



# Welcome to Waverly

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**Kindergarten Orientation 2020-2021**

# What Should I know before starting school?

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To get a head start on the fun and exciting activities you'll experience in Kindergarten, new students should be familiar with the following:

- Reciting his/her full name, address, telephone number, and birthdate
- Recognizing his/her name in print
- Writing first name (only the first letter is capitalized – example: John, not JOHN)
- Taking off/putting on and fastening (zipping, buttoning, snapping) jacket or coat
- Being familiar with nursery rhymes (a great introduction to rhyme)
- Being familiar with pencils, magic markers, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, and glue
- Displaying independent use of the bathroom
- Demonstrating proper use of a tissue
- Knowing how to listen and follow simple directions
- Knowing how to put away toys and other materials properly
- Opening lunch containers and snack items (drink boxes, fruit snacks, yogurt)
- Recognizing most capital letters and some lowercase letters
- Being familiar with some letter sounds and with numbers
- Being able to accept simple responsibility
- Being able to wait to have a turn
- Being able to sit and focus attention for a reasonable amount of time



## Bus Info

- Buses are assigned by the Sachem School District's Transportation Department based on where you live. Your child's bus stop and bus number will be available via the parent portal prior to the start of school.
- The Kindergarten students are sat in the front of the bus, closest to the driver.
- Upon arrival at school, Kindergarten students exit the bus and are led by 5<sup>th</sup> grade students into the building and to their Kindergarten classrooms.
- We will be sending you a colored bus tag prior to the start of school. This tag will have your child's name, Teacher's name and section number. Please attach this tag to your child's backpack. This way for the first few days we are 100% sure who our newest family members are and where they belong.
- Should you have a problem with your bus stop or bus number, please contact the Transportation department at (631)471-1380
- At dismissal, your child will be led to the buses by their classroom teacher and teacher's aide. They will be placed back on the same bus they arrived on unless other arrangements are made prior.
- All changes in dismissal need to be made to the Main Office prior to dismissal.



# Walkers and Pick-Up/Drop-Off Procedures



- Students who live close to our school may be considered a “Walker”.
- Walkers should be dropped off at the bottom of the bus lane (by the playground) where staff members will greet and escort them into the building.
- At dismissal, the Walkers are the first ones to be picked up from their classrooms and escorted by 5<sup>th</sup> graders and staff to our “Walker Door” which exits out onto Waverly Avenue.
- All parents/guardians picking up their children (both at the walker door or security vestibule) must be 18 years of age or older and **MUST** present a valid photo ID.
- All Kindergarten parents are required to fill out a Release form as well as a bus form that lists the names of trusted adults allowed to pick your child up from school or from the bus. We ask to please have that information brought in no later than the first day of school. **Without it we cannot release your child to anyone other than the child's parents.**
- If your child is assigned a bus, but you would prefer to drop them off or pick them up from school regularly, please let the teacher and main office know so that we can make note of it.

# A Typical Kindergarten Day May Include the Following Activities:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Morning Song
- Calendar Concepts
- Morning Message
- Phonemic Awareness
- Alphabet Recognition/Phonics
- Sight Word Vocabulary
- \*Read Alouds
- \*Shared Reading
- \*Guided Reading
- \*Independent Reading
- Literature Connections
- Comprehension Skills
- \*Shared Writing
- Handwriting
- Learning Centers
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Health/Safety
- Technology
- Lunch
- Recess/Free Play
- Healthy Snack
- Physical Education
- Music
- Art
- Library
- \*Interactive Writing
- \*Independent Writing



Students will not be participating in all the above activities every day and will vary based on the daily schedule of each classroom.

\* For a detailed explanation please go to [www.sachem.edu](http://www.sachem.edu) , click on Curriculum Tools and then on Sachem Central School District Language Arts Program



# Special Area – Specials:

**Art: Twice a week**



**Gym : Twice a week**



**Music: Once a week**

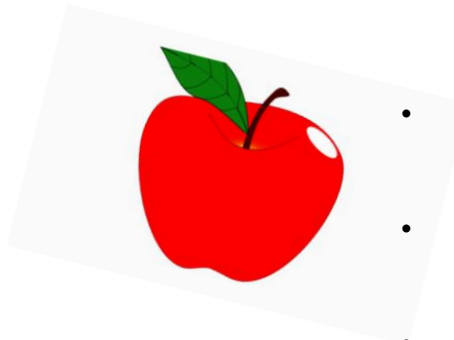
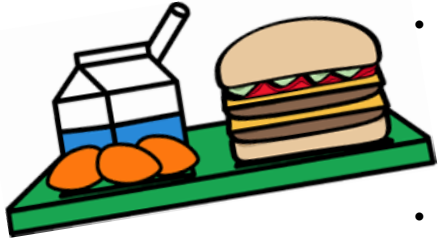
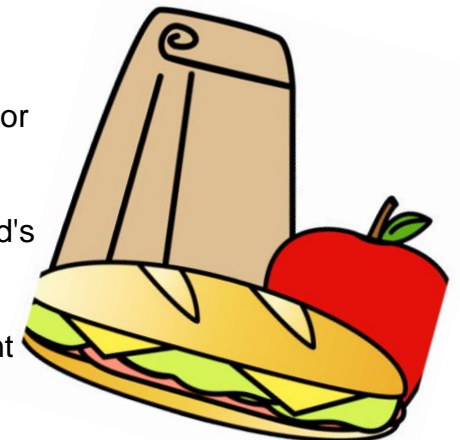


