



Bloomfield Elementary

Where Kids Come First!



Kindergarten Information Packet

Elementary Staff Contact Information

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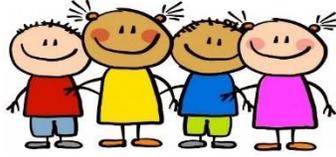
Kim Hill, Elementary Counselor - khill@bsd.k12.in.us 812-384-9518

Susan Street, At-Risk Advisor - [sstreet@bsd.k12.in.us](mailto:ssstreet@bsd.k12.in.us) 812-384-9124

Elementary School Office Information

- First student day of school is Tuesday, August 10th
- Meet the Teacher Night for Bloomfield Schools is Monday, August 9th
- Child enrolling must be 5 years old by August 1st
- Transfer students may register on registration day, but must wait until August to see if there is availability. No tuition cost for transfer
- School begins at 8:10 and is dismissed at 2:55. Doors open at 8:00.
- When parents enter the building, you must enter at the elementary office. You must sign in and get a visitor's pass to wear during your stay in the building. We ask you to turn in the pass and sign out when you leave.
- Anyone needing to go past the office (classrooms, cafeteria, special programs, parties, field trips etc.) must have passed a background check completed by the school to be in student areas of the building. Background checks are free and good for two years. (See elementary secretary for form.)
- Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their child(ren) on Fridays and on their birthday.
- We must have a copy of your child's Birth Certificate, Immunization Record and Social Security Number on file.
- Please keep address, phone numbers, work numbers, and emergency numbers current.
- Parental Custody and Guardianship Issues: We must have all copies of court orders concerning custody/guardianship on file. We must go by court orders.
- Please call the elementary office before 10 am if your child is going to be absent.
- Please check your child's backpack daily. Important information goes home often. Review your child's work and look for homework.
- It is the parent's responsibility to contact the bus driver that your child is starting school and will need to stop for your child. Give the driver specific information about where you live. Call the elementary office for route number, driver's name and phone number.
- Your child will receive a transportation form and name tag to wear on the first day of school. The transportation form is very important for the first day of school. This will be received no later than Meet the Teacher Night.
- **Dismissal:** Students being picked up by parents or sitter will be waiting by the superintendent's door and will be supervised until picked up. Students riding the bus will be taken out to the bus parking lot and put on the bus. The bus parking lot is supervised.

Helpful Skills to Begin Kindergarten



Should be able:

- **Toilet Trained -Mandatory – No Pull-ups**
- **Manage bathroom needs independently**
- Able to say first and last name when asked
- Able to put on coat –zipping would be great (but not mandatory)
- Able to button and zip pants (knowing sometimes will need help with a hard button)
- Print first name (starting at the top when writing a letter -Capital first letter rest lowercase)
- Names letters in first name out of order
- Can hang up belongings
- Can care for materials

The more of these your child can do will make your child more successful in the beginning:

- Speak in full sentences when having a conversation
- Identifies the four basic shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle
- Identifies most of the ten basic colors: red, yellow, blue, green, orange, pink, purple, black, brown, white
- Cuts with scissors –not perfection, just can manipulate
- Recognizes some letters
- Recognizes some numbers 1-10
- Say or sing ABC's
- Can keep hands to self
- Able to listen to a story without interrupting

These would be awesome:

- Pay attention to adult-directed tasks for a short period of time
- Understands decisions/actions have consequences (both good and bad)
- Beginning to control own actions
- Shares with others
- Follows rules
- Respects authority

Kindergarten Academics



Language Arts

Our Language Arts program incorporates listening, speaking, reading and writing. We focus on the following skills: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and writing.

- Identify upper and lowercase letters and sounds, rhyming words, sight words
- Follow written words left to right, top to bottom, and page by page and understanding words in print are separated by a space
- Guided Reading and Small Group instruction: Teachers/paraprofessionals work with small group of students on similar levels and strategies. Our goal is to help students to learn to use reading strategies independently and successfully.
- In writing, students learn to capitalize the first letter of a sentence, pronoun I and name. We can identify/name and use ending punctuation and spell words phonetically.
- Whole group lessons focus on building reading skills and strategies. Lessons revolve around themes from our big books and read-aloud books and/or a focus letter of the week. We also focus on comprehension and building stronger vocabularies.

Mathematics

In Kindergarten, our math program is designed to develop number sense and math skills through participation and involvement in hands-on activities and mathematical conversation.

