

Lakeland's Little Learners Newsletter

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Back to School Night Sept. 1 by appointment only
- ◆ 1st Day of 4K Sept. 7
- ◆ No 4K Sept. 15, Oct. 4, 20, 28, 29
- ◆ Picture Day Sept. 27

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Play. Learn. Grow.

We're on the Web!
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MISSION STATEMENT

Lakeland's Little Learners is dedicated to providing a nurturing and developmentally appropriate environment for children to grow physically, cognitively, and emotionally, while learning through play. It is our aim to challenge students to continually improve and excel as respectful and responsible members of society.

Back to School Night

We would like to welcome you and your child to a new school year at LLL. We have planned a year full of fun and learning, and are excited you and your student will be a part of it. Back to School Night is Sept. 1. Families will have the opportunity to meet the teacher, purchase your child's Read-At-Home bag, drop off school supplies, and hand in your child's paperwork that was emailed to you. Please make sure to reserve your time slot via Volunteer Sign Up (e-vites will be sent to you).

LLL Curriculum

Lakeland's Little Learners has provided an excellent pre-school for children in and around our area since 1985, preparing 4 and 5 year olds to achieve to their highest potential in kindergarten. We have been fortunate to have wonderful, qualified staff working for us throughout the years. In joining with the Elkhorn Area School District to offer 4K, and expanding our preschool area, we are very excited to be able to reach even more children in the Elkhorn area.

Learning through play is the foundation for early childhood education at Lakeland's Little Learners. This approach incorporates interest areas or

learning centers along with small and large group instructional times. The children are encouraged to explore, imagine, and discover.

EASD and LLL utilize the Fountas & Pinnell Continuum to provide a literacy driven curriculum for 4K. Our goal is to foster a love for reading through exposure and interaction with engaging, rich literature. Through shared and interactive reading, children learn how print works and develop a strong early reading base. With the teacher guiding students through texts, they are able to process texts that are more complex than their current abilities. It gives the children a step up in the development of the reading process.

The 4K classrooms also use Dr. Heggerty's "Phonemic Awareness" (also known as the Purple Book). Phonemic awareness is being able to hear and manipulate the sounds that make up words. Engaging in sound and word play provides students with an important foundation component in literacy instruction.

Handwriting Without Tears writing and math programs immerse students in hands on, multi-sensory learning activities as they work on their fine motor skills and mathematical understanding.

The newest addition to the 4K curriculum is Project Lead the Way. PLTW taps into the students' exploratory nature, encouraging them to manipulate the science and math materials to keep discovering, problem solving and collaborating with others.

Teachers provide a variety of strategies and intentionality in setting goals for each child and guiding them in their exciting journey of learning.

These activities encourage children to get along with others and give them the skills they need for success in kindergarten, something local kindergarten teachers have always found in LLL students!

Hours of Four-Year-Old Kindergarten

Morning 4K classes run from 8:35-11:20 and afternoon classes run from 12:30-3:15, M-F with the 3rd Wednesday of each month off.

We ask that children not enter the classrooms until shortly before class starts in order to allow the teachers time to prepare the rooms for 4K and that you pick them up promptly at the end of class. Two classes share their rooms with the school-agers and they do not leave in the morning until 8:15 am or shortly after and they arrive back by 3:30 pm. Staff need time to set up and take down the room for the children.



*The world is
but a canvas to
the imagination.
-Henry David
Thoreau*

Drop Off and Pick Up

Parents and guardians of children in 4K-1, 4K-2, and 4K-5 are asked to drop off your student at the classroom door instead of using the main door. The only exception to this are children who attend child care before 4K. Those students should use the main entry to access the classroom, along with students in 4K-3. Parents entering 4K-1, 4K-2, or 4K-5 are asked to ring the door bell and wait for a staff member to greet you and your student. Please maintain social distancing guidelines as posted. If your student rides the bus, a staff member will meet the children at the bus drop off and bring them into school and visa versa.

Dress

Children should come to school dressed to play inside and outside. Please send your child in closed-toed shoes to keep their play safe and comfortable. An extra set of clothes to leave either in your child's backpack or their cubby would be very helpful in case of accidents. Please be sure to label all of your child's belongings and to provide them with outdoor clothing each day as they **will** be going outside.

Outdoor/Extra Clothing

During winter please provide a **recyclable, cloth shopping or similar bag** to store your child's coat, boots, snow pants, hat, and mittens. This helps prevent against misplacing items.

Face Coverings

4K students will be required to wear face coverings while in the classroom. Please provide a face covering that will be sent home each day to be laundered or disposed of.

