or any shoe without a back such as a sandal or croc without a back strap. We will be traveling up and down stairs daily and we want them to be safe. Sandals or crocs with the strap in the back are fine, but then please send in sneakers on gym (PE) days. I will be sending home our schedule once our school year begins. We have PE every other day.

The following items are not mandatory, but if you'd like to donate them at some point in the school year we'd appreciate it. I will be donating to the classroom as well:

- Tissues
- Paper Towels
- Lysol or Clorox Wipes
- Baby Wipes

This year we will have many adults in our classroom. Your classroom teacher is me, Ms. Heather Brown. This is my 29th year as a teacher and I'm just as excited about teaching this year as I was my first year. I am extremely excited to share with you that I will be collaborating and co-teaching with Mrs. Bethany Valente who is one of our talented special education teachers. Mrs. Valente and I have worked together for many years in the past and so we are THRILLED to be teaching together again! We will also have three skilled and compassionate paraprofessionals working in our classroom: Mrs. Ali, Mrs. Wall and Mrs. Steinberger. I truly couldn't be more excited about working with these amazing educators, you and your wonderful children. I am also excited to welcome our new principal Mr. Sweeney! This is going to be an incredible year!

As you enjoy the last weeks of summer you may be wondering what you can do to prepare your child for kindergarten. Please just talk positively about entering kindergarten, help them write their first name and read to them each day as a way of instilling the love of reading within them. You can always practice counting objects in the home or as your run errands around town. Helping them to see that learning is fun and all around us! This will help for a smooth transition.

Again, I'm so excited to meet you and I look forward to working with your child (and you) starting in September.

Most Sincerely,
Ms. Heather Brown



