

Letters & Notes To Parents



- ❖ Here are some letters and notes I send to parents at the beginning of the year.
- ❖ Sometimes it helps if you can see what other teachers are doing.
- ❖ Revamp them to fit your grade level.
- ❖ Hopefully they will give you some ideas, especially if you're a first-year teacher!

Take Home Folders

This is your child's Take Home Folder.

- ❖ They will be taking it home on their last day of school each week which is FRIDAY.
- ❖ Please return it on Monday/Wednesday.
- ❖ We will be using it all year.
- ❖ This folder is the “heartbeat” of communication between teacher/school and parent.
- ❖ Most of your child's papers and school notes will go in this special folder. However, it is important to check their backpack **EVERY** day for some daily work as well as the “whatever's” such as the SECRET SACK and SNACK SACK. Just having that special sack in their pack is a great reminder that it's your child's turn!
- ❖ Please read over the notes at your leisure during the weekend.
- ❖ Please take out your child's work and look it over with them. This is a great opportunity to ask them what new things they've learned, praise their progress, and hang up their work.
- ❖ Sharing what they have done reinforces lessons!
- ❖ Self-esteem is built when a child sees their “masterpieces” hanging on the fridge or wall.
- ❖ It is great fun for them to leave one of their “paper-accomplishments” as an “I love you note” placed in daddy's car, briefcase, or given to grandparents or other special people in their lives.
- ❖ I tape my favorites on the **inside** of my cupboard doors. Each time I open a cupboard I have a “happy” greeting me that makes me smile and simply feel good.
- ❖ Please put the folder back in your child's pack so that it is returned on their next day of school, as I stuff them through out the week.
- ❖ Good organizational skills now, really set the foundation for the future, and will make your child a better student.
- ❖ Parental communication and working together as a team are high priorities for me.
- ❖ Please feel free to communicate with me about anything, anytime.
- ❖ Just because your child doesn't have daily papers in their pack, does not mean that we didn't do “anything” in school.
- ❖ I encourage you to make it part of your daily routine to ask them what they did. “Nothing!” is definitely NOT the answer. 😊

There's Nothing In My Bag Today...
But I Did Lots of Something!

Today I did math and science & ate some bread.
I counted, measured, used my eyes, and ears and head.
I added and subtracted on the way.
I used a magnet, blocks, and memory tray.
I learned about a rainbow and how to weigh.
So please don't say, "What; Nothing in your bag today?"

You see... I'm learning as I play.
I learned to listen and speak clearly when I talk.
To wait my turn, and when inside to walk.
To put my thoughts into a phrase,
To guide a crayon through a maze.
To find my name and write it down,
To do it happily without a frown.
I practiced life skills and neatly put my supplies away.
So please don't say, "What; nothing in your bag today?"

"I learned how to hold a pencil in my hand
And how to be patient when in line I stand.
I've learned about a snail and worm,
I sat quietly then took my turn.
I helped a friend when he was stuck.
I learned that water runs off a duck.
I looked at words from left to right,
And agreed to differ, and not to fight.
So maybe there's nothing in my bag today,
But I've learned so much along the way.

OOPS

I forgot my Take Home Folder
This one's on loan.
Please return both on the next day of school.
Thanks!

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I forgot my Take Home Folder
This one's on loan.
Please return both on the next day of school.
Thanks!



The Secret Sack

“Shhhhh!

It’s time to Share the Secret Sack, the Secret Sack, the Secret Sack.

