



May 2009

Dear Parents:

We would like to welcome you and your child to kindergarten at Chaparral Elementary School. We are very excited about the upcoming school year. Kindergarten is a unique time in your child's life and it is our privilege to share the experience with you and your child.

Many parents ask what they can do over the summer to insure an easy transition to kindergarten. Below we have highlighted some activities that will be helpful:

- ❖ Read with your child daily (ABC books and Mother Goose rhymes are a great start)
- ❖ Give your child experiences that involve using crayons, glue, scissors, and pencils
- ❖ Please correct grip when using pencils and scissors.
- ❖ Play with ABC and number puzzles and games
- ❖ Help your child recognize and write his/her first name using a capital and lower case letters.
Example: Jonathan
- ❖ Provide your child with opportunities for independence such as dress himself/herself; jackets and sweaters on and off, tying shoes, opening snacks/straws, cleaning up eating/work areas.
- ❖ Students must be able to use the bathroom by themselves for all 'potty' needs.

We request backpacks that a folder can fit in. Snacks can be brought in a separate container. Please **label backpacks, lunch boxes, and jackets!**

We appreciate your cooperation and we look forward to seeing you and your child on the first day of school.

Sincerely,



The Kindergarten Team
Chaparral Elementary School



IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS AND PARENTS

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION:

Miss Zwibel and the Kindergarten team, will provide an orientation for Kindergarten parents on Monday, June 1st, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Chaparral Multi Purpose Room.

KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT:

Kindergarten students who are entering our PEPP Kindergarten program, or have birthdays between June and December will be assessed. Appointments will be scheduled in the office, when you turn in your completed registration packet. All other Kindergarten students will be assessed by their classroom teacher during the first 14 days of school.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:

***This is the day you and your child will meet your teacher for the first time.**

Tuesday, August 18th, is the first day of school! Kindergarten students (not PEPP) will begin school this year with a 14 day transition period. This means that the first 14 days of school will be short days to help your child transition to all day Kindergarten. Dismissal for the **first 14 days** will be **12:45 p.m.**

Our existing Kindergarten schedule is as follows:

The A.M. **PEPP Kindergarten** time is currently 8:45-12:10

Full day Kindergarten (after the first 14 days) will be 8:45-3:00

*Parents will be notified if this schedule changes.

The first day of school is an important time of bonding between student, teacher, and classmates. Parents, please plan to leave as school begins.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:

Our next important meeting will be ***Back to School Night*** at the beginning of the school year. At that time we will discuss our kindergarten day, our curriculum and many other important "need to know" items that will help you and your child to have a successful kindergarten year.