



Morse Newsletter

September 4, 2023

Notes from the Principal, Mrs. Roux ...

Welcome Back Morse Families!!!

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. Last week I visited classrooms and had students show me what they already knew about responding to a fire drill. 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, Inforn, 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 beginning at approximately 3:15. Parents are asked to pull up to the entrance and your child will be brought out to meet your car. **During drop off and pick up, if you plan to walk your child to the door, please park in the parking lot across the street so as not to interrupt the flow of traffic. Thank you!**

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: 722-3636 home phone: 568-3980 cell: 323-0990)

Notes from the Office:

Please remember to complete any beginning of the year paperwork and/or necessary updates so that we have accurate information regarding your child. Thank you!

Important Upcoming Dates.....

9/11 - School Board Meeting at MVHS


9/27 - Early Release Day

10/6 - No School - Professional Development Day for Teachers

10/9 - No School



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

K	<p>We had an amazing first week of Kindergarten! Everyone did a great job learning routines and making new friends. We are so excited for</p>  <p>this year!</p>
1/2 B	<p>What a wonderful first week back at school! We have been learning about each other and establishing classroom expectations. The class has learned that Mrs. Braley loves books and they have enjoyed lots of read alouds! Mitsy ,the brave oven mitt, taught us that if you are never nervous then you never have a chance to be brave. We have so much amazing learning planned for this year but first we are preparing our brains to keep trying even when it's hard.</p>
3/4 R	<p>We had a wonderful first week of school! I am proud of the students and how well they are learning expectations and routines! We enjoyed completing some All About Me activities to get to know each other better. We are looking forward to another great week!</p>
PE	<p>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 Morse</p>
SEL	<p>This week at Morse was all about welcome backs! We reconnected from our break over the summer and talked about our big plans for class this year!</p>



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

DID YOU KNOW?

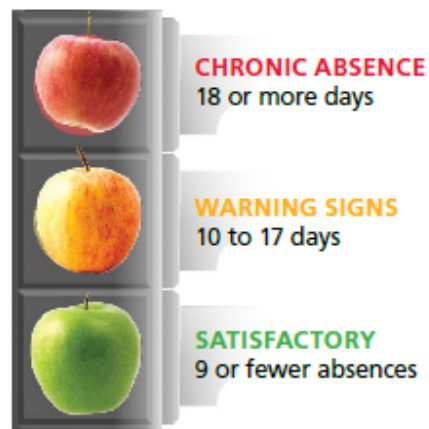
- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being 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.

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.