

JUMP START KINDERGARTEN



Fall Creek Elementary School

336 East Hoover Avenue

Fall Creek, Wisconsin 54742

(715) 877-3331

Website: <http://www.fallcreek.k12.wi.us>

Principal

Ashley Mason

District Administrator

Brad Ceranski

WELCOME TO THE KINDERGARTEN WORLD

Welcome to Fall Creek Elementary! We are excited to have your kindergartener and family as part of our school community.

Kindergarten will be a new experience for your child. The staff prepared this handout in hopes that some of your questions may be answered. It has been divided into several areas such as what kindergarten is about, what your child will do in kindergarten, and several other areas that may be of help to you and your child.

A positive home/school relationship is vital for a successful school experience. Children are perceptive, and quickly realize if their parents and teachers are working together as a team. Lines of communication must remain open between parents and teachers. Parents should feel free to contact school with problems and concerns and should also welcome contacts from their child's teacher. We also like to hear when things are going well.

Again, welcome to our school.

SCHOOL HOURS FOR ELEMENTARY – 7:55 AM – 3:05 PM
Doors open at 7:30 and students may be dropped off and picked up at the end of the day by Door M6 or Door E10

KINDERGARTEN STAFF

The staff in kindergarten consists of their homeroom teachers and the specialist teacher that includes music, art, physical education, guidance counselor, and library/media specialist, as well as the school nurse.

WHAT IS KINDERGARTEN ABOUT?

We believe that a developmentally appropriate kindergarten is based on what children need to learn. In developmentally appropriate kindergartens, teachers accept all children regardless of the entering abilities and take them forward on their path of lifelong learning.

A developmentally appropriate kindergarten is like a good home where children can learn through playing, cooking, watching, listening, acting, reading, or pretend reading, and writing or pretend writing. It is a place where they can explore their environment, ask questions, and answer questions. It is a place where the teacher is like a parent- reading to the children and talking about the stories they read; writing for children and allowing them to write for different purposes; having time to explore their community on field trips; and talking about those experiences together. Most importantly, it is a place where children learn that reading provides both enjoyment and information and they develop the desire to learn to read and write.

PurposeFull People

Dear Family,

We are thankful for you being part of our school community! The world is changing quickly and we want to do everything we can to help students be successful in school and life.

We are excited to tell you that we will be using a program called PurposeFull People this year. This program teaches skills that will help students be successful in school and in life.

We believe that students should have safe, predictable places to learn where they feel included. Students should have healthy and helpful connections with teachers and classmates. They should also experience learning that will help them tackle challenges inside and outside of school. PurposeFullPeople is more than a set of lessons - it is a partnership between schools and families to create a place where students feel like they belong and learn skills that will help them be the best they can be!

Purposefull People has three main goals for students: Be Kind, Be Strong, and Be Well.

- **Be Kind:** Social skills like listening, friendship, solving conflicts, and leadership.
 - These skills are taught alongside **Empathy, Respect, & Cooperation**
- **Be Strong:** Skills that help students focus, stay organized, and set goals.
 - These skills are taught alongside **Responsibility, Courage, & Perseverance**
- **Be Well:** Skills that help students handle their emotions and deal with stress.
 - These skills are taught alongside **Gratitude, Honesty, & Creativity**

This year, you'll be invited to join the fun! We will send letters home about the skills and strengths being taught each month. Each letter will include some ways to build these skills at home, discussion starters, and fun challenges you can try with your family.

The path forward is full of growth! We cannot wait to partner with you in this work...

- To teach students how to build strong friendships
- To work together to solve problems, big and small
- To grow skills for life
- To become PurposeFull People

With Gratitude,

Kindergarten Team

WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD DO IN KINDERGARTEN?

In kindergarten we emphasize social and emotional development skills such as: working and playing together, listening and speaking in front of a group, following directions, taking responsibility for ourselves, and consideration for others.

Our program includes work in: reading, math, language arts, health, science, social studies, physical education, music, and art. Activities include personal choice activities and large and small group experiences. Children learn and grow through games, projects, discussions, songs, and stories.

YOUR CHILD ENTERING SCHOOL

- A. BE SURE YOUR CHILD KNOWS IMPORTANT INFORMATION
 - a. First and last name
 - b. Phone number
 - c. Parents' names
- B. CHOOSE THE SAFEST ROUTE
 - a. Crosswalks- cross here only- Look left, right, then left again- WALK!
 - b. Driveways- watch for cars pulling in or out
 - c. Sidewalks- They're the safest place to walk
- C. ENCOURAGE HELPFUL HABITS
 - a. Put things away
 - b. Learn to listen
 - c. Participate with simple chores
 - d. Get along with others
 - e. Stick to schedule
 - f. Dress self
 - g. Bathrooming independently
- D. DISCUSS ANY FEARS- It's natural for your children to have some fears about school. For example:
 - a. Who's going to help me?
 - b. Will I miss home?
 - c. Will the teacher like me?
 - d. What happens if I have to go to the bathroom?
 - e. Who's going to meet me after school?

