



Preschool at Antelope Trails Newsletter

Teacher: Meghan Novak

Paraprofessionals: Lauren Gearhart and Jessica Rutledge

August 2017



Welcome to Antelope Trails Preschool

Hello everyone, and welcome to Mrs. Meghan's class! Your teachers this year are myself, Miss Lauren and Mrs. Jessica. This first newsletter will give you some ideas of what to expect from preschool. Newsletters will usually include: upcoming preschool curriculum topics, important information, letters and sounds of the week, and upcoming events. Newsletters are monthly here at Antelope Trails.

A little about our paraprofessionals...

My name is Lauren Gearhart. I come from a military family (father is retired Army), but have been fortunate enough to stay in Colorado. I am the youngest of my family and have two older brothers and a sister-in-law that are currently serving in the military (Marines and Navy). I obtained my bachelors degree from Colorado State University and I currently am obtaining my Masters in Special Education; Early Childhood. In my free time, I love to go running with my two labs, Cooper and Bailey, cook, go hiking & skiing and hangout with my friends and family. Throughout my life I have dedicated my heart and passion to the success of younger child in helping them explore their surroundings and create a developmentally sound foundation for lifetime of learning. I look forward to the opportunity to getting to know each of you and helping your child be successful.

Hello! My name is Jessica Rutledge, and I am excited to be at Antelope Trails preschool for a second year. I have lots of family in my hometown still in Texas, who I enjoy visiting whenever possible. About 2 years ago, we moved our two kiddos to Colorado from Oklahoma, where I also enjoyed working in an early childhood setting. I have a sweet daughter who I spend weekends with at cheer! I also enjoy spending time with my husband and son watching our favorite Dallas Cowboys!

During the school year:

We are using a very enjoyable curriculum called "We Can," in addition to our International Baccalaureate program units. These will go hand in hand as the driving academics for your child's preschool year. These units, which will be enriched through your children's interests, will incorporate all areas of development. Our first unit is based on self-awareness and is called "Who Am I?" The lines of inquiry (concepts we will explore) include:

- Recognizing my own unique physical characteristics
- Exploring what I can do
- Explaining feelings; likes and dislikes
- Recognizing myself as part of my family
- Seeing how I am growing and changing

The morning and afternoon classes will be exploring IB Inquiry based units of study that are based on our International principles here at Antelope Trails. All students will learn IB character traits, RULER theory for social/emotional

intelligence, and become engaged in IB planners as units of study.



Letter of the week and Sound of the week:

During the year, along with the letter of the week, we will be practicing the sound of the week. During our practice of the sound, your children will be learning how to correctly move their mouths for sound production, and we will introduce some sound discrimination. Our wonderful speech/language pathologist, Ruth Frith will support us with language groups and in sound production. We will also be using a program called Zoophonics to help teach letter sounds, letter recognition and phonemic awareness. Through the “We Can” curriculum, we will have target vocabulary each week.



Book Orders:

Throughout the school year I will be sending home book orders from Scholastic. Scholastic book orders are a great way to build your home library, as the books are sold at a discounted price. Also, with each book order the class receive points to build the classroom library for years to come. Please do not feel obligated to these.



First Week Fun:

During the first weeks of school we will be working on the classroom routine, learning about new friends, exploring social skills, and learning names of teachers and peers. Preschool is a play-based environment and you will be proud to see what your children will glean from it. During these weeks, we concentrate on self-awareness, social skills, friend making, and routines.



Snack:

During our preschool day we will be having snack. It is your job to provide a healthy snack for your child in their backpack everyday. You are more than welcome to also send a water bottle with your child’s name or other drink. Please note that Antelope Trails is a peanut free school: **WHEN PROVIDING SNACK PLEASE PROVIDE SNACKS THAT DON’T CONTAIN NUTS!** If you have a special circumstance or questions, please let me know. We also will be welcoming birthday treats throughout the year!



Extra clothes:

Please make sure to send an extra pair of clothes: including socks and underwear, for your child in a Ziploc bag labeled with their name, and AM or PM on the bag. We will keep these on-site for messes and accidents.

Paperwork:

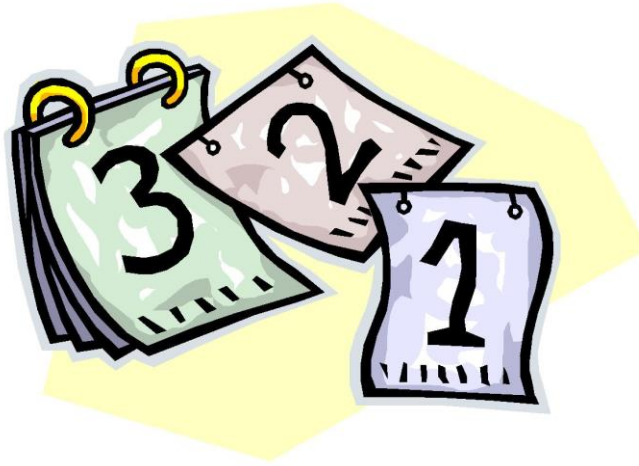
All necessary preschool paperwork given out at the “Meet the teacher” event or sent in the mail by D20, must be returned no later than your child’s first day of school. We are regulated by the Department of Human Services, and required to have all forms in the children’s files before a child stays on site at school! **Please do not forget or your child may be asked to stay out of school until paperwork is returned.**



Contact Info:

Phone Numbers:

- Main Attendance line ATE: 234-4100
- Preschool Classroom: 234-4155
- Mrs. Meghan’s Voicemail: 234-6516
- Preschool Secretary (at EAC): 234-1750
- Email: meghan.novak@asd20.org



Antelope Trails Preschool Important Dates Calendar

Monday, August 21st - First Day for preschool students

Friday, August 25th- "Meet us in the Park" ALL DISTRICT Preschool Picnic. More info to come...

Monday, September 4th - Labor Day-NO PRESCHOOL

Tuesday, September 5th - NO PRESCHOOL, staff professional development day

Wednesday, September 13th-Class and individual picture day