



Morse Newsletter

September 11, 2023

Notes from the Principal, Mrs. Roux ...

This will be our first full week of school and everyone is excited about the Monday routines and activities that will begin today. Given that this will be the first week with some of our specials, a review of expectations will still be a big part of the focus this week.

We have also started collecting important information from our fall benchmark assessments. These assessments are designed to give us data at the beginning of the year that will help us identify individual student needs so that we can begin planning lessons and activities targeted to these needs. These assessments also give us a starting point to compare to when we assess again in the winter and spring. Teachers will be explaining the importance to students of just giving their best effort as these will help us know best how to meet their individual needs. **Please help us by ensuring that your child comes to school every day - well rested, ready to learn, and reminded that we all care about them and want to help them do their best learning.**

With that in mind, it is a good time to remind families of the importance of healthy routines at home, such as a consistent bedtime with limited screen time before bed, healthy meals and snacks, plenty of opportunities to read and be read to, and making time every day to talk about school and the many things learned each day. Positive school attendance habits should be a priority so that students understand that missing school is only an option when they are too sick to attend or occasionally when other priorities have to come first such as a medical appointment or family emergency. As a general rule, students should know that you fully support them attending school every day. If your child routinely expresses that he/she does not want to attend school, please talk with them about why and reach out to your child's teacher to schedule a time to meet and discuss how we can support your family in ensuring that your child enjoys coming to school and comes ready to learn.



- 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: 9/5

K	This was another fantastic week in Kindergarten! We focused on writing our names, learning about the friends in our class, and practicing class routines. We have started talking about our Morse ROARS and are focusing on how we are SAFE at school.
1/2 B	We had a fabulous second week back to school. In our classroom, we continued creating classroom expectations everyone can agree on. Our biggest challenge last week was the heat! We tried out a math center and look forward to learning more. Beginning of the year assessments have begun.
1/2 P	We are off to a great start! Everyone is working hard to learn the classroom expectations and routines. Currently we are sharing a Junie B. Jones book for a shared read. Ask your child how Junie B. about our discussions on how to help Junie B. be a better "bucket filler". She is a funny character, but doesn't always do the right thing. Our class has lots of ideas on how she could fix things up for the better!
3/4 M	Another successful school week was completed! I am proud of my third and fourth grade thinkers and their quick ability to understand and practice our daily routines and schedule. We began writing weekend news and writing prompts in which I am happy to report that my young learners are very creative with their ideas! We used our author's chair to share these experiences and ideas. This week we will focus on new math concepts as well as complete reading assessments so I can ensure my young learners are getting the enriching and appropriate resources they need to be successful. I look forward to our first "official" full school week.
3/4 R	Everyone made me so proud once again this week! We filled our class coin jar by following expectations and ROARS! We will begin phonics and reading assessments this week. We will also take math and writing assessments in the following weeks. I'm looking forward to beginning our math and reading groups once we're finished with assessments!
PE	Another perfect week at Morse - the enthusiasm that the children are demonstrating for PE is awesome - they are continuing to work on strength, endurance and perseverance - never quit - I CAN'T DO IT YET is our motto

	in PE and life - keep on moving
Library	Our younger grades have been learning about proper book care and library expectations, while our older classes have jumped right into their chapter books! It's been great seeing all the kiddos again, and they've been making great book choices already!
Agriculture	<p>We are award-winning gardeners! We showed our vegetables at the Windsor Fair and earned several awards as a school and as a district. We won five first place awards and five second place awards for our Red Gold Potatoes, Matt's Wild Cherry Tomatoes, herbs, and other produce. Congratulations, students! Common Ground Fair, here we come!</p>  

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

DID YOU KNOW?

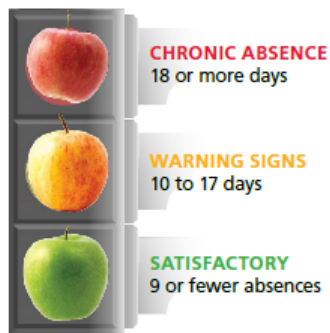
- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being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