**Library: Once a week**



# Lunch and Recess

- Students will have the option of either purchasing lunch or bringing something from home. Each day there are several Hot/Cold lunch options available for purchase.
- Please review with your child each day whether they are bringing or buying lunch to avoid any confusion at lunch time.
- Please label all belongings as well as labeling which items from home are for lunch and are for snack
- Kindergarten classes typically have both a designated lunch period as well as an in-class snack time. Healthy snack options are always recommended.
- Please label all money your child brings in. Throughout the year there are different fundraisers and opportunities for students to practice purchasing items with money; please be sure to clearly label what should be used for lunch vs. any other activities.
- Breakfast is also available each morning for purchase before school for \$1.50.
- Should you prefer to utilize a cashless system, you can set up a lunch account via the Parent Portal and add funding to that account. Your child can then purchase breakfast/lunch/snacks using a Pin # (their student ID) or a swipe card that we will provide.
- Should your child have any food allergies (nuts, tree nuts, dairy, etc.), please be sure the nurse and your child's teacher are made aware so we can ensure the health and safety of each student.
- There are lunch monitors as well as recess monitors and so your child will always have several adults present at lunch time if they need any assistance.
- Recess will immediately follow the Kindergarteners lunch and the recess monitors will escort the children to and from the playground or classroom – depending on the weather.

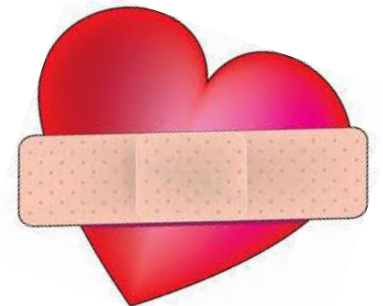




# School Nurse

Mrs. Caliendo

- Please be sure to provide an updated Physical, Dental, and most importantly Immunization Record prior to the start of school. New York State requires that all vaccinations are up to date and religious exemptions are no longer permitted. You will be sent an updated immunization requirement form from the Department of Health outlining the vaccinations required for the 2020-2021 school year. This form can also be found on our website. Updated medical records can be dropped off at the school Monday-Friday from 8:30am -2pm throughout the summer or faxed over to (631)475-3970.
- Please be sure to provide any information regarding pre-existing conditions., allergies, and medication your child may be taking. Children are not able to carry their own medication.
- While we are not a “Peanut Free” school, we do take allergies very seriously and some classes may be “Nut Free” classes. We ask that all students are mindful and careful regarding the health and safety of others. We will alert you should there be an allergy in your class.
- If your child is out sick, please call the Main Office or the Nurse each day your child is out. You can leave a voicemail if it is before school hours. The Main Office will generate an absence report each day and you will be notified if you child is marked absent and we have not received a call or have been otherwise notified.
- If your child has a fever, we ask that children do not return to school until they are fever-free for at least **24 hours** without the use of Tylenol.
- All absences do require a note from the parent upon the child's return to school.
- Please verify that all emergency contact information is accurate and up to date via the parent portal





# Important Contact Information

## Sachem Central School District Office

51 School Street

Lake Ronkonkoma, NY

Main Office: (631) 471-1300

[www.sachem.edu](http://www.sachem.edu)

Central Registration	631-471-7861
Food Services	631-471-1353
Transportation	631-471-1380

## Waverly Avenue Elementary School

1111 Waverly Avenue

Holtsville, NY 11742

Principal:

Mr. Kevin Tougher

[ktougher@sachem.edu](mailto:ktougher@sachem.edu)