- **Counting and Cardinality:** Know number names and counting sequences, count to tell the number of objects, and compare groups of objects
- **Operations and Algebraic Thinking:** Understand addition as joining or adding to and understand subtraction is taking apart or taking away.
- **Number and Operations in Base Ten:** Explore and understand numbers 11-19 as “10 and some more” to gain foundations for place value.
- **Measurement and Data:** Describe and compare measurable attributes (length, weight, capacity) classify and count the number of objects in categories.
- **Geometry:** Identify and describe 2-and 3- dimensional shapes, analyze, compare and create shapes.

Social Studies and Science

Science and Social Studies are integrated into our program with whole group and small group hands-on activities. We use Scholastic News (little newspapers) to introduce us to many concepts. Science and social studies are also brought into our program through reading and writing.

Kindergarten Special Activities



Music

Music in Kindergarten is all about experiencing a wide variety of music in a wide variety of ways. Students sing, listen, play, move, dance, and create as they are learning musical and social skills. Some topics covered include:

- steady beat vs. rhythm
- our four voices: sing, speak, whisper and yell
- dynamics - loud vs. soft
- tempo - fast vs. slow
- instruments and their families!

Art

The kindergartners attend art once a week for 45 minutes. Throughout the year we rotate through the basic elements of art - texture, line, pattern, shape, and of course color. We also work on basic scissor use and cutting around simple objects. We work on staying in the lines when we color. We also learn the importance of taking care of our supplies, working independently, and always doing our best. Kindergartners love coming to art!

Reading Zone (Library)

We're passionate about books in the Reading Zone! First semester, kindergartners learn the parts of a book, book care, and why books are important. They're introduced to classic characters like Clifford, Arthur, Franklin, as well as classic authors like Dr. Seuss. Students are exposed to every genre, including non-fiction, where students learn how several of their favorite things are made. Sometimes the books are paired with educational videos and/or games. We also do scavenger hunts and library-related crafts at times.

P.E.

P.E in Kindergarten is all about getting lots of physical exercise in a variety of fun ways. We start the class by doing sets of different exercises and stretches. After we are all warmed up and have stretched, we play a big group game. We work on developing hopping, skipping, running, throwing, catching and kicking skills. We enjoy jumping rope, scooters, hula hoops, various ballgames, and a big parachute game.

Kindergarten Support Services

Literacy Link

All kindergarten students attend Literacy Link with a licensed, certified reading specialist and paraprofessional for small group instruction which includes:

- Phonemic Awareness
- Letters and Sounds
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Reading Strategies
- Writing Strategies
- Sight Words
- Decoding Skills

Literacy Link also provides additional time for reinforcement and remediation for those students who need extra, intensive instruction.

Speech and Language

Speech and Language Therapy is available for qualified students who need help with communication skills. These skills may include articulation therapy for accurate production of speech sounds; and language therapy to enhance necessary skills in the areas of vocabulary, grammar, and comprehension. Krysten Moffitt, MS CCC-SLP, is the speech/language therapist here at Bloomfield. Speech sessions may focus on:

- Articulation (sound production)
- Language skills (word order, word endings, pronouns)
- Vocabulary
- Fluency
- Phonemic Awareness

Bloomfield Elementary School

Counseling Corner

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Bloomfield Elementary School! We are so happy to have you as part of our Cardinal family! We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the services we provide in our Counseling Department.

Our Counseling Department houses three staff members:

- Kim Hill, Elementary Counselor
- Susan Street, At-Risk Advisor
- Craig Barnhart, School Psychologist

Our counseling staff is passionate about talking to, connecting with, and helping our young Cardinal students. Our office is a warm, inviting, and friendly place where they are always welcome, and a place they can get help if they are confused or worried.

Students face various challenges- academics, school and social life, family, and personal circumstances. Our primary responsibility is to promote the students' well-being, ensure they are taken care of, safe and feeling good about themselves.

Services Provided:

- **Classroom Guidance Lessons-** We promote our Character Education program here in the Elementary. Our staff will visit classrooms to teach lessons to students about a variety of different character traits.
- **Individual Counseling-** Short term one-on-one counseling is available to all students in grades K-6. Students may self-refer or be referred by a staff member or parent. Confidentiality is respected.
- **Group Counseling Sessions-** Group sessions are provided for small groups of students who face similar concerns. These may include making and keeping friends, anger management, coping with divorce or loss, study skills and self-esteem. These groups generally range from 3-5 students and last for 6-8 sessions. The students for these groups can be recommended by parents/guardians or by staff members.
- **Consultations-** We are also available to have meetings with teachers, administrators, and parents to discuss the needs of individual students.