TRY TO:

- ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION
 - Let your child talk to you about his/her fears and feelings
- BE REASSURING
 - Tell your child that everything will be alright. Do all you can to make your child feel happy and confident about school.
- WORK OUT PROBLEMS
 - Let the teacher know your concerns. Teachers care about how children and parents feel.

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS A BIG EVENT- FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

When dropping your child at school:

- Arrive on time.
- Doors open at 7:30. Kids can go to breakfast or outside.
- Not too early though, a long wait for class to begin with other parents and children may increase stress.
- Leave cheerfully.
- Keep a positive attitude.
- If you look forward to the first day of school, your child will probably do the same.

HELP YOUR CHILD START EACH SCHOOL DAY RIGHT- BE SURE HE/SHE IS:

- WELL RESTED
 - Children in kindergarten and first grade usually need 10-12 hours of sleep each night.
- WELL NOURISHED
 - Meals should be well-balanced and unhurried. Give your child a variety of healthy foods each day. Avoid junk foods and excess sugar if possible. These tend to push Kindergarteners into more erratic behaviors.
 - Drink plenty of water
- DRESSED FOR WEATHER
 - Make sure your child comes prepared for weather. They should be independent and able to zip their coat, put on hats, mittens, snow pants and boots with minimal help.

SHARE THE EXCITEMENT OF STARTING SCHOOL

- Show your interest
 - Make a point to ask your child about favorite school activities. Review his/her papers and projects. Listen to what your child says about school.
- Be active in school life
 - Attend open house programs. Get to know your child's teacher.
 - Contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.
 - Check their folder each night.

ATTENDANCE IN KINDERGARTEN

Please see the Elementary School Handbook

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

Please see the Elementary School Handbook

TRANSPORTATION

Please see the Elementary School Handbook

HEALTH INFORMATION

Health records are approved by the State Department of Education and State Department of Health. Health records follow the pupil if he/she is transferred to another school. This information is confidential and is released to concerned persons only with your permission.

State law requires children to have basic immunizations before they enter school. It is highly important for your child to have these completed within 30 days after admission. Each parent will be asked to complete and sign a form indicating what school immunizations their child has had and dates they were given. Exceptions are made for children who do not receive shots for medical or religious or personal reasons.

According to Wisconsin state law, each child should have the following immunizations by the time he/she enters kindergarten: At least 4DTap, 4 Polio, 2 MMR, 3 Hepatitis B, and 1 Varicella.

A Dtap and Polio booster is given at kindergarten age for optimum protections, it is recommended, but not required, that children have 5 Dtap and 4 Polio, at school entrance. The first MMR shot is usually given on or after the first birthday and the second one by the time he/she enters kindergarten. The Varicella vaccine is recommended, but not required, unless your child has had Chickenpox.

The Hepatitis B vaccine requirement was added because Hepatitis B is a serious liver disease that infects almost 100 young people in Wisconsin every year. Since most of the people who get Hepatitis B are young adults, childhood is an opportune time to get the vaccine. The vaccine is now routinely recommended for all newborn infants through adults.

Immunizations can be administered from a private physician or from a free clinic. These are located at the Eau Claire City- County Health Department or Augusta Community Center at scheduled monthly times.

Eau Claire City- County Health Department - 720 2nd Avenue, Eau Claire
Immunizations given by appointment (715-839-4718)

Augusta Community Center- 616 W. Washington St., Augusta
3rd Tuesday of the month 11 AM - 12 PM

MEDICATION

Please see the Elementary School Handbook or contact the School Nurse

RECESS & PLAYGROUND GUIDELINES

Please see the Elementary School Handbook

OUTDOOR PLAY & OUTDOOR WEAR

Please see the Elementary School Handbook

WHEN IT'S TIME TO GO HOME

Your child will be sent home in the usual way unless a written note or other communication is received to tell us to do otherwise. If you plan to pick up your child, notify the teacher and be outside door E10 by dismissal time.

BIRTHDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Please do not send invitations or presents for private parties to school with your child. Such parties are the responsibility of parents and need to be taken care of outside of school. Transportation to a party is also the parent's responsibility. Birthday and holiday treats are welcome.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are sent home three times a year.

Regular conferences with each family are held in the fall and spring. Progress and adjustments are discussed at these times.

The teacher welcomes the opportunity to discuss with you in private any information you can furnish about your child that may assist in making a better adjustment to school. Please make an appointment to see the teacher when necessary by calling the school office.