Communication

You can reach your child's teacher at the center by calling 262-723-8391 or using the emails provided. If she is in the middle of class at a point where they can't be interrupted, you can leave a message and she will return your call. We want to communicate about your child's day and keep you well informed.

Teachers use our Facebook page, our website, and the "Remind" text messaging app to share what's happening at school. Make extra sure to check your email or your child's take home folder on Fridays for the end of the week news!

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be offered 3 times per year. If you are in need of an additional meeting, please call your child's teacher to set one up.



Field Trips

Our four-year-old kindergarten students have several field trips planned for this coming school year. In September, we hope to be able to visit the **Apple Barn** where they will tour the apple orchard in a wagon, pick apples, learn how the apples are

processed, and eat a snack of delicious apple cider doughnuts. In October, we will have Octoberfest, where many pumpkin themed activities are planned.

Please complete the enclosed **Field Trip Permission Slip** and return it at the Back to School Night.

Read-At-Home Bags

The Elkhorn Area School District asks families to purchase a "book bag" for the "Read-At-Home – RAH" books to go to and from school in. The book bag will follow your child to be used throughout their elementary school years. Your child will receive a book in the bag, to take home to share with you. You then return the book in the bag to exchange it for another one. More information regarding this program will come in October.

Take Home Folders

Lakeland's Little Learners will provide your child with a vinyl folder that will travel from home to school in your child's backpack. In this folder your child's teacher will send home school communication such as fundraiser or event information, as well as Family Connection Activities. These activities will be related to what your child is learning. Please check these folders daily for new information. Your child's teacher will check these folders daily as well for any communication from you.

Field Trip & RAH Bag Charge

There is no charge for your child to attend Four-Year-Old Kindergarten. However, to cover the cost of special events and your child's RAH bag the charge is \$20.00. We have found that it is easier for parents to pay once for the year, and not have to worry about sending money in your child's backpack throughout the year. Please pay with cash or check payable to LLL at Back to School Night or before.

If you are not able to afford these charges, please let us know as we do not want this to be a financial hardship for any family. The school district can help in some of these situations. If you feel you need assistance, please contact the Lakeland's Little Learners Office.

Absences

Please call the office at (262) 723-8391 by 8:45 a.m. for 4K morning classes OR by 12:45 pm for 4K afternoon classes if your child will not be in attendance. We ask that you monitor your child's health closely, and take your child's temperature before coming to school each day. If your child has any symptoms of COVID-19, please keep your child at home and contact the school nurse, Abby Adams, at 262-723-8391. We follow the Public Health Department guidelines and mandates for returning to school after a COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure. Full illness guidelines can be found on our website. Thank you for keeping everyone's health in mind.

If your child is absent more than 3 days, the school district asks for a doctor's excuse when your child returns.

*The more that you read, The more things you will know.
The more that you learn, The more places you'll go.
-Dr. Seuss*

Supplies

- Backpack large enough to fit a 2-pocket folder (no rolling or wheels please)
- 1 box of washable markers
- 1 - 4 oz. bottle of washable glue
- 1 box of facial tissues
- 1 ream of white copy paper
- 2 packages of disinfecting wipes
- 1 watercolor paint set
- 1 package of dry erase markers

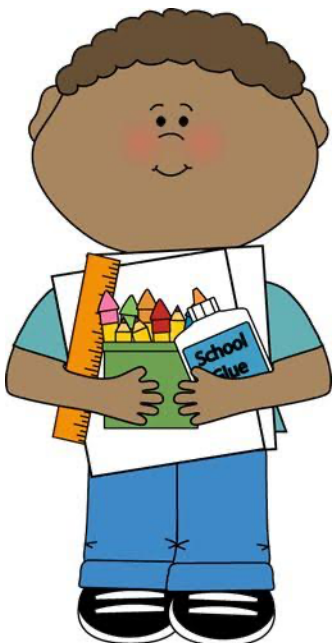
Extra items not required but always appreciated:

- An extra ream of white copy paper
- Crayola Model Magic
- Cotton balls
- Feathers
- Googly eyes
- Tissue paper
- Craft sticks

Please label your child's backpack with their name. Other items will be combined for classroom use. Parents are welcome to drop off school supplies on Sept. 1 or before.

*"Play
is the
highest
form
of
research."*

-Albert Einstein



PLEASE RETURN ON OR BEFORE BACK TO
SCHOOL NIGHT

- 4K Family Questionnaire
- Field Trip Permission Slip
- Transportation Form
- Field Trip & RAH Bag Money (\$20.00)