

# Welcome to Lower Elementary NE!

## SCHEDULE

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
8-8:15	Morning Movement	8-8:15	Morning Movement	8-8:15	Morning Movement	8-8:15	Morning Movement	8-8:15	Morning Movement
8:20-11:30	Work Cycle	8:20-11:00	Work Cycle Spelling/Math Quiz	8:20-11:30	Work Cycle	8:20-11:30	Work Cycle	8:20-11:30	Work Cycle
8:30-8:45	Group	8:30-8:45	Group	8:30-8:45	Group	8:30-8:45	Group	8:30-8:45	Group
11:30-12	Reading Groups/Silent Reading Great Books - 1st Years	8:45-11:25	*Open Art Time	11:30-12	Reading Groups/Silent Reading Great Books - 2nd Years	11:30-12	Reading Groups/Silent Reading Great Books - 3rd Years	11:30-12	Reading Groups/Silent Reading
12-12:25	Lunch	11-11:25	Silent Reading/Read Aloud	12-12:25	Lunch	12-12:25	Lunch	12-12:25	Lunch
12:25-1:15	Recess	11:25-11:55	PE	12:25-1:15	Recess	12:25-1:15	Recess	12:25-1:15	Recess
1:15-1:30	Group: Finished Work for Sharing	12-12:25	Lunch	1:15-1:30	Group: Finished Work for Sharing	1:15-1:45	Work Cycle	1:15-1:30	Group: Finished Work for Sharing
1:30-1:40	Read Aloud	12:25-1:15	Recess	1:30-2:15	Work Cycle	1:45-2:10	Spanish	1:30-2:15	Work Cycle
1:40-2:35	Work Cycle	1:15-1:40	Spanish	2:15-2:45	Jobs / Read Aloud	2:15-2:45	Jobs / Read Aloud	2:15-2:45	Jobs / Read Aloud
2:35-2:45	Jobs	1:45 - 3:15	Art / Music	2:45-3:15	PE	2:45-3:15	PE	2:45-3:15	PE
2:45-3:15	PE	1:15-2:30	*Kitchen	1:15-2:45	*Kitchen	1:15-2:45	*Kitchen	1:15-2:45	*Kitchen
1:40-2:40	*Della Terra								

\*Children will go to Kitchen Classroom once every few months for a week.

\*Children will go to Della Terra once a month on Monday afternoons.

\*Children attend Open Art when they are working on a project that will complement a study being completed in the classroom.

A work cycle is an undisturbed block of time that takes place during the day. During this time, students attend lessons and are self-directed in choosing their work. Our day begins at 8:30 (if not even a little earlier). We encourage you to drop your children off by 8:20 so that students are able to settle in and begin their day on time. All elementary students may arrive as early as 8:00 without incurring early care charges. Students will be marked tardy at 8:30. The afternoon allows time for a shorter work cycle, care of the classroom and other areas of study with specialists such as art, music, spanish, della terra, physical education and kitchen. \*An asterisk indicates that not all children attend these specials every time it appears on the schedule. If an appointment needs to be made during the day, please come in to pick up your child from the classroom.

## SPELLING TESTS and MATH FACT TESTS

Each week, you will find math facts and spelling lists in your child's home folder. Please take time to practice spelling words and math facts with your child. Repetition is the best aid in working towards memorization. Each student is responsible for taking one spelling and math fact test per week, which will be taken on **Tuesday**. Make up days for math facts and spelling tests are not offered.

## SHARING

Children are welcome to share items from home during group time. These objects should fall within the categories of items found in nature, photographs, something they have made, something from a different culture, or a memento from your child's travels.

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Your child will be invited to have a birthday celebration with their classmates during the school year. We treat birthdays as a special time in a child's life. At home, your child may create a personal timeline of their life that includes pictures and written captions of the years past. An email will be sent home prior to your child's birthday. Children are welcome to bring in a healthy snack on their celebration day.

## **TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

- We will visit the Leelanau Outdoor Center (LOC) twice per year. Our first visit will be on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Details regarding the trip to LOC in late spring will be shared at a later date.
- We will visit the Timbers Recreation Area four mornings this year. This will allow us to do some observations and studies in nature once each season. More information for each of these visits will be emailed out prior to the trip. The trip dates are set:
  - September 14 (parent drivers)
  - October 28 (school vans)
  - January 20 (school vans)
  - May 19 (school vans)
- Going Out: Other outings will be more spontaneous and planned by your child. Going out experiences provide an integral extension of the classroom and foster the child's curiosity. Going out often support what the child has decided to explore and study on their own. Before each going out, students planning the trip will arrange transportation and appointment times. A permission slip will be sent home to be signed by the child's parent at least two days before the date of the trip. Past going out trips include visits to the library, experiencing how a movie is projected at the State Theater, visiting the Coast Guard helicopter station and interviewing a professional in their workplace.

## **HEALTHY SNACK**

A healthy snack will be provided by the school each morning.

## **OBSERVATION**

We encourage you to observe your child in the classroom setting, allowing for you to gain a good sense of what your child's life at school is like. While we are eager to have you visit the classroom, please wait for the classroom to get settled before scheduling an observation. The first formal Parent Visiting Day will be held towards the end of October.

## **SWIMMING**

We will be participating in the swim program at the YMCA. We will travel to and from swim lessons on a school bus. Lessons will begin in January. More detailed information will be provided closer to the swim dates.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Children have a home folder that will be sent home daily and should return to school every day. This folder is used to send notes and work home as well as for you to send forms or notes back to school.

During the school day, the receptionist will forward your calls to my classroom. I check messages daily and will return any calls as soon as possible. I am usually available at school from 7:30 - 8:00 AM and 3:45 - 4:15 PM for telephone calls or drop in meetings. Please feel free to contact me to arrange any other time you would like to meet.

My email address is [sandra@traversechildrenshouse.org](mailto:sandra@traversechildrenshouse.org). You should expect to have a response from me within 24 hours. Please note that I do not check my email while I am with your children during the school day. If you have information relating to pickups, absences, etc. for that specific day, please call the front desk.

Room Parents: Erin Gartland ([eeprasse@gmail.com](mailto:eeprasse@gmail.com)), Mother of Greta  
Abby Taylor ([abbylynn00@gmail.com](mailto:abbylynn00@gmail.com)), Mother of Fiona