Please feel free to call, email or visit with us. Our goal is for your child to have a positive and productive school experience. We are excited to get to know and work with your children!

Sincerely,

Kim Hill, Elementary Counselor

Susan Street, At-Risk Advisor

Craig Barnhart, School Psychologist

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Cafeteria Information



Welcome to
Bloomfield School Breakfast & Lunch Program!!
*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

- The School District follows guidelines set by the USDA and also the Indiana State Department of Education for selection, preparation, and pricing of food.
- The Greene County Health Department conducts two sanitation inspections of our kitchen each year. We have always passed and have been commended on how clean our kitchen is!
 - A menu is sent home with students every month. The menu can also be found on the school website www.bsd.k12.in.us, go to schools tab, choose your school and then you will find the menu in quick links or under information. You can also follow us on facebook or twitter! Bloomfield Cafeteria. The menu is always in the cover photo!
 - School Meals can be prepaid by sending cash or check, in an envelope labeled with Students Name on it. Teachers will be sure it is sent to the cafeteria. You may also pay online. We use My School Bucks and it is very easy to set up and use. www.myschoolbucks.com You can see what your child is eating everyday, check the balance, and for a small fee, you can add money to the account.
- We have a Pre-Pay Policy. It is expected that you keep money in your child's account, although, in the event that your child's account is out of money or in the negative, you can rest assured your child will still be allowed to charge a meal. We know that you will send in money the next day!
- Applications for free/reduced priced meals are available in the cafeteria. They can be submitted at anytime throughout the school year.
- Snacks and A la Carte are available on **Fridays**, for Kindergarten. In order to use their account to purchase any extra items, K-5th grade students must have a note sent in stating they are allowed to use their account for snacks and ice cream. We will keep the note on file for the school year. This is to help students be sure to stay on the same page as their parent/guardian, as to how much they are allowed to use their account. You are also welcome to just send cash when you want them to purchase extras. Snacks range from a Mini Rice Krispy Treat at 25 cents up to \$2.00 for an Extra Main Entree. Detailed list will be sent at the beginning of school year.
- Most Common "Extras" or Snacks (50 cents- Milk, 8 oz Water, Ice Cream Cup) (75 Cents- Ice Cream/Fudge Pop, Juicy Juice) (\$1.00- Ice Cream Sundae Bars) (\$2.00- Extra Slice of Pizza or Main Entree)
- We serve Breakfast and Lunch! Prices have to be determined by a USDA tool before the start of each school year. Currently Breakfast is \$1.50, Reduced Price, .30 and Lunch is \$2.55, Reduced Price is .40 We always price the lowest we can and still be compliant with USDA guidelines.
- We offer a Main Entree, but also have the option of Peanut Butter and Jelly in place of the regular menu entree every day. Along with that your child will be offered colorful fruits and vegetables, occasional treats, and Milk (We have 1% White or Chocolate and FF Strawberry)
 - We have cups available for water in the cafeteria!
- If your child has special dietary needs, we will honor them to the best of our ability. A letter, from doctor, should be sent to the nurse and cafeteria!

We are excited to welcome your kindergartener to the Bloomfield Cafeteria!



Kindergarten Supply List

We have tried to select items that can be purchased very economically at the beginning of the year at places such as Walmart or Target. We are asking for the larger quantities so we will have supplies all year. The prices aren't as good later in the year. Individual teachers may want other supplies in addition. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO LABEL YOUR SUPPLIES.**

5 - Boxes of Crayola crayons (24 count) – Crayola crayons work best and are truer colors. We are asking for 4 boxes as crayons get lost and broken over the year. We will work mostly with the basic colors. We asked for the 24 count box as that is the size that is at the discount price.

1 - Box of Crayola crayons to keep at home for e-Learning days. You'll need colors for some assignments.

24 - #2 Pencils Please get the yellow pencils. **Do not bring decorative pencils, they do not sharpen well in the school's sharpener.**

1 - 4 oz. bottle of Elmer's School Glue –Elmer's School glue is best suited for primary.

12 - Glue Sticks

1 Composition Journal

1 container of Disinfecting Wipes

1 bottle Germ-X

1 box of Kleenex (tissues)

1 or 2 Dry erase markers

1 package of colored pencils

1 pink eraser

2 folders

Backpack – This is to carry papers to and from home. **NO BACKPACKS WITH WHEELS.** There is a danger on the stairs with wheeled backpacks.

Handwriting



Your child will learn to write letters and numbers using strokes starting at the top of the letter. This is a sample of how we will learn to write our letters.

