

# Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

August 24, 2012

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

We've made it through the first two days of kindergarten! Thank you for all your prayers on my behalf and for your words of encouragement. God has given us a good start and the children are adjusting well to being in school all day. The children are learning the routines/procedures of our school day, as well as the rules of our school and my classroom. They have had to do lots of listening yesterday and today. Next week we will really work hard on rules and procedures.

I'd like to enlist your help in a few areas. First, please stress to your son or daughter the importance of not talking when Mrs. Tropf is talking or teaching. One of my goals this year is to develop good listening skills in my students. These early days of school set the tone for the whole year, so now is the time to start developing self-control and attentiveness. This is also one aspect of good manners, so please stress the importance of obeying this classroom rule.

Secondly, please begin to foster independence by allowing your child to practice tying his shoes, buckling and unbuckling his belt, and tucking in his shirt, which is a dress code requirement. These skills come with practice and will get easier with time. Please help your child learn to tie his own shoes, which will give your son/daughter a sense of accomplishment and pride and save me lots of valuable time as well.

I want to thank each of you for attending our Kindergarten Open House on Tuesday and Wednesday. I hope you new families didn't feel overwhelmed by all the information. I appreciated your attendance and hope the information was helpful in answering some of your questions. If you still have questions about something, feel free to contact me and we can have a brief phone conference to address your concerns. **Please keep the printed materials I gave you so you can refer to them throughout the year. Our Kindergarten Handbook is an especially valuable resource for your benefit.**

Don't forget to send in a wallet size photo of your child for my Star of the Week feature. Your child needs an old shirt to use as an art smock and a pair of tennis shoes to keep at school just for use in gym class. Be sure the shoes have non-marking soles. Girls may want to wear uniform slacks on Mondays and Wednesdays, since they are gym days. If you dress your daughter in the uniform jumper on a gym day, please have her put on shorts at home and they can be worn underneath the jumper all day. This will eliminate the need the change and will save valuable time. On Thursday (our chapel day) the boys must wear uniform slacks and the oxford shirt. Girls must wear the uniform jumper with an oxford blouse or polo shirt.

The children are hungry by mid-morning, so try to give your child a nourishing breakfast to start the day off well. Also, remember to send a healthy snack every day for your child, even if he/she is buying hot lunch or pizza. No desserts or junk food, please! I am trying to encourage good eating habits and good nutrition at snack time. Next week please send your child's lunch and drink every day. After next week we will be adjusted to the lunchtime routine and your child may buy hot lunch if you so choose. With our hot lunch program your child will not be handling any money. You may purchase hot lunches for your child's account before school in the cafeteria or send money in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly marked and designate it as lunch money. Drink choices this year include water, Capri Sun, milk, and small Gatorade. Ice cream and candy may not be purchased and students are not allowed to use the microwave. Also, teachers are not permitted to microwave food for the students.

Remember that Monday evening is Meet Your Teacher Night and it begins at 7:00. Please make child care arrangements because children are not supposed to attend this event. It is an evening for teachers to share important information with parents. I will be discussing my discipline program, academics/curriculum, field trips and parties for the year, resource people, ways to earn volunteer hours, and I'll have sign-up sheets for classroom activities. I'll also be glad to answer any questions you may have about the kindergarten program at TCS. I'm asking each family to have at least one parent present on Monday night. Thanks!

Moms, please do not send your daughter to school wearing any scented body lotions, perfumes, or fragrances. Perfume triggers nasty migraine headaches for me. Thank you for your cooperation with this request. (This also applies to moms who come to help in the classroom.)

If you should ever have any questions or concerns about your child don't hesitate to call me at home at 419-531-3155 any evening before 9:00 P.M. and I will be glad to have a phone conference with you. I am also available for after-school conferences as needed. If you need to reach me at school during the day, just call the school and dial extension #102 to leave a voice mail message. Let's continue to pray that this year will be all that God intends it to be in the life of your precious child.

In the Master's service,  
Mrs. Carol Tropf

P.S. The administration is urging all parents to send the medical and dental health forms in as soon as possible. It is the form that shows your child's immunization record. It's crucial that the health unit has this form on file for your child. Please be sure the emergency medical form is also sent in if you have not already done so. **If your child is allergic to anything, especially foods, please notify me with a written note ASAP. It is very important for me to have this information soon.**

Thank you for your cooperation and help with these requests.

P.S. #2 Your child will be counted tardy if he arrives after **8:15.**

