

Dear Parents,

We warmly welcome you and your child to **Marlette Community School's all day Kindergarten Program**. We are looking forward to sharing valuable learning experiences with your child.

The ultimate purpose of kindergarten is to promote child development and learning. Kindergarten children are in that "wanting to learn" mode. They are eager, curious, have a growing command of language, and are learning to control their own behavior and use their large and small muscles with greater skill. We want to help the children continue to develop their love of learning, expand their general knowledge base, improve their ability to get along with others and stimulate their interest in their world.

Our curriculum includes a variety of activities. The children will explore language, both written and spoken; continue with the alphabet, learn to read high-frequency words (sight words) and begin to decode words; experience math, counting activities, introduced/mastered addition and subtraction, explore science and social studies topics; sing, paint, work with play-dough, puzzles and other manipulatives; build with blocks, experiment with measurement; and participate in small and large group activities. We are looking forward to meeting you and sharing a successful kindergarten school year. As parents, your influence will greatly affect your child's school success. We will be happy to have a few volunteers; more information about this will be coming in September. Let's work together!

### ***Breakfast and Lunch***

Your child has the opportunity to purchase breakfast for \$1.35 and/or lunch for \$2.00 or they may bring their own lunch. Applications will be sent home on the first day of school if you wish to apply for free/reduced meals. Milk may purchased for 30 cents per day or you may send a beverage of your choice (no pop or glass bottles, please). We encourage you to provide healthy foods. Some suggestions are fruit, applesauce, vegetables, pizza slice, sandwich, cheese or peanut butter and crackers, popcorn, or lunchables. Please stay away from pop, candy, high sugar snacks (such as cupcakes, jigglers, candy etc.).

### ***Daily Work***

The children's daily work will be coming home in a folder every Thursday. Please review their work and sign your signature on the sheet that is in the folder. Please feel free to include any questions or comments on the sheet in the space provided. **It is very important that the folder is brought back to school the next day (Friday)**. This is one way we are teaching your child to take responsibility, and will also help to provide communication between school and home. Your help is greatly appreciated.

### ***Supplies***

#### **Every child will need:**

- A backpack. Please put your child's name on the outside of the bag. **(No Roller Backpacks allowed)**
- 2 boxes of kleenex
- 10 Glue Sticks
- **Crayola** crayons – primary colors **(4-6 packs of the 8 crayon packages only please .87)**
- Scissors – (Fiskars pointed)
- 1 package of dry erase markers - black or blue only
- 1 container of Clorox wipes
- Ziplock freezer bags – Boys bring gallon size, girls bring quart size
- band-aids

**Please do not put children's names on supplies. We will put them all in a classroom supply box to be used as needed throughout the school year.**

### ***Clothing***

Please label all outerwear (jackets, boots, caps, mittens, etc.) for identification. Clothing should be easy for children to handle (boots and shoes that children can remove; loops on coats and sweaters for hanging.)

### ***Attendance/Dismissal/Illness***

School attendance is very important. It is important that children attend everyday (except when ill) to get the most out of learning experiences.

If your child is ill, please keep him or her at home. A five-year-old is not capable of making the decision as to whether or not he/she is well enough to attend school. Only you as parents can make that decision.

Upon your child's return to school, please send a note explaining your child's illness, or a phone call to the office is also appropriate.

The school day starts at 8:10 A.M. and ends at 3:00 P.M.

Children who leave school early must be checked out at the office. Parents are asked to wait at the office for their child to be sent from the classroom.

### ***How Parents Can Help***

As parents, you have been responsible for the early teaching of your child. Although he or she is now old enough for school, you will still be the most important teacher in your child's life. Here are some ways you can help your child in school.

1. Attend individual conferences and Open Houses.
2. Read and answer all notes from school.
3. Give special help to your Kindergarten child by-
  - a. Promoting good health and safety habits
  - b. Praising your child for things done well
  - c. Talking about everyday experiences
  - d. Planning family activities
  - e. Reading to your child
  - f. Watching children's TV programs with your child
  - g. Providing material for cutting, coloring, building
  - h. Helping your child start a collection
  - i. Teaching your child to take care of toileting needs, put away toys, and dress in outdoor clothing.
  - j. Loving and hugging your child at the end of each day!

We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

**Open House will be Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:00 P.M. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.**