Aa / Bb / Cc / Dd / Ee
Ff / Gg / Hh / Ii / Jj / Kk
Ll / Mm / Nn / Oo / Pp
Qq / Rr / Ss / Tt / Uu
Vv / Ww / Xx / Yy / Zz

0/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9

SOME WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP CHILD OVER THE SUMMER TO BE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

(Just ideas for those who want to work on fun activities)

- **READ to your child daily.**
- Let your child select what to read often.
- Read a variety of genres – poems, rhymes, books with familiar, repetitive phrases, magazine articles, newspapers, lists, etc.
- Have your child sit close to you so he/she can see the pictures and print.
- Point to each word as you read to your child.
- Discuss left to right and top to bottom progression as you read.
- Discuss care of handling books.
- Discuss unfamiliar words you find as you read.
- Talk about the story – the characters, the setting, what will happen next, and the order of events in the story.
- Ask open ended questions, not just yes/no questions. Encourage your child to join in reading repetitive and predictable phrases.
- **LISTEN to your child. TALK to your child daily.**
- Discuss the events of his/her day. Your child needs to express wants, needs, and thoughts in complete, coherent sentences. Your child needs to know you care about his/her ideas and value opinions.
- Provide learning experiences for your child. Discuss the experience when completed. Have your child dictate to you what happened on the trip or child could draw about the experience. Read what you wrote (what the child dictated to you) when you finished writing. Your child will understand that words spoken can be written and written words can be read. This can include trip to the zoo, trip to the park, trip to the grocery store, trip to a State Park to see nature, trip to a farm, trip to another state, trip to the beach, trips to the library/story hour, or anywhere that new ideas can be formed and new vocabulary can be learned.
- Going to the movies, Sunday School, VBS, sporting events, and family events can teach a child that there are times to talk, times to listen, times to share, etc. It will help your child make friends and interact with others.
- Establish a routine for bed, meals, story etc.
- **LIMIT** tv, video games, and computer time.
- Be creative: make up stories together, make art projects from junk, etc.
- Play games that involve listening and following directions like Simon Says or Mother May I?
- Play board games and card games to learn to follow directions, share and take turns.
- Sing simple songs.
- Learn Nursery Rhymes – make up your own rhymes.
- Cook with your child, how to follow a recipe, measuring, etc.
- **PROVIDE** pencils, paper (lined and unlined), markers, scissors, glue, chalk, envelopes, stickers, paints, pens, tape, colored construction paper, etc. Encourage your child to interact with the materials in various ways, write messages and letters even if it is pretend writing, make a book with or without words with illustrations, etc.
- Practice using scissors on old paper (junk mail, newspapers etc.). Practicing with scissors will make it easier for your child when starting school.
- Ask who, what, when, where, why, how questions and have your child answer in complete sentences.

- Use magazines to find pictures with specific colors or that starts with a specific letter. Find letters and numbers in print.
- Use sidewalk chalk or water and paintbrush to write name and/ or letters on the concrete.
- Provide puzzles.
- Let child use Play-dough or clay to make objects, rolling pin and cookie cutters are good too. Roll the dough into a snake or in little balls too. This is good for fine motor skills.
- Work on fine motor development activities such as picking up coins or buttons, dealing cards, picking up plastic beads mixed in play-dough, and/or string beads on a string.
- Work on buttoning, zipping, snapping, tying, buckling and taking coats on and off.
- Develop independence and responsibility by allowing your child to make simple choices: how to spend the day, pick out own clothes, dress self, simple household chores, what book to read or check out at the library, what game to play, etc.
- Encourage child to find letters of his/her name in other printed materials.



- As you travel in the car: read signs, look for specific objects, look for specific colored cars, find and name animals, etc.
- Count objects like: seeds, pennies, M&M's, and other small objects.
- Sort objects by color, size, shape. (You can have your child sort cans from the grocery store as they are put away.)
- Learn personal information for safety: full name, address, phone number, parents first and last names etc. (It is also good to know their birthday). This information is much easier to learn when putting it to the tune of a song or make it into a rhyme.

Things that will make starting school easier (more familiar) if he/she can: print first name, say the alphabet, count to 10, use scissors (don't worry about perfection - just that they are able to manipulate scissors), can recognize his/her name in print, recognize some letters and numbers (certainly not all letters are necessary). (Reminder: lowercase letters are the most important to know as they are the letters used in reading and writing sentences.)

Just be excited about your child starting school! If you seem excited, your child will be too. Your child may have some apprehension about starting school. You should calm his/her fears. Help make starting school a positive experience. Loving school is very important for school success.

See you in August!