***It’s time for _____ to Share the Secret Sack,
so everybody Shhhhh!”***

- The **Show and Tell “Secret Sack”** made especially for sharing something special, will be going home this week. When it’s your child’s turn to bring **one** thing to school to share with their classmates they will have the Secret Sack in their backpack.
- The first time your child brings the sack home it’s “free choice.” The next time please have the item be **educational**, so children are not always sharing toys etc. Please don’t send things that are valuable (coin collections etc.), made of glass or very fragile. Simply place their item in the Secret Sack and tuck it in their backpacks. After your child has shared it with the class the item will be placed in their backpack and the next student will get to bring the Secret Sack home.
- When your child has picked out the thing they want to bring to school, it would be great if you could ask them about the item they put in the sack. This is especially important if it’s something educational your family got on a trip.
- Instead of your child just pulling their “special something” out of the bag, they **give clues** and have the children **guess** what’s in the sack! Children really enjoy this type of game, and it helps the “sharing child” feel more comfortable. Please help your child think of some clues.
- This type of sharing is a predecessor to public speaking and feeling less anxious about standing in front of their peers. The Secret Sack also helps children think about what they want to say, and remember to do so in a concise manner. All of this takes practice and *Show and Tell* is a fun “ice breaker” for those people-skills. According to a poll taken in the early 90’s the #1 fear adults listed as having, was that of speaking in front of a crowd!
- The Secret Sack also helps to teach the children patience, and gives them something to look forward to. They excitedly wait for their turn. ☺When your child brings their item back home, please be sure and ask them about their experience. This is a “big deal” in their young lives. You asking them about their day gives you an opportunity to praise and encourage. Your interest also shows your child that school and what they do is important to your family. Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Henderson ☺



What Did You Do In School?

Science: We continue our study of **DINOSAURS**

Vocabulary: *Extinct, Fossil*

To make learning science terminology fun, I often use it as our “magic word” when I incorporate a magic trick to explain or make a science concept more relevant and interesting for the children. For example, I put a dinosaur into the pan, we say the magic word “Fossil!” and out comes dinosaur fossils & bones. When I wanted the children to learn that all dinosaurs hatch from eggs, I put an egg in the bag, we said the word “Extinct!” and out popped a baby dinosaur. Our snack also reinforced that fact. The children enjoyed eating their Dino-Jell-O eggs with a gummi dinosaur inside. We drank “swamp juice” as well. ☺

Math: Introduction to **GRAPHS**. Because graphs are on the MEAPS test, I try to give the children lots of experience in graphing. One of our *Class Big Books* is a collection of our monthly-themed graphs. The children placed a head-shot of themselves on the column of their favorite dinosaur. The T-Rex was the winner in **A. Group**, The Brontosaurus in **B. Group**.

Introduction to **MEASURING**. It’s hard for children to fathom the concept of size so I help them understand how large the dinosaurs were by showing them a collection of *National Geographic & Museum* photographs of reconstructed dinosaurs. Where their little “light bulbs” really go on, is when we use a measuring tape and make a chalk line that is 80 feet long. Mrs. Stream stood at one end of the school (The Diplodocus’ tail) and the children and I stood at the “head”. They were amazed! We guess-timated how many school busses could fit on that line. We then extended our chalk line to 134 feet (The size of the largest dinosaur, a **Supersaurus**) and **COMPARED** which was bigger. Then we did the height of a T-rex and showed sketches of how they were **TALLER** than buildings!

Vocabulary: *Length, Height, Measuring Tape, Compare & Contrast, Guess-timation*

The children then enjoyed drawing pictures on the sidewalk with chalk.

COUNTING: Forwards 0-10 in English and Spanish, Backwards 10-0 (I call this “Blast off.”) **TIP:** Give your child jobs to accomplish in a count of 10. Have them count with you. Have them “Blast off” into their beds when it’s time to sleep. Vary the speed for even more giggles & fun.

Reading: Name recognition. Whose Name Is On The Bone? Discussion of starting at the **LEFT** and having our eyes go to the **RIGHT** when we read.

Writing: Learning the proper way to hold a writing utensil. (**TIP:**) Hold the **TIP** of the pencil between your thumb and index finger, use your left index finger to push the bottom of the pencil into the upright position, bring the middle finger under the tip to

“rest” and “support” the pencil. Learning how to write our name. Starting at the TOP and going DOWN.

Vocabulary: *Initial, Left, Right, Captain Capital, Upper case, Lower case*
TRACING things with our yellow highlighters to get the “feel” of writing.

Fine Motor:

Art:

Watercolor-Dino washes! We became Pre-K Paleontologists. I traced a dinosaur with white crayon on their white paper. (This was not visible to the children.) They brushed watercolors over their cards and their dinosaur “fossil” appeared! (Very exciting!)

Spatial Placement activities. You will see a lot of construction paper **DIE-CUTS** on your children’s papers. This is a fun way that I teach the concept of spatial placement.

