

Welcome

Welcome to the Port Byron Central Schools' UPK program! Now begins a wonderful school experience for you and your child. It also is the start of a very meaningful relationship between home and school that will last for the remainder of your child's school career.

Health and Safety

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic your child's health and safety continues to be our main priority. Due to this reason, we will continue to follow all recommended guidelines put forth by the school and the county health department. These safeguards include the wearing of masks while indoors, social distancing, when possible, frequent cleaning and sanitizing of toys, materials, and classroom areas, and handwashing throughout the day. Each classroom is also equipped with extra masks for the students should they be needed.

Hours

UPK is a full-day program, 5 days a week with hours from 7:50 A.M. – 2:20 P.M.

UPK Curriculum

The primary purpose of our UPK program is to provide an overall enriching experience that meets the health, nutritional, developmental, social, and educational needs of all students. Daily learning experiences allow children to play, listen, talk, sing, share and cooperate while also developing individual interests and academic foundational skills in reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, and the arts. Our curriculum follows the NYS Prekindergarten Foundation for the Common Core and for implementation we will be using the New York State Education Department curricula modules in ELA and Math. To learn more please feel free to visit EngageNY.org. From there you can take a closer look at what your child will be learning over this school year.

Our areas of focus for ELA will be All About me, Families and Communities, Animals, Plants, Habitats, Classic Tales, and Important People. Math focus areas will consist of Counting to Five, Shapes, Counting to 10, Comparison of Length, Weight, Capacity, and Numbers to 5, Addition and Subtraction Stories, and Counting to 20.

Assessment

To provide an overall picture of growth and development your child will take part in a variety of assessments throughout the year. Each quarter your child will receive a report card that follows the Common Core standards. Your child's scores will be determined based on teacher observations, skills performances, and overall performance on ELA and Math assessment tools.

Services

If there is a need for any additional services (speech, OT, PT) there is a referral process that can be pursued through the school's Special Programs Department. Please ask for additional information if you have any concerns.

Typical Day

As in any classroom the schedule can change on any given day. However, listed below are the main components that your child will experience daily:

- Breakfast and Lunch (free to all students)
- Daily Snack (provided)
- ELA/Math Instruction
- Open Centers/Free Choice Time
- Social Emotional Instruction
- Recess
- Daily Special (Library, Art, P.E., Music)
- Rest Time

Communication

We strive to maintain an open, positive relationship with our families. We are always available to discuss any matters and frequently use the following methods:

- Email:
 - Mrs. Hares: shares@pbcschools.org
 - Mrs. Komoroski: jkomoroski@pbcschools.org
 - Mrs. Bellamy: abellamy@pbcschools.org
- Student folders- Notes, Monthly Calendars, Communication Logs
- Phone Calls
- Class Dojo
- Parent Conferences/End of Year Survey

In addition to these resources the district's main website also provides a wide array of information. In the event of an emergency (weather related or otherwise) there is an automated system that will contact you with pertinent information.

Parent Participation

During a typical school year there are a number of opportunities available for you to take part in your child's educational experience. Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic these events may look slightly different and are subject to change as the situation continues to evolve. Some examples of such events include, but are not limited to:

- Orientation
- Curriculum Night
- Halloween ~ Special Persons Day
- Field Trips
- End of Year Celebration
- Parent/Teacher Conferences

Birthdays

Special treats on or near your child's birthday are welcome with a few guidelines:

- Please notify us in advance of the date you would like to have your child celebrate.
- Treats must be store bought and should be simple
- Please provide any additional necessities (plates, silverware, etc.)

Arrival/Dismissal and Illness

If your child arrives late to school, they will need to be taken to the Lehn entrance on the main bus loop to be signed in. They will then be escorted to their classroom.

For early dismissal or if your child is ill and needs to leave school, please go to the Lehn Office to sign out your child. The office will notify the correct individual and your child will be brought to you.

For pick up at regular dismissal time please use the parking loop out back, near the Athletic entrance/stadium. Your child will be brought to you.

If your child is absent, please remember to notify the school and send an excuse/doctor's note upon their return.

We are excited to start the new school year with you and your child. We are here to help in any way we can so please never hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. Here's to a great year!



The UPK Team,

Mrs. Hares
Mrs. Komoroski
Mrs. Bellamy

UPK Supply List

- ☐ Large, easy to open backpack (no wheels please)
- ☐ (2) boxes of Ziploc baggies (1 sandwich, 1 gallon size)
- ☐ (1) paint shirt (old t-shirt of mom or dad is fine, please label)
- ☐ (1) change of clothes for emergencies (please pack in large Ziploc labeled with your child's name)
- ☐ (1) blanket for rest time (labeled with your child's name)
- ☐ ___ Extra pair of sneakers to keep in locker for P.E.
- ☐ ___ Extra sweatshirt to keep in locker
- ☐ ___ Please send a water bottle daily

