

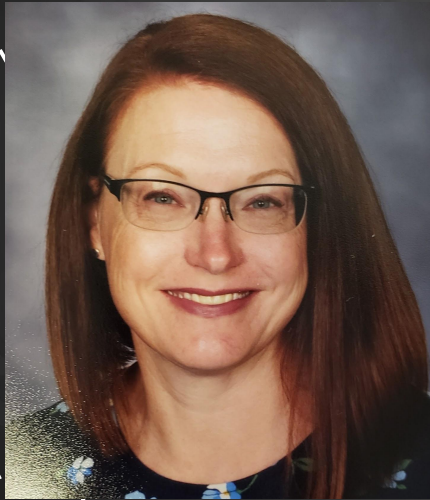
Welcome to  
**KINDERGARTEN**  
2022-2023

Lake Elementary School

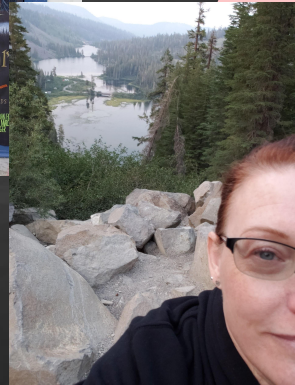
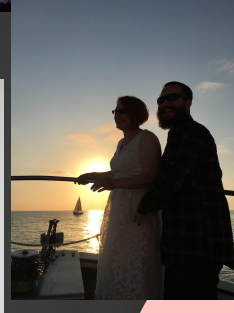
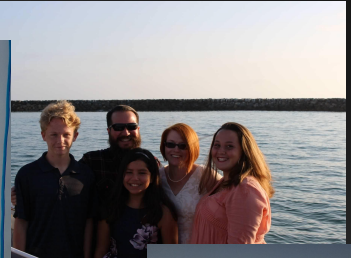


# Your Teacher Snapshot

A little bit about Mrs. Maynard...

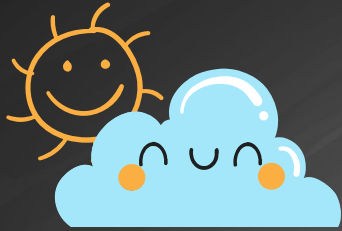


- I graduated with my undergraduate degree from UNC-Wilmington and Grand Canyon University with my masters degree.
- I've been working with children ages 6 weeks to 11 years old for more than 25 years.
- I've taught preschool, first grade, second grade, fifth grade, art, and I was a traveling teacher working with Kinder through 5th grade. I've also taught Reading Recovery.
- I've been with my husband for 6 years.
- I have 4 children. I have a step daughter that is in 10th grade. The next oldest is entering college. I have a young adult daughter and son.
- I'm passionate about reading and literacy.
- I enjoy going to the mountains, cooking, and hiking. I enjoy bird watching and plants.
- I love reading. I'm a huge Harry Potter fan.





# School Schedules



**Mondays are EARLY RELEASE**

8:00 - 12:44

**Tuesday - Friday**

8:00 - 2:11

**NOTE: These Kinder/TK dismissal times are 10 minutes before the rest of the school.**

# Our Class Schedule

## MONDAYS

7:40 - 8:00 Arrival to school  
9:10 - 9:25 Snack / Recess  
10:30 - 11:15 Lunch / Recess  
12:44 Dismissal

## TUESDAY - FRIDAY:

7:40 - 8:00 Arrival to school  
9:35 - 9:50 Snack / Recess  
11:15 - 12:00 Lunch / Recess  
2:11 Dismissal