Vocabulary: *ABOVE/OVER/TOP --- BELOW/UNDER/BOTTOM ---*

BESIDE/NEXT TO --- ON/IN (TIP:) When giving your child directions, use these terms. You can also play “I Spy!” using this terminology. I also use a lot of **STICKERS** for this reason. Peeling and sticking is a great “pincher” exercise to help strengthen their finger muscles.

Puzzles: We explored the school for dinosaur fossils (puzzle pieces) and assembled them back in the classroom. Each child then put 1-2 puzzles together during “Tummy Time” (This strengthens upper-body muscles.)

Gross Motor: Songs, Music & Movement:

The *Dino-Stomp* (to the tune of the *Hokey Pokey*), The *Dinosaurs Go...* (to the tune of *Wheels on the Bus.*) *Welcome To School Today, Days Of The Week* (To the tune of *The Adams Family.*) In May we will have a **Picnic In The Park Pageant** where the children will sing & sign one of their favorite songs from each month.

Main Theme: Introduction of “I know I CAN!” (*Little Engine That Could*)

What’s New? Library started this week. Please make sure your child returns their book so they can check out another one.

Book Orders:

Thanks much for your orders! Books will be here in 10-12 days. ☺

Reminders:

PLEASE remember to put your child’s **nametag** on for the next 2 weeks. Thanks!

School Pictures Tuesday & Wednesday.

Classroom Chuckles & Heartwarmers:

As I was explaining the Jell-O eggs a little voice replied: ***“I don’t know if I can eat a dinosaur.”***

I hope you have a relaxing weekend.

COUNTING!

How can I help my child?

- ❖ Here are some fun things for you to do with your child as a way of helping them learn to count.
 - ❖ Why not post this on the fridge and each time you do an activity you can punch a hole in the paper or have your child paste a sticker on it.
 - ❖ Doing one a day, or once a week, keeps this activity fresh and fun.
 - ❖ When your child has the paper complete, please sign & date it.
 - ❖ (There's no hurry.)
 - ❖ When they bring it in they may go to the Treasure Box!
 - ❖ I'd like the children to learn to count as high as they can.
 - ❖ We'll be assessing counting to 10 and going way past that (especially to 20) when the class is ready.
 - ❖ Counting backwards from 10 to 0 is also a report card standard.
 - ❖ To help your child easily learn this, give them to a count of 10 to do something like get ready for bed, pick up their toys etc.
 - ❖ Have them count backwards with you while they do this task.
 - ❖ In school we will be "Blasting Off" everyday.
 - ❖ The children love squatting down and counting backwards to zero.
 - ❖ We then shout "Blast Off" and everyone "rockets" into the air.
 - ❖ You can do this at home as a way of getting into bed. Enjoy!
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- How many steps do you take from the bathroom to your bed?
 - How many doors are in your house?
 - How many times do you chew your food before you swallow it?
 - How many steps does it take for you to walk around your house?
 - How many steps are there going down to the basement?
 - How many windows are in your house?
 - How many teeth do you have on the top of your mouth?
 - How many teeth do you have on the bottom of your mouth?
 - How many days are left in this month?
 - How many days do you have school this month?
 - Count how many cars pass your house in 5 minutes.
 - How many clocks are in your house?
 - How many buttons are on the clothes you are wearing today?
 - Count the dishes and silverware that you lay out when you help set the table.
 - Count how many times you can jump on 1 foot without falling.