READINESS FOR WRITING

All children are taught to print their first and last names in the correct form. If you wish to help your child at home, it is important that you know the correct form also. The next few pages will show the proper formation for all letters and numbers, as the directional arrows indicate. Always work from left side of the paper to the right. A capital letter is used only for the first letter of the child's name. All other letters are to be lower case.



Capital Formation Chart

									<p>Big Line Big Line Little Line</p>	<p>Big Line Little Curve Little Curve</p>	<p>Big Curve</p>	<p>Big Line Big Curve</p>	<p>Big Line Little Line Little Line</p>	<p>Big Line Little Line Little Line</p>	<p>Big Line Little Curve Little Curve</p>	<p>Big Line Little Line Little Line</p>
									<p>Big Line Turn Little line</p>	<p>Big Line Little Line Little line</p>	<p>Big Line Big Line Big line Big line</p>	<p>Big Line Big Line Big line</p>	<p>Big Curve Go around Little line</p>	<p>Big Line Little Curve</p>	<p>Big Line Little Curve Little Line</p>	<p>Big Line Little Curve Little Line</p>
								<p>Little Curve Turn Little Curve</p>	<p>Big Line Little Line</p>	<p>Big Line Turn Big Line</p>	<p>Big Line Big Line Big Line Big Line</p>	<p>Big Line Big Line</p>	<p>Little Line Big Line</p>	<p>Little Line Big Line Little Line</p>	<p>Little Line Big Line Little Line</p>	



Lowercase Formation Chart

Magic c up like a bump back down bump

dive down swim up and over down

dive down swim up and over around bump

Dots for you! down bump • dot

Magic c

Dots for you! down turn • dot

Magic c up like a up higher back down bump

down bump kick! slide away

• start — little line up and around stop

Start at the top! down bump

At first, curve up. Then go straight down. up cross down bump

start with n swim up and over down

Magic c up like a bump back down turn

dive down swim up and over down




Lowercase Formation Chart














 Magic c keep on going stop



 down, travel, up back down bump










 dive down swim up and over around bump






 slide down slide up












 Magic c up like a bump back down U-turn








 slide down and up slide down and up








 dive down swim up and over









 slide down slide down










 little Magic c little Magic c turn down curve around



 slide down slide down



 Start at the top! down bump cross

Directions for crossing t:
 left handed right handed







 go across slide down go across

Name: _____

Date: - - -

1. Name: _____

2. Name: _____

3. Name: _____



4. Name: _____

5. Name: _____

HOW TO MAKE AN ONLINE PAYMENT TO YOUR LUNCH ACCOUNT:


During the summer, you will receive a letter with a Family Key, you will then be able to follow the steps below to make an online payment into your account. Any questions, please contact the Food Services Department at 715-877-1006.

Reviewing your lunch account:

- 1 <https://www.wordwareinc.com/>
Click on 
- 2 Log in with your username and password
Welcome back!
 Log in to begin managing your account
 Username
This is typically your email address.
 Password
Trouble logging in? [Login Assistance](#)


OR
 Set up your account login information

Request a family key from the Director of Dining Services via email or call
valerieberanek@fallcreek.k12.wi.us
 715.877.1006

<https://www.wordwareinc.com/>
 Don't have an account yet?


Follow the setup process instructions to review your account to see what transactions are being made daily.



Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

Getting started with e~Funds for Schools Mobile Website



CREATING A NEW ACCOUNT

1. Visit the website that was provided to you by your school district.
2. Click on **Create an Account**.
3. Provide Requested Information.
4. Click **Create Account**.



ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT – STUDENTS

1. Log into your account.
2. Select **Manage Students** under **Manage Account**.
3. Enter student Last Name and Family or Student ID#.
4. Select **Add Student(s)**.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 to add additional students.



ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT - PAYMENT INFORMATION

1. Log into your Account
2. Select **Payment Methods** under **Payment Settings**.
3. Select **New Credit Card** or **New Direct Debit** to add new payment information.
4. After entering all required information, read **Consent** and select **Add** to save information to account.



MAKE A PAYMENT

1. Select type of payment you would like to make.
2. Select student.
3. Enter amount of payment.
4. Select **Begin Checkout**.
5. Choose payment method or enter new method.
6. Review items and total.
7. Select **Pay Now**.

efs@magicowrighter.com • www.efundsforschools.com • 866.770.5856

←

Now follow the e~Funds directions to create a new account and make a payment.

ONLINE  **Make a payment online with e~Funds:**
<https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/55109>

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A YEAR OF GROWTH, LEARNING, AND FUN WITH YOUR CHILD IN KINDERGARTEN!