



Welcome to the Transitional Kindergarten class!

I am excited to begin my third year as the TK Tigers teacher! My name is Frances Smith. I have been teaching at Little School of the West for 33 years. Twelve in the kindergarten class and before that I taught pre-k for 19 years. I have two beautiful daughters and three precious grandchildren.

I count it a privilege and a blessing to work with your child and family during this important time in his/her education and development. I would appreciate your prayers for our class this year. Pray that each student would know that Jesus loves them and would grow in the knowledge of Him and receive His best for their lives, that they would love Jesus and each other. Pray that the Lord would give me the wisdom and guidance in meeting each student's individual learning needs, and that every child would also love school and learning. God is entrusting me with the most valuable treasure that you have and I want to give my best and follow His will for this year as I hope to prepare your child for success in kindergarten.



In this newsletter, you will find important information that will be useful throughout the school year.

Newsletters: Every week there will be a newsletter explaining what we are learning for the week and if there are any special activities. You will be able to access the class newsletter on our website littleschoolofthewest.com and it will also be posted on the parent board (located above the cubbies). Please read it thoroughly.

Folder & Bag: Each student will have their own folder and bag to transport papers to and from school. Please take it home and look through the information carefully. Be sure to return it every day as it will also be used to send home correspondence from the office as well as your child's school work.

Unit of Study: Each week we will explore a different subject about the world around us. I will plan as many activities as possible around the unit of study to help give the students a full understanding of it.

Language and Literacy: Each week the students will participate in a special pre-reading program from the Rowland Reading Foundation called "Happily Ever After" as part of our curriculum this year. Children will be learning all about classic fairy tales and experience literature through a multi-sensory approach. There are ten units of study. The student will bring home their completed activities after we finish each unit.

Bible Time: We will have a new Bible story each week. As a school, we believe in the importance of teaching the children about the historical significance of the Bible and how it can be applied to their lives. There will also be a new Bible verse each week. The student who can say the verse at the end of the week will earn a special award.



Art: Students will participate in art activities and crafts every week and will be introduced to many of the great artists of the past through children's literature. They will have the opportunity to create works of art inspired by such greats as Van Gogh, Cezanne, Monet and others.

Sharetime: We have share day every week. The students may bring one item to share on their designated day. Tuesday/Thursday students may bring something to share on Thursday. Monday/Wednesday/Friday and 5 day students will share on Friday. Please put share item in your child's cubby, where it will stay until the appropriate share time. I like to encourage the students to bring something associated with the unit of study or Bible story to enhance their learning.

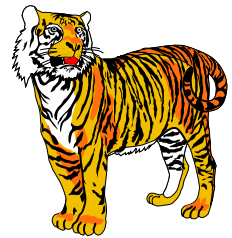
Special Snack: Occasionally we will do a special snack that will require assistance from the parents. I will put up a sign-up sheet for specific items to be brought to school for parents who would like to contribute or volunteer their time.

Field trips: I will be planning four field trips throughout the school year. These field trips are designed to enhance the units of study. I encourage all children to participate! Please refer to the school handbook for more information regarding field trips.



Birthdays: We love to celebrate birthdays at school! We will recognize each student on or near their special day. You may bring treats to be served at morning snack time. I prefer cookies, muffins or brownies. Please do not send anything with lots of frosting, as they are messy and difficult to clean up in the classroom. All the students will help to make a birthday book for the birthday child to take home, and he/she will have a special crown to wear for the day. Please inform me one month in advance if you would like your child to celebrate their birthday at school.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and be informed.
I'm looking forward to a GRRReat year with my new TK Tigers!



May God bless you as we encourage your children together!