Dear Families,

- Snacks are an important part of our daily routine. Children look forward to this time as a way to relax and socialize with their new friends. In addition, it gives me an opportunity to work with the class on important socialization skills such as manners, sharing, courtesy, cleanliness/hand washing etc.
- I provide snack for the first week of school, and then the Snack Sack starts going home. If your child's name appears on the calendar they are responsible for bringing a snack and beverage for their classmates on that day. Because my students attend every other day, some months your child will NOT be providing a snack.
- Parents in the past have commented positively, and enjoyed handling snack in this way. It's far less expensive for you than providing a snack for your child every day; it's 1 less thing for you to remember each day; they are all eating the same thing, children aren't upset and crying if they forgot one, there's no garbage, sticky mess or food rotting in your child's backpack, and everyone gets a wonderful variety of extra-special snacks!
- Food for snack should contribute to the nutritional needs of a growing child. The following are some suggestions of foods that would be appropriate for snack time: *apple sections, grapes, pretzels, vanilla wafers, granola bars, small containers of applesauce, Jell-O, pudding, Rice Krispie treats, cheese crackers, chunks of cheese, celery, carrots, animal crackers, oatmeal cookies, raisins, graham crackers, gold fish crackers, Teddy Grahams, Go-gurt, string cheese, etc. Beverage can be any kind of juice, punch, milk or even little bottles of water.*
- **Because of allergies, please do NOT send snacks containing peanut butter or nuts.**
- If your child has any allergies, dental plates or special needs, please let me know.
- Because of the mess and high sugar content, please do NOT send cupcakes.
Thanks.
- If you can DONATE a pack of small cups or **napkins** that would be great!
- A **Classroom Calendar** will be going home every month. I have also indicated important special days and due dates, as well as whom will be providing snack for that day on this calendar. Please refer to it throughout the month. Putting it on your fridge is a great idea. It could double as a behavioral star-chart as well.
- An "immediate" reminder that your child needs to bring snack for the next day will be that they'll have the Snack Sack in their backpack, so please make it a point to check their packs daily.
- If your child is absent the day they are supposed to bring snack, I will provide the snack. If you'd like, you can send one on their next school day. Getting their special turn to take the Snack Sack home, and providing snack for their friends is a "big deal" for little ones. They get to be Snack Helper and we sing a "Thank You" song to them that makes a child feel special and appreciated. Thanks much for your cooperation. ☺

▪ There are _____ Children in our class.

Dear Families of our Young Fives,

- ❖ I truly believe that displaying your child's work at home build's a wonderful sense of self-esteem and positive pride.
- ❖ We will be doing a large variety of artwork; many parents in the past have commented on the love and enjoyment of these keepsake "mess-terpieces." I hope you will enjoy them too.
- ❖ As working parents our lives have moved from busy to chaotic so allow your child the fun responsibility of choosing their "favorites" and then hanging them up somewhere special.
- ❖ Children love to create "surprises" for you. So turn their school work into "Paper Love".
- ❖ Send some to grandparents and other family members.
- ❖ Have them tuck them & leave them, as "love notes" in different places like daddy's briefcase, in the glove box, etc.
- ❖ Children are all smiles and filled with giggles when they tell me where they left their "paper love." One of my favorite compliments was from a mom who popped in to comment on our hallway and said as she left: *"Thanks for teaching Tyler how to love. He's in 4th grade now, and he still leaves me notes on my pillow."*

**Brainstorm with them,
and make a special place for your child's artwork:**

- Buy a 5-subject notebook or plain-paper scrapbook and give them the responsibility of gluing their favorites inside.
- There's only so much space on the refrigerator, so have your child pick one favorite that they change when a new one comes along.
- Hang cork strip on a hallway wall, on a wall going to the basement or attic, how 'bout a wall in the garage, tack up favorites in these out-of-the-way places. This could be their very own "art museum" that they could give tours of when company comes.
- A bulletin board in the kitchen or bedroom is a great idea.
- Get a large-old glassless picture frame and hang it on the wall. Each week your child can hang up something different.
- Avoid fading and clutter. Tape your favorites to the inside of your cupboard and closet doors for a "happy-rush" each time you open them.

- Make a large paper tree. Tape art as “leaves” to the tree. This is great for the seasons too! Take a monthly picture before you take it down.
- Buy one or several pieces of foam tag board, leave it plain, or cover with burlap, wrapping paper, foil, or material. Tack favorites here.
- Nail up a large piece of sheet metal. Hang up art work with fun magnets.
- Take a picture of them holding larger artwork. Post the pix on the fridge, send to grama, or reinforce technology skills and help them e-mail to family and friends.
- Save a large cardboard box. Have your child tack artwork inside and out. Write _____’s personal Art Museum on the front of the box.
- Clip art on a clothesline hung somewhere.
- Punch a hole in it and hang from the ceiling with fish line. You can tie tiny clothespins to the line to quick clip artwork too.
- Using short straight pins, tack to a dropped ceiling panel and decorate your ceiling!
- Put cork squares on a door or wall.
- At the end of the year why not post artwork on a fence or have a sidewalk art gallery and invite the family over for a cookout and oohh-ahhhh viewing.

