

Pre-K hours: A.M. Class 8:00-10:30 (M-F)
P.M. Class 12:10-2:50 (M, T, Th, F)
11:30-1:20 (W)

Class Dojo will be our main communication platform



Welcome to the North Mac Pre-school program!

We hope you are ready for the exciting adventure your child is about to start as they begin their school career. It is very important for teachers and parents to have good communication. Therefore, if you need to contact me please do so before or after school. If you call during the school day, please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as I can. You can also e-mail me at lstnader@northmacschools.org or message through Class Dojo. I check email/Dojo daily, but if attention is required the same day calling is always the best option.

Introduction of classroom staff:

Mrs. Strader: I live in Auburn with my husband, 13 year old son, and two Cavapoos. I graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education in 2007 from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. I earned my Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Reading in May of 2013. This is my 18th year with North Mac!

Mrs. Dohleman: I live in Girard with my husband and our Mastiff/Great Dane mix. We have a 22 year old daughter who works in childcare, and has our beautiful 2 year old granddaughter. Our son is 19 years old and a junior at IC. I have worked with children in every aspect for over 20 years. I'm super excited to join the pre-k team at North Mac!

Parent Responsibility:

- Follow drop-off and pick-up procedures as set by the program. It is important to be on time for both, so staff can attend to other responsibilities.
- Please call or email to report absences.
- Please send a note or call the office if someone different will be picking up your child.
- Remember to send a backpack with extra clothes to school daily.
- Please read the handbook. If you have any questions, we are happy to answer them for you.
- Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the current weather, including hats and gloves during cold weather, and appropriate shoes (**no flip-flops**).

Snack:

Snack with milk will be provided by the program. Please talk to your child's teacher about any known allergies. Students may bring a water bottle to be kept in their cubbies to get drinks throughout class. Please make sure your child's bottle is labeled with his/her name and only contains water - please no milk, juice, Kool-Aid, or soda in water bottles.

Schedule and Activities:

While at school, your child will participate in large and small group activities, spend a large amount of time outside for gross motor development (as long as the weather permits), and engage in learning activities in a variety of centers. Our schedule is posted on the wall next to the door when you walk into the room, and on our classroom website.

Most of our day is spent in center time. At this time children are able to choose areas of interest to them while teachers facilitate learning experiences and monitor your child's development. If you observe our classroom in action it may appear to be "just play". However, it is through play that children: *build pre-academic skills such as colors, shapes, counting, letter recognition, etc. *learn to solve problems *satisfy their curiosity *develop large/small muscles *develop creativity and imagination *learn to make sense of the world *build mastery/self-confidence and independence *have fun!

Papers Home:

Unless your child is a creator and regularly chooses the art area as his/her work center, you may not receive many papers home. This is because much of the "work" and learning we do takes place in the centers/classroom. Block towers and sand castles are difficult to put in a book bag, but remember your child is learning as they play in this center! We will occasionally be sending optional family activities, newsletters, and book orders home, so please check your child's backpack daily. A folder will be provided.

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child this year!

Sincerely,

Lacy Strader

Sheila Dohleman

965-5424

lstrader@northmacschools.org

sdohleman@northmacschools.org

Please send a family picture through email or Class Dojo to be printed and added to our family wall!