**(631) 654-8690**

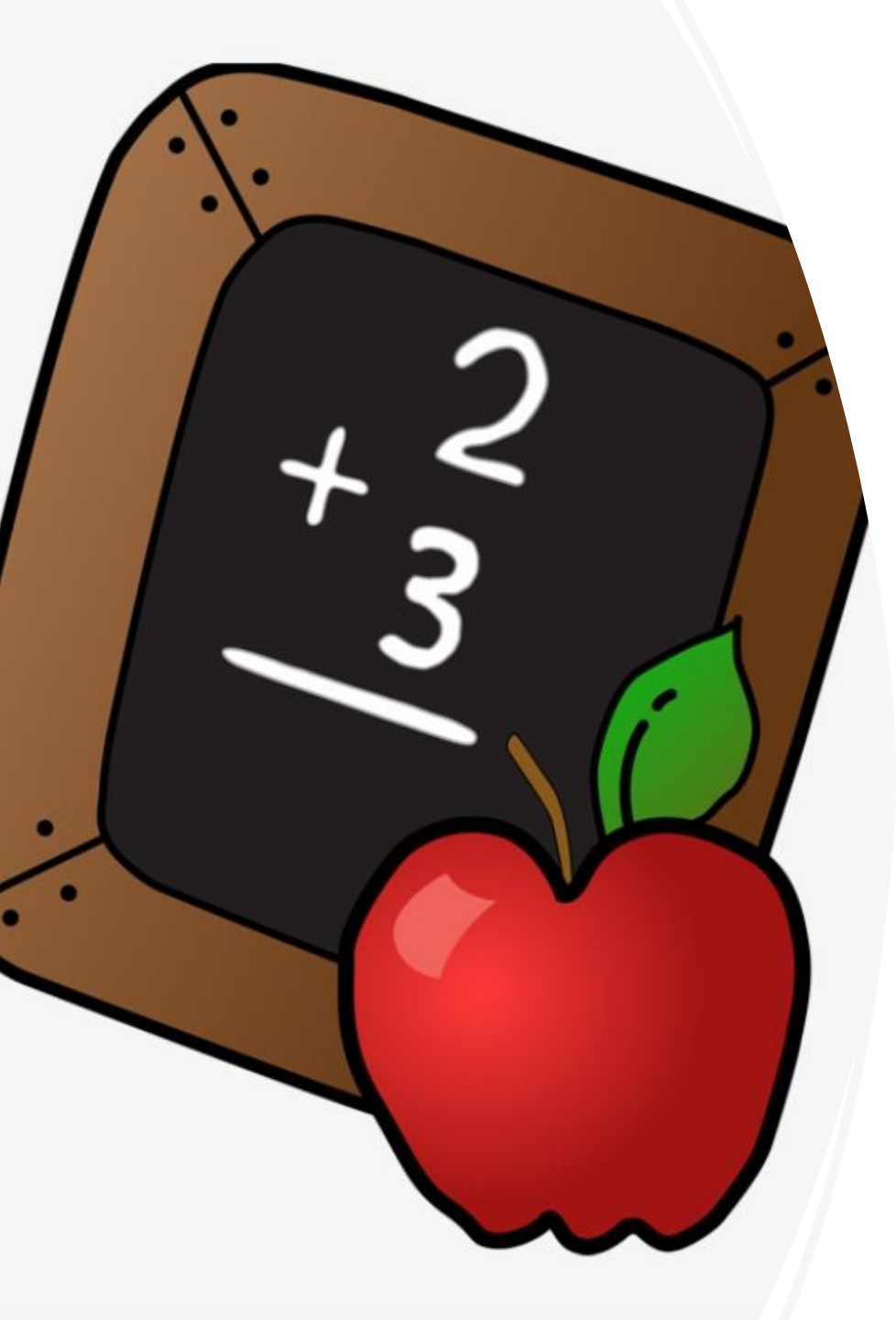
**Fax: (631) 475-3970**



# *From the Main Office*

**We can't wait for you to join the Waverly family!**

- The School Calendar with full list of all anticipated holiday closings and early dismissals can be found on the Sachem website under the “Calendars” drop down.
- All parents must login to the parent portal to confirm contact information and emergency contacts prior to the start of school. Any changes to your cell, work or home phone numbers please call the Main Office to update all records. Any changes to your address, please contact Central Registration.
- We will be mailing you a form requesting the names of adults allowed to pick up your child from school. Please return this form to us as soon as possible. The Waverly Main Office is open Monday – Friday from 8:30am-2pm. Please drop off this form or mail it to us prior to the start of school.
- All immunization records need to be up to date and complete prior to the start of school.
- Any Custody issues we would need to know about and keep paperwork on file. Please let the main office know as soon as possible.
- We will be mailing you a placement letter with a colored bus tag with your child's name, teacher and class section. Please be sure to affix this tag to your child's backpack.
- Once school begins should you have any changes in dismissal, require your child to be picked up early, or if they are going home with a friend, please be sure to send your child into school with a note the morning of. Any last-minute changes, please be sure to give us a call.



See You In  
September!

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