Wherever and whatever you decide to do with your Young Five’s creations at school, will go a long way in making them feel special. *“Show me what you did in school today.”* Or *“Teach me something you learned in school today.”* is a great way to find out about their day, reinforce lessons, and send them a message that what they do is important to you.

Enjoy!
Sincerely,

Mrs. Henderson ☺

Welcome to the wonderful world of **Young Fives** where a child receives the gift of time to “grow into” Kindergarten.

Sometimes parents think that their child is READY for kindergarten because they can sing the ABC song, count to 10, know their colors, and can play games on the computer. Just because a child is verbal and learns quickly, does not mean they are mature enough to cope with the regimen of kindergarten.

Where to place your child depends on the **TOTAL** development of your little one, being careful not to confuse intelligence with readiness. Placement in the Y5 program allows children who are developmentally “younger” in one or more areas to have an extra year of “grace” to grow and mature. Some of the factors you should consider are:

- Attention span
- Separation anxiety
- Level of fatigue
- Willingness to try new things
- Ability to work in large and small group situations as well as independently
- Large body movements/coordination, balance
- Small motor control (Button, snap, zip, tie, hold a scissors, pencil/crayon)
- Hand-Eye coordination (Tossing and catching balls, bean bags etc.)
- Language & Speech development: (Talks in complete sentences.)
- Recall (Ability to remember things seen and heard.)
- Frustration level/Coping skills
- Appropriate emotional responses
- Social Skills: Following rules, getting along with others, sharing, manners etc.

On a personal level...

Both my sons were in what was then called Developmental Kindergarten. I cannot stress enough that this is not a “negative” thing. Children who qualify for the young fives program are not considered to be “behind” therefore, it is neither expected nor necessarily desirable for a particular child to “catch up”. Again this is not just intelligence, but readiness. Both my sons were later in “Gifted & Talented” programs, but were just not mature enough to start kindergarten right away. My eldest son was later diagnosed with ADHD. I truly believe that school was more successful for him because he developed a great attitude about school in Y5’s as well as great coping & social development skills.

Young Fives is the “basement”-- the foundation of your child’s educational castle. Y5’s endeavors to promote a “Can Do!” attitude that builds self-esteem and self-confidence. It’s a home-away-from home that the children look forward to coming to. Y5’s provides a myriad of hands-on activities with a wide thematic range of curriculum without frustration. We have shorter more direct instructional sessions, more physical movement, limited and highly structured fine motor tasks, with lots of encouragement, praise and positive reinforcement.

After a year in young fives, your child will look forward to going to kindergarten, and be highly successful from day one! They will have a stronger language base, and improved fine-motor skills. They are able to focus on instruction, inhibit behavior with increased self-control, and be able to interact positively with peers and adults.

I feel that every child should **ENJOY** school. I feel that learning and education should be synonymous with **FUN** not frustration. The bottom line of Y5’s is that we have a great time learning about ourselves, others, and the world around us. ☺

A note about the Snack Calendar

- I will be providing snack for the 1st week of school. ☺
- If your child's name is written on the calendar they need to provide a beverage and snack for _____ children. Please include cups, spoons and napkins if they are needed.
- Because of allergies, remember no peanuts or peanut butter.
- To make them feel extra special, I will try to coincide children's birthdays with the Snack Sack.

September Birthdays:

Happy Birthday to:

- If your child does not have school on the day of their birthday, we will celebrate it at school with them as close to that day as possible.
- The birthday child gets to be the "Special Person" of the day who gets to be line leader, snack helper and teacher's helper all day. We sing *Happy Birthday* to them in English, Spanish and Sign Language. They get to choose a birthday gift book and receive a card and birthday badge to wear.
- If you'd like, children may bring a birthday treat like stickers, pencils, etc. for their classmates. If you opt for candy, know that it will be put in their classmates' backpacks to be eaten at home. This extra "treat" is entirely up to you and certainly not necessary.
- Because of the mess, and the fact that children really don't eat the cupcake, just lick the frosting, please remember **no cupcakes.**
- Because of latex allergies, no balloons are allowed in school.
- **We celebrate summer birthdays in MAY as an "Un-Birthday".**
- As always, if you have any questions, please give me a call.

September 2009
Hi Y5 Families,

Our Young Fives have really been enjoying story time. Attached you will find several book order forms. *Scholastic Book Clubs* have terrific prices and great books. Even discount stores don't offer these exceptional buys.

