



Monroe - Message From the Principal

September 4, 2023

What an amazing first week of school! It was so great to see our students. Everyone arrived with a smile and positive attitude and we have already begun settling into our normal routines. As a reminder, we spend a lot of these first few weeks focusing on our PBIS efforts (positive behavior interventions and support), and introducing/reviewing how we earn coins for showcasing expected behaviors. More information about this will come out throughout the year from your child's teacher as well as in this weekly newsletter.

Another very important focus during these first weeks and then throughout the year is our safety drills and protocols. We had our first official fire drill with the real alarm on Friday and it went very well. Throughout the year, we will also continue talking about our ALICE safety protocols (Alert, Lockdown, Interact, Counter Evacuate). All staff had refresher training just prior to school starting, and we will continue following the district approved protocols to help our students understand that while it is very unlikely, we need to be prepared to respond to different types of emergencies such as someone being in the building that shouldn't be there. I recognize that this can be a scary topic to think about, but we are prepared to approach it in an age appropriate way with the emphasis being on just thinking of ways we could all work together to stay safe. I will be visiting each classroom in the next couple of weeks to share our read aloud, which is a very appropriate children's book about a little ant who's teacher is teaching the class about the many ways they can be safe at school. The title of this book is **I'm Not Scared, I'm Prepared.** (linked here is a youtube overview of this book: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4vmSsgkhHc>). Returning students are familiar with this story and could talk about it at home. I encourage all families to reach out to me if you have questions or concerns about this topic and I would be happy to provide more details about the ways we will be incorporating these safety drills into our routines.


Reminders this week include:

- At this time, we are still asking that students be dropped off at the main entrance where a staff member will greet them and escort them inside.
- Daily dismissal time will begin with parent pick ups at 3:00, followed by bus dismissals. Parents are asked to pull up to the entrance and your child will be brought out to meet your car.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions, concerns, or need support for your child or your family. Have a great week!

(email: lroux@rsu3.org school phone: 525-3504 home phone: 568-3980 cell: 323-0990)

Check out what's happening at Monroe School ... Week Of: 8/29

K	This first week we are working on classroom routines and practicing those routines, as well as working together and getting to know each other. We did some role playing and discussed how we would work through these different situations. We are all excited for week 2.
2/3 	We had a fantastic first week of school. Our themes for week one were: <i>getting to know each other</i> , <i>getting along</i> , <i>having a great year</i> and <i>better together</i> . On Friday students used teamwork to complete a very challenging 500 piece puzzle. This will be on display in the classroom to remind us that we can do anything if we work together!

4/5	This week went by so fast! We have been getting to know new friends and reacquainting ourselves with familiar faces. Thank you to everyone at home for helping us with our shopping bag activity. Everyone loved trying to guess to whom the objects belonged and finding out the stories behind them. We started an all about us poster that will be laminated and put up in our cubbies. Later this year we will revisit and see how much everyone has changed or not!
Title One	Please remember to send back the summer reading and math challenge that was sent home at the end of last school year. Please make sure your students name and grade are on it.
PE	This was absolutely the best first week I've ever had - your children are fantastic, kind, enthusiastic, and ready to rock. We picked right up where we left off - I am really inspired by the children and can't wait to see what they accomplish next - Amazing things at Monroe
SEL	This week at Monroe was all about welcome backs! We reconnected from our break over the summer and talked about our big plans for class this year!

RSU#3 Volunteer Orientation
Tuesday, September 5, 3:30 p.m.
At Mount View High School Complex



Contact Jenny Tibbetts
jtibbetts@rsu3.org
(207)568-4640
For more information and to register.



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

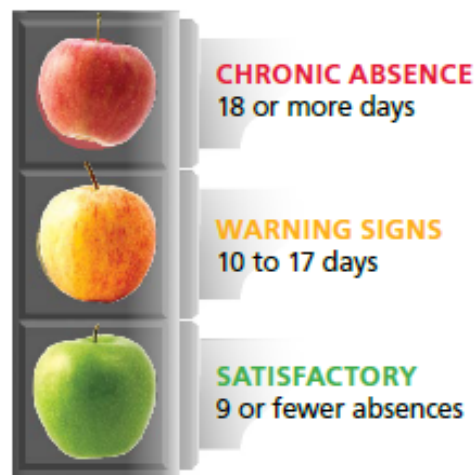
- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.