Welcome to Kindergarten! 🌟

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to an exciting new school year! My name is **Kristen Hebert**, and this is my 24th year of teaching. I absolutely love kindergarten, and I am so looking forward to an amazing year of growth, discovery, and fun with your child.

Joining our classroom team this year is our wonderful paraprofessional, **Miss Tyra Smith**. Together, Miss Smith and I are dedicated to creating an inclusive, exciting, and well-balanced environment for your child. We will be focusing heavily on both academic and social learning—encouraging the children to make and keep friends, build a strong classroom community, and grow into confident learners.

Because learning takes practice and lots of repetition, **daily attendance is incredibly important**. We can't wait to see your child's smiling face each day!

🚌 Transportation & Arrival/Dismissal

- **Bus Information:** You will receive specific information directly from the bus company regarding your child's bus stop and pickup times.
- **Bus Safety:** To ensure everyone gets home safely, a **designated adult MUST be at the bus stop EACH day** to meet your child. For the first month or so, I will place a bus tag on your child's backpack, and they will wear a safety wristband.
- **Drop-Off:** School doors open at **7:40 AM**. Please use the **Kindergarten Entrance**. Breakfast is served daily!
- **Pick-Up:** Dismissal pickup will be located down by the **big playground**.

🎒 What Your Child Needs

- **Backpack:** A regular-sized bookbag (no mini-backpacks, please, as they need to fit folders and projects).
- **Home-to-School Folder:** I will supply this folder. It will travel back and forth daily and **must be checked every evening** for important notes and student work.
- **School Supplies:** All traditional school supplies will be provided by the school!
- **Spare Clothes:** Accidents happen! Please send a complete change of clothes (**top, bottom, underwear, and socks**) in a labeled bag to stay in your child's locker. If these clothes get used, please send a replacement set the next day.

👕 School Uniform Policy

We are a uniform school. Please ensure your child dresses in our school colors:

- **Daily Uniform:** Khaki, blue, and white.
- **Gym Days:** Navy or grey sweatpants and sneakers are acceptable.

🗓️ Mark Your Calendar & Stay Connected

- **Mid-August (Communication Setup):** I will send you an **Apptegy invitation** via text or email. **Please accept this request as soon as you see it**, as this is the primary tool I will use to communicate crucial information regarding the start of school. ALL communication and notifications will be sent through Apptegy and not paper.
- **September 16 is Meet the Teacher Night:** I will go over our full academic curriculum and classroom expectations during this event. Stay tuned for the time.

🏫 Wish List & Contact Info

If you are able to donate to our classroom, we can always use a few extra community supplies to keep our room clean and healthy. We are so grateful for donations of:

- Tissues
- Clorox wipes
- Hand sanitizer

If you have any immediate questions before the school year starts, please feel free to reach out to me.

📞 **School Phone:** 475-220-5900

- **Email:** Kristen.hebert@new-haven.k12.ct.us

Miss Smith and I are thrilled to partner with you this year to help your child thrive. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we will see you soon!

Warmly,

Mrs. Kristen Hebert

Kindergarten Teacher