Please take a moment to look through the various book order forms. You obviously don't have to buy anything, but I find books make a super gift for a child as a sweet "I love you" surprise on their pillow.

This program is also a wonderful incentive for good behavior. I had a Star-Chart Calendar on the fridge. Each of my children earned stars for doing specific chores etc. So many star-behavior moments, equaled a book that they could choose. They really looked forward to this activity each month and became "hooked on reading!"

Instead of having to nag them to get ready for bed, bedtime was looked forward to by making it a fun quality time, where we'd snuggle up and read stories. Studies have shown that children, who are read to, are all around better students with a love of reading that makes them life-long readers!

A startling statistic that I came upon was a study done in the late 80's. After interviewing all of the in-mates on "Death Row" they discovered that one of the things they all had in common was that NONE of them had ever been read to as a child! Certainly food for thought...

An added plus, is that our classroom gets bonus points for each book ordered. When I've accumulated enough points, I'm able to get free books for our classroom! Many of these books I give to the children as prizes. I also give children a book for their birthday.☺

If you do decide to order, please...

- Fill out the form(s).
- Cut them out.
- Send the exact amount in cash, or write out only **ONE** check, even if you order from all of the flyers.
- Please make the check out to **me** so that I can write one check to the company.
- Put the order slip(s) and money/check in an envelope marked: Book Order, with your child's name on it. Please pin the envelope to them.

This book order is due :

Thanks much.
Sincerely,



Hi!

One of the things I will be doing throughout the year is
“TELLING TATTOOS”

Besides sending a note home letting you know what we are doing, and that your child needs to bring “such & such” to school by a specified date, I will also be putting a little *peel and stick label* on their shirt, to help remind you that on your child’s next day of school, we need that item or task done!

In the past, parents and children have appreciated and enjoyed the “tattoos”. As a busy mom myself, I too need reminders, so I thought this was a fun way to remember;

I hope you like it too!

To simplify things, the tattoo will be brief--like picture, permission slip etc. The previous note home will explain, the tattoo tells what I need your child to bring/do for the next day! Thanks!

Sincerely,
Diane Henderson ☺

Some teacher-tricks for tricky concepts...

- ❖ By teaching the letters Bb & Dd together, I introduce the concept of similarities & differences (compare & contrast) with the children.
- ❖ b & d are often confused as are the numbers 6 & 9.
- ❖ I think up little tricks to help them remember and differentiate.
- ❖ I tell the children *"The circle sits on the six."* Then I ask the children: *"Is the circle on the line? No! It must be a nine!"*
- ❖ When playing number games with your child and doing math activities, please remember to use these tricks to jog their memory.
- ❖ We write the letter d and make it into a dinosaur. The circle-portion of the letter is the dinosaur's tummy. Big ol' dinosaurs are always hungry; their tummies are always the **first** things that you see (as you read from left to right). If you don't see the tummy first, it's NOT a d for dinosaur. I make a capital B for the children. This is a **Big B**. Little b's can grow into a BIG b by adding another **Bubble**. If it doesn't look like a Big B when you add the Bubble then it wasn't a **b**aby b to **b**egin with! Daddy D tells his son to look at him, if the d is not looking at him it's not a little d, it's that sneaky b. 😊

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My Check List of stuff to do for the start of school:

- **Die cut the year (3 days at KISD)**
- **File Die Cuts**
- **Tweak Die Cut Check List**
- **Make mini rub-on Crayon cakes**
- **Tweak and run off business cards**
- **Buy Folders (Blue Keepsake, Yellow & Green Take Home)**
- **Make Labels and put them on folders**
- **Make labels and put them on the Treasure Boxes**
- **Stuff Treasure Boxes**
- **Buy Notebooks**
- **Make labels and put them on the notebooks**
- **Run off Notebook Note**
- **and include it with stickers and chart inside the notebooks.**
- **Make “Apple” Play-doh and fill the red plastic apples**
- **Run off September Letters**
- Friday Folders**
- Snack Sack**
- Calendar**
- Secret Sack**
- **“Telling Tattoo” Letter**
- Book Order Explanation note +**
 - **Separate and paperclip flyers**
 - Honey Bee**
 - Troll**
 - See Saw**
 - Trumpet**
 - Firefly**
 - Etc.**
- **Run Off New Student Letter-Packet**
- Tweak Open House Invite**
- Run off letters and Open House invitations**
- Tweak Summer Letter to new students**
- Make “Smartie” labels and stick to sweet-tarts on bookmark**
- Make labels for the Summer Letter**
- Frog Countdown note.**
- Postcard Welcome**
- Stuff Summer Letters**
- **Run off & Stuff Open House Packets:**
- First Day Of School Poem**