## SPECIALS


Library: Mondays  
Time TBD

Music: Wednesdays  
Time TBD

Counseling Lessons:  
Every other Friday  
Time TBD

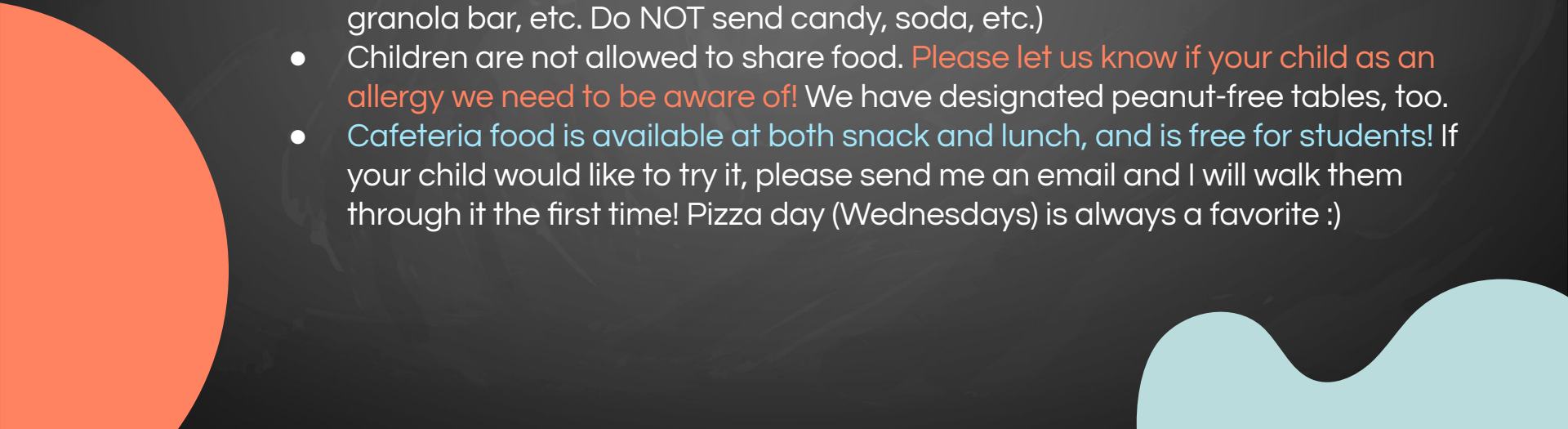


# What to BRING Everyday

- ★ Full size **backpack** (no rolling backpacks, please)
  - ★ A nutritious **snack and lunch**, packed separately and labeled with their name (FREE cafeteria meals are also available)
  - ★ Reusable **water bottle**, labeled with their name
  - ★ A **change of clothes** in a ziplock bag (this will stay in their backpacks)
  - ★ **Take Home Folder** (This **RED** folder will come home after the first week of school and will have more info inside!)
- 



# Important info about Snacks/Lunch...

- PLEASE **pack your child's snack(s) separately** from their lunch! In the front or side pocket of the backpack works best.
  - **Appropriate snacks are nutritious and easy for your child to eat** without help (for example: small yogurt, string cheese, fruit, muffin, crackers and cheese, granola bar, etc.) Do NOT send candy, soda, etc.)
  - Children are not allowed to share food. **Please let us know if your child has an allergy we need to be aware of!** We have designated peanut-free tables, too.
  - **Cafeteria food is available at both snack and lunch, and is free for students!** If your child would like to try it, please send me an email and I will walk them through it the first time! Pizza day (Wednesdays) is always a favorite :)
- 

# What to Expect on the First Day!

**Please bring your kindergartener to Lake between 7:40 - 8:00** (earlier the better... traffic is always busy the first few days!). You can park at Lake Park and walk them to the kindergarten gate (recommended), or use our Lake or Madison drive through options (PLEASE NOTE: the driver **MUST** stay in the vehicle. If your child is not used to getting out of the car on their own, please use the Lake Park walk-up option).

After saying goodbye to you at the gate, students will be directed to the kindergarten playground area where we wait every morning. All kinder teachers will be out there to help students find their class lines!

\*We know goodbyes are hard! We recommend preparing your child by explaining this process beforehand, then being quick and confident with your farewell at the gate. We promise they are in safe hands, and tears tend to stop when you are out of sight!

# What to Expect on the First Day! (cont.)

**At the end of the day,** kindergarteners will be released from our class waiting area on the kindergarten playground. Please arrive promptly to get them (gate opens to 2:11). You can park at Lake Park and walk to our meeting area. You must ensure your child checks out with us before leaving with you! This MUST happen everyday throughout the year so we can always confirm who is picking them up. You must immediately return to the front of campus (parents cannot walk inside campus to collect older siblings).

Everyone is usually VERY tired after the first day, so expect a quick nap or early bedtime!



Please note: Morning drop off/ end of the day dismissal time is **not** suitable for conversations about your individual student's day or progress. While we love seeing your faces and saying hello, we are on duty and have to keep our eyes on the children.

Thank you for your understanding!



