

# WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

**Mrs. Burnett 2023-2024**

HI, I'M JENNIFER BURNETT!!!



# ABOUT MRS. BURNETT

I am so excited that your child will be part of our kindergarten family this year! Teaching is my passion and I cannot imagine doing anything else! This will be my 20th year as a teacher and my 4th year teaching at McKeel. I have taught both kindergarten and 1st grade over the years but kindergarten is definitely my happy place. I was born and raised in the beautiful state of Maine and I have both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Connecticut. My husband, Jeff, is a firefighter for the City of Bartow and our daughter Ashlyn will be a 7th grader at MAT. We have a weiner dog (Oscar) and a cat (Blue). In my spare time I love playing ice hockey, running and spending time with my family. And as you will soon see in our classroom, I LOVE tacos!



# COMMUNICATION

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or if you just want to say hi! I will do my best to reply as soon as I can. You can reach me via:

Email: [jenniferburnett@mckeelschools.com](mailto:jenniferburnett@mckeelschools.com)

Text: (863) 670-9865

Classroom Facebook Page (Messages): @tacoboutKG

\*I post A LOT of pictures and videos on our classroom Facebook page so please make sure to find us and like us!

# McKEEL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

1. Follow directions
2. Take responsibility for own actions; demonstrate self-control
3. Complete and submit quality classwork
4. Listen respectfully and acknowledge the thinking of others
5. Display best effort
6. Use technology in accordance with school policies

# CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR SYSTEM

Our classroom will follow a PBS model of discipline. Positive Behavioral Support (PBS) focuses on building a safe and positive environment in which all students can learn. Throughout the school year, we will work on what our MAC expectations look and sound like in every setting during the school day. When our class does an amazing job with our MAC expectations, they can earn class “PAWS” for PAWS-itive behaviors. For every 25 PAWS earned, our class will receive a class reward such as extra recess time, special snacks, and treasure box items.

While our focus will be on positive behavior reinforcement, sometimes children will misbehave. We will do our best to work through these behaviors as they happen and to guide your child towards more positive choices. If these behaviors continue, I will reach out so that we can work on ways to best support your child.

# CLASSROOM SCHEDULE

- Our specials block will be from 9:25-10:05 daily. We will have ART on Wednesday and PE on the other days.
- We also have a 2nd specials block three days a week. We will have SPANISH on Monday from 1:30-2:00. We will have MUSIC on Wednesday from 1:25-2:05 and LIBRARY on Thursday from 1:25-2:05.
- Our lunch is from 10:53-11:18.
- We will have two recess breaks at 11:30-11:45 and 2:30-2:45.
- We will have snack each afternoon.

I will send out our daily classroom schedule in the coming weeks once we have definite times for our academic blocks.

# SUPPLIES

Students will use their own supplies in our classroom rather than “group or shared” supplies. Please label all of their supplies with their name. I will put any extras in a Ziploc bag and store them for use later in the year. In addition to the supplies listed on the Kindergarten McKeel list, I do ask that each student bring in a **pencil box** to store their supplies. Nothing fancy, just something big enough to hold their crayons, scissors, glue stick, and pencil.

\*Students may bring supplies to orientation.

# SNACK AND WATER BOTTLES

We will do class snacks each afternoon. I am asking for each family to send in a “class snack” at the start of each month (enough for 18 kids). Please try to send individually packaged snacks if possible. They are much easier to hand out and I can store the extras for students to choose from if they don’t like a certain snack. Some idea are fruit snacks, Pirates Booty, Goldfish, Cheez-Its, etc. I also ask that you avoid sending in anything with peanuts just in case we have any allergies.

We do not have access to a water fountain in our classroom so students MUST bring a reusable, self-sealing water bottle each day. Please label it with your child’s name and PLEASE make sure if it is flipped upside down or knocked over, it DOES NOT LEAK. Contigo is a great brand: <https://a.co/d/hL1G1Ur>. The water bottles will come home each night and will need to come back each morning already filled and ready to go.

# TRANSPORTATION HOME

This is probably the most important thing I will need to know for the first few days of school! In the survey provided through this email, please fill out how your child will go home on Thursday and Friday of this week and then on Monday for the following week. If they are a bus rider, we have their bus information ready to go. There are LOTS of adults helping our kindergarten kids get to the right place at the end of the day and I HIGHLY recommend they start out with their normal transportation home on day one. We teach these routines and procedures a lot the first few days and it will be beneficial if the practice as a bus rider if they're going to be a bus rider the majority of the year.

# HOUSE SYSTEM

All McKeel schools participate in a “House System” where students can earn house points during special events. Until 4th grade, students are part of their teacher’s house and can show their house spirit by wearing their house color on special days. We are part of the **YELLOW** house- **GO EHEYS!!!** On “house” days, our class can wear a **YELLOW** shirt (with uniform bottoms). Our first house day is this **Friday, August 11th** so students may wear their yellow shirt this Friday!!!

\*Shirts can be any shade of yellow and can have designs on the front. While shirts do not have to be plain, Amazon currently has plain yellow shirts for a decent price:

<https://amzn.to/3q0DjSz>



# FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN

On our first day of school, beginning at 7:40am, we would like to invite you into the school courtyard to have a picture taken with your child to document their first day of kindergarten. You may park at Trinity Church next door or in the 2-Hour parking spots in our Oak Street parking lot. Please enjoy a few moments with a picture, a gift, and lots of hugs!

\*Starting Friday, all kindergarten students must be dropped off with their normal transportation. Parents will not be able to walk them onto campus.



# OUR CLASSROOM WISH LIST

We do A LOT of fun and exciting things here at McKeel and without our amazing parent support, these days or events wouldn't happen! With that being said, there will be times throughout the year that I may need your help in purchasing items to make a special day or activity happen. Our classroom Amazon Wish List is always changing and I TRULY appreciate any help you can give us on items from our list. If there is anything I need for an upcoming event, I will email it out several weeks in advance. Our current wish list contains many items for our 25 PAWS rewards. Thanks in advance for your support!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/34WMN149US5FJ?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/34WMN149US5FJ?ref_=wl_share)



# MRS. BURNETT'S FAVORITE THINGS

**Favorite Drink: Seltzer Waters (Bubly, Aha, etc)**

**Favorite Snack: Kind Bars**

**Favorite Fast Food: Chick-Fil-A**

**Favorite Restaurant: Black and Brew**

**Favorite Classroom Items: Sharpie Gel pens and Sharpie markers**

**Favorite Stores: Amazon**

I AM LOOKING  
FORWARD TO AN  
AMAZING  
SCHOOL YEAR!!!

