

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Hello, and welcome to a new school year at Arno Elementary! My name is Cassie Harrison and I am THRILLED to be your child's teacher this year! It is going to be a fun year filled with learning and new adventures – I can't wait to see what the year has in store for us! I am so excited to get to know each of you and your children, but first, here is a little information about me.

I grew up in Canton but currently live in Garden City with my wonderful husband Nick, our almost 2 year-old daughter Nora, and our dog Finn. I have four awesome younger siblings: 2 brothers and 2 sisters. I also have four siblings-in-law and two nephews. I love spending time with my family and watching my brothers, sisters, and nephews grow up! Besides teaching, I enjoy crafting, cooking, reading, and being outdoors. I graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn (I am a big Michigan fan – Go Blue!) with a major in Early Childhood Education. I also have a Master's degree in Reading Specialist from U of M-Dearborn.

This will be my sixth year teaching but my first year teaching Kindergarten. I am SO excited for this new chapter in my teaching journey. Previously I taught ECP (Early Childhood Special Education) here at Arno and Lindemann. I feel so blessed to be teaching at Arno, it is truly an amazing school! I absolutely love teaching and being a part of the immense growth that happens every day with young children. I look forward to supporting and encouraging that growth with your children and working with you to make this year successful and enjoyable!

Each week, you will receive a homework chart/newsletter regarding what is happening in our classroom, volunteering and donation opportunities, and events and projects that are coming up. This newsletter will be emailed to you, in addition to being put in your child's folder every Monday. Please note that the right side of the folder will contain papers for you to keep at home and the left side of the folder is for papers that need to come back to school. The homework chart should stay in the folder all week, be signed each night, and will be collected the following Monday.

We also have a class website at: www.arnoharrison.weebly.com where you will find a classroom/school calendar, classroom documents, resources for home, and more!

Please feel free to contact me via phone, email, or note anytime!

Here's to a fabulous school
year!

Mrs. Cassie Harrison

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See back for
more
information on
daily routines!

- **Rest Time:** Your child will have about 20 minutes in the afternoon to rest their minds and their bodies. There is so much happening every day in Kindergarten, this time is always much needed! The expectation is not necessarily to nap, but to relax. The students have the option of sitting on the carpet or at their table. We typically watch an episode of Curious George or something similar.
- **Extra Clothes:** Please send in a change of clothes for your child to wear in the event of an accident. Even if your child doesn't typically have accidents, there could be a bad spill, muddy puddles, etc. Having a change of clothes at school minimizes any embarrassment. **Please send change of clothes in a ziploc bag with your child's name on it.**
- **Snacks:** I will have snacks in the classroom to get us through the first two weeks of school. If you would like your child to continue to have their snack provided at school, please donate a snack to our classroom! Suggestions for donations are: cheerios, rice chex, goldfish, pretzels, cheez-its, animal crackers, veggie straws. If you need more ideas do not hesitate to ask. **Please, nothing with peanut butter or nuts.** Snacks do not have to be individually wrapped-you can send in the box! Please donate coffee filters as well, these are excellent for serving snack due to their bowl shape 😊
- **Lunch Count and Money:** Every morning we send a complete list of every child's lunch choice for the day to the office. Please make sure your child knows what they are having for lunch every day. Choices are: brought a lunch from home, hot lunch, PB&J, and milk. If you are sending in money for your child's lunch account so they may buy lunch, please send it in a sealed envelope or ziploc bag with your child's name and put it in their folder. This money will be loaded on to their school lunch card/account. We **strongly suggest** sending in a check rather than money-that way no money can be lost!
- **Lunch/Recess:** Your child will go to lunch at 11:00 am. There are only Kindergarten and Young 5's students in the lunchroom at this time and a lunchroom aide is with them to help open things, clean up, etc. After lunch, they go outside (weather permitting) or play indoors for a 15-minute recess. In the afternoon, I will typically take the students outside for a short second recess so they can get some much needed exercise.
- **Arrival/Dismissal:** Students will enter and exit at door #10 on Markese. This door is only used for dropping off and picking up at the scheduled times. If you are arriving late or leaving early you must go through the office.
 - **Arrival Procedure:** School doors will open at 8:20 and students will enter the building where they will wait inside for school to start. They will sit along the wall outside of our classroom and will be monitored by school safeties. They will enter the classroom at 8:30 when the bell rings, I will be at the classroom door to welcome them in to the room.
 - **Dismissal Procedure:** Students will be released at 3:30. Until all the students have a very firm grasp on the dismissal procedures, I will dismiss one student at a time to ensure they are safely matched with the correct people. If you are not present to pick your child up by 3:40, I will take him or her to the office to get picked up. Unfortunately, I will not be available to chat at pick up time as I have to go pick up my daughter at her school by 4:00-thank you for your understanding with this! You may always send me an email or message on ClassDojo if there is something you need to discuss right away.

Thank you SO MUCH for your support! Please let me know if you have questions about anything.

Much more information to come! I will see you at Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, September 12th at 6:30 pm!