# Dress Code



- ★ Make sure your child is wearing close-toed shoes
- ★ No spaghetti straps or undershirt-type tank tops
- ★ Apply sunscreen before school (we are not allowed to apply it for them)
- ★ Please write your child's FULL NAME on any item of clothing they may potentially take off during the day
- ★ Please write your child's name on their lunchbox, backpack, jacket, water bottle, etc.

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# Language Arts

Our goal is that by the end of the year, your student will know:

- Letter names and sounds
- 30+ power (sight) words
- How to sound out CVC words and blend sounds
- How to use brave spelling, dictation and pictures in three different writing styles (opinion, narrative & informative)
- How to ask and answer questions about fiction and non-fiction books



# Mathematics

Our goal is that by the end of the year, your student will...

- Recognize and write numbers 1-20
- Understand numbers and their relationship to other numbers
- Add and subtract fluently within 5
- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Apply their knowledge of plane and solid shapes to the world around them
- Make use of measurement concepts



# Science & Social Studies

Our goal is that by the end of the year, your child will be able to demonstrate understanding of...

## SCIENCE:

- Pushes and pulls
- Plant and animal needs
- Weather types and patterns
- Effects of sunlight
- Human impact on the world

## SOCIAL STUDIES:

- Now vs. long ago
- National & state symbols
- Community helpers
- Maps
- Calendar
- Major holidays

# Science & Social Studies (cont.)

These subjects are primarily taught through PBL (Project Based Learning) Units!

- These are kindergarten-appropriate projects that connect to the real world with real world solutions.
- They include cross-curricular learning and provide students with practice being productive & creative both independently and in groups!



# Social Emotional Learning



- Behavior is one of the MOST IMPORTANT things we focus on in kindergarten!
- We use “We Thinkers” Curriculum: a program designed to help students discover the skills they need to be self-reflective, collaborative, flexible, social thinkers, and problem solvers
- Throughout the year we work on understanding the difference between “expected” versus “unexpected” behavior and how to self-regulate



# Home Enrichment

We **HIGHLY** recommend:

- Reading with your child daily
- Practicing letter identification, sounds and power words
- Counting to 100 and recognizing/ writing numbers
- Name writing
- Brave spelling (phonetic spelling/writing what they hear)
- Individual goals that will be set with your child's teacher later in the year



# Additional Things to Practice at Home



- ★ Bathroom use by self: zipping, buttoning, snapping, flushing and hand-washing
- ★ Using an elbow when coughing and sneezing, blowing nose
- ★ Packing and unpacking folder and backpack
- ★ Eating lunch by self: putting juice straw in, opening baggies, what to eat first, and throwing trash away
- ★ How to use an umbrella
- ★ Shoe tying! Slip ons or velcro shoes are high encouraged until that skill is mastered



# School Supplies

Students will need:

- Headphones that can be worn over the year (not earbuds)
- Pencil box (standard size, not pouch: [here's a recommendation](#))
- Backpack (Standard size, without wheels)
- Reusable water bottle
- 24 or less pack of Crayola crayons (Crayola's last longer.)
- Yellow highlighter
- 3 Elmer's glue sticks
- 2 Black Expo dry erase markers



# Classroom Wishlist / Donations

If you are able, the following donations would be greatly appreciated!

- Extra packs of Crayola crayons
- Paper towels
- Play-doh
- Anything off our Amazon Wish List . This is at the bottom of my email signature. (I update throughout the year!)
- Plastic red two pocket folders. No prongs please. (Just like your student's home folder.)

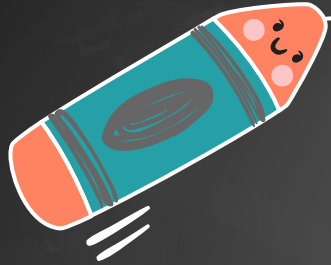
# Classroom Volunteers

We are waiting for an update on the volunteer policy for this year. I will send information as soon as we learn anything.

I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT EVERYONE THAT IS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING IN THE CLASSROOM OR ON FIELDTRIPS FILLS OUT THE VOLUNTEER FORMS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR!

- We do still need a parent “room representative” for our class! If you are interested, please let me know and I will send you information.

# Newsletter



## Weekly Newsletter

My Class Newsletter will be [emailed](#) at the end of the week. Please make sure to read them to stay up-to-date on what your child is learning & important class events!