- **Fill in & run off the September calendar attach to Snack Sack Letter.**
- **Hang up Dino-mite B. Board**
- **Hang up Dino’s from ceiling**

- Hang up B. Brd next to door
- Hang up Apple B. Board
- Hang up Crayon Door
- Type up class list
- Include in Handbook
- Make master for assessment checks
- Fill in crayon box
- Tally initials for necklaces

Make Nametags:

- Nametags on lockers
- Nametags for Library books
- Nametags for Class/Kids
- Nametags for Class/Whose TURN is it?
- Make Button Names
- Names on Chicka Boom Monkeys
- Children's Bus Nametag
- Put wall sticker on them.

Names On:

- Folders
 - Tags
 - Files
 - Bones
 - Notebooks
 - Clothespins
 - Apples
 - White index cards with white crayon
 - Birthday poster
 - B. Brd & Hallway stuff
-
- Laminate new stuff + Lunch Money Envelopes
 - Tweak & run off Sub Folder
 - Tweak & laminate daily syllabus
 - Tweak and run off handbooks
 - Big One Classroom Handbook
 - What we do in Y5's
 - Y 5 Mapping
 - 1st Day booklet

Do Keepsake Books:

- Cut out and staple Pattern Book
- Run Off ABC Pinch & Poke
- Run Off Peel & Stick Shape Book
- Run Off Name Book
- Run Off Rip & Tear Number Book

- **Keepsake Folders**
- **Dust and Windex room (Windows & White Board)**
- **Turn on & tune up computer**
- **Flip numbers on 100 chart**
- **Hang up September Calendar Board stuff**
- **Birthday Treat Bags**
- **Birthday Cards**
- **Birthday Books**
- **Make sure you have enough crowns**
- **Wickie Stick Pattern Pens**
- **Hang up and make paper chain for Month**
- **Get snacks together for first week**
- **Make Jell-O Eggs with Gummie Dinos**
- **Wash Snack Sacks**
- **Wash Paint Shirts**
- **Straighten Cupboards**
- **Straighten Closet**
- **Straighten Tubbies**
- **Set out outfits for first week**
- **Buy, Bring and freeze popsicles**
- **Run Off, Laminate, Cut out and paperclip ABC Leonard the Letter Bar**
- **Check to make sure Keepsake Calendar is in order.**
- **Trace dinosaurs with white crayon on white paper.**
- **Cut lengths of plastic lacing & tie on a bead for dino-bone necklaces.**
- **Cut out handprint paper.**
- **Crayon pad- self-portrait paper.**
- **Make sure you have batteries and floppies for cameras.**
- **Charge Sony**
- **Dye macaroni**
- **Make Dino Initials for dino-bone necklaces**
- Laminate, cut out and hole punch**
- **Bring in and set up**
- **Dino Tubbies**
- **Whose Name Is On The Bone Stuff w/ Blues Clues stuff**
- **Train stuff**
- **Apple stuff**
- **Run off 1st week stuff**
- **Decorate Hallway**
- Banners**
- Lockers**
- B. Brds**
- **Make "To Do" Helper Box things**
- Large black trains**
- 4x6 construction paper**
- wallpaper books**

- laminated to cut out
- initial letters to cut out, sort and envelope
 - Go shopping or place orders
 - Hand in receipt(s) for reimbursement
 - Get ready for Open House
- Outfit to wear
- Chicka Boom Palm Tree B. Board and Trees up
- Set up tables
- Puppet Theatre
- Treasure Boxes
- Pineapple Bowling
- Student Packet Envelopes
- Signage
- baskets for helper sheets
- x-tra treasure hunt check list
- Crawl Through Tunnel
- Welcome sign
- Table signs
- Basket of mints

Relax with a spa day!

I hope your list is not as long as mine!