# Weekly Book Bags

Once students have been introduced to our classroom library (within the first few weeks of school), they will begin selecting a few books to borrow for the week to practice reading at home! Here are a few important things to note:

- Book bags should come back and forth to school each day.
- Please treat the books kindly at home! Keep away from food & water, etc.
- Please encourage nightly reading. We will send home different ideas for how you can support your child's reading growth.
- A simple reading log will be provided to track growth. Prizes are awarded for filling up the page!
- Book bags will also hold their **POWER WORD FLASH CARDS**. We cover roughly 10 words per month. Please help them practice nightly!

# Parent Communication

**Remind** is the fastest way to message me. The message comes to my phone just like a text message and I can respond directly to you. You can download the free app to your device and connect with our class with a code that I will share with you. REMIND is used by our administrators also.

**Email** the next best way to reach me! I check it before and after school and will respond as soon as I can; usually within 24 hours. My email is [susanmaynard@vistausd.org](mailto:susanmaynard@vistausd.org)

**Phone** you may leave a message on voicemail or leave a message with the office if there is an emergency.

# Classroom Behavior

My main goal is always to maintain a safe, welcoming and positive learning environment. Learning appropriate school behavior is one of the BIGGEST things we focus on and hope to see mastered by the end of kindergarten!

Classroom behavior expectations are as follows:

- Be safe.
- Be kind.
- Be responsible.
- The first few days of school we take time to discuss how we want to be treated, how we think others want to be treated, and how the teacher wants to be treated. Those ideas usually boil down to the 3 rules listed above.
- We generate our Social Contract with these rules based on this discussion. I love how the students have input, ideas, and discussion about this important piece of our classroom community.



# Classroom Behavior (cont.)

Every class has a different dynamic, and thus our behavior systems change to fit whatever that class needs (and continue to adapt throughout the year).

Generally, I start each year explicitly teaching and praising expected behaviors. If students are struggling we talk privately about how to correct the behavior. If there continues to be an issue the student may receive an individual behavior plan. This would be discussed with parents.

By Nov./Dec., we usually move to whole-class or team-based systems (such as a marble jar or table points) to encourage teamwork and collaboration. Individual behavior systems are continued as needed.

# Weekly Progress Reports

WEEKLY **PROGRESS** Report

WEEK OF: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK HABITS:

- Completed work independently
- Completed work with support
- Struggled with concepts / focus

BEHAVIOR:

- Outstanding     Great job
- Needs Improvement: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Every **Friday** I will send home a weekly progress report that outlines your child's work habits and behavior during the week. These need to be **signed and returned on Mondays**. (Please note, if something significant happened, the office or I will contact you that same day!)

Please have regular conversations about school behavior with your child at home. Remember that EVERY day has its ups and downs. I strive to teach my students that mistakes are okay (and recognizing a mistake is proof they are learning!)

# School Behavior Rules

Lake encourages our Dolphins to ROCK the school day!

R - Respect Others

O - Own Your Choices

C - Care About Learning

K - Keep Lake Safe



Outstanding students are selected each month to receive an award in one of the above areas.

If a student is struggling with our school or classroom rules, they may receive a pink or white slip. These are to document serious or repeated behavior issues and communicate what the unexpected behavior was and what consequences were given.

# Class Event / Party Sign-ups



We have several fun class events & field trips planned this year - assuming COVID rules allow it! When we are in need of donations or volunteers for these events, we will send out an email and Sign-Up Genius link.



# Birthdays

On your child's birthday (or the school day closest to it), they get a fancy birthday crown, a turn to be star of the day, and our class will sing to them!

At this time, we are **not allowed** to have parents send in treats or goody bags for the class.

If you want your child to pass out birthday party invitations at school, you must invite the entire class (otherwise, and preferably, please hand out invites outside of school!) Thank you for your attention and understanding in this matter!



# MY PROMISE TO YOU

[www.mradscorner.com](http://www.mradscorner.com)

I promise you every day your  
child will learn something.

Some days they will bring it  
home in their hands.

Some days they will bring it  
home in their heads,

and some days they will bring  
it home in their hearts.

- Valerie Webb -



THANK YOU FOR  
READING!



[susanmaynard@vistausd.org](mailto:susanmaynard@vistausd.org)

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions/comments!

I can't wait to get to know you all and am looking forward to a FANTASTIC kindergarten year together!

