

HELLO tHere!

My name is Leah Townsend and I am ecstatic to be your child's Kindergarten Teacher for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year at Brentwood Elementary!



TEACHING BACKGROUND

This year is my third year as a teacher with Elk Island Public Schools, and my second year both at Brentwood in Kindergarten. I am so excited to continue developing relationships with the families of Brentwood Elementary!

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

Colors: Pink & Black
Food: Popcorn
Drinks: Latte
Favorite Children's Book: Winnie the Pooh
Hobbies: reading, cooking, baking, tennis
Restaurant: The Keg
Stores: Dollar Tree

COMMUNICATION

Email: leah.townsend@eips.ca (this is the best way to contact me!)
Phone Number: 780-467-5591
Brentwood Website: www.brentwoodelementary.ca > Kindergarten
You can also communicate with me through your child's agenda.

If you have any questions, concerns, or want to inform me of anything important about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you so much and I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child!



MS. TOWNSEND'S KINDERGARTEN GROUP A JANUARY NEWS



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope that everybody enjoyed their winter break with their families and was able to appreciate what Christmas is all about. We have many exciting events going on this month and this year. Please continue to read the newsletter and weekly emails to stay up-to-date on the events in our classroom and school! Students will be continuing their mornings in their regular classroom, but we will be moving across the hallway in the afternoons for imagination centers.

SCHOOL DAYS

8:30-3:04 Jan. 7, 10, 14, 16, 17, 21, 24, 28, 30, 31

Please remain outside until the bell rings before and after school. In inclement weather, students will be permitted to wait in the boot room. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 7 - First Day Back
Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31 - Skating
Jan. 16 - John Walter Museum Field Trip

****Please note: Library will be changing to MONDAY's for the remainder of the year.**

SHOW AND TELL CHANGES

Beginning on Tuesday, January 8th, we will be changing the format of show and tell. Students will receive a "Rhyming Bag" and clue slip the day prior to their special day. They will return with their show and tell in the pail on their special day. The item must be small enough to fit into the bag, and must only be ONE item. Please help your child brainstorm a rhyming word to go with their show and tell. There will be a page to go along with the bag, but the poem goes: "I don't mean to brag but there's something in my bag. If you listen to this clue, I'll bet you can guess it too! It rhymes with _____". If the item is a doll, you can rhyme with ball, small, call... any rhyming word!



MS. TOWNSEND'S KINDERGARTEN GROUP A JANUARY NEWS PG. 2



HOME READING PROGRAM

If your child is still working on completing a home reading sheet, they may send it back in when it is finished to receive their prize. There will be no new pages coming home. Instead, your child will now be challenged to read to you! Your child will receive a bag with 2 home reading books and a book log. Once the books have been read THREE TIMES, the bag can be returned for new books. Thanks!

THEME

This "Winter Wonderland" is upon us and it will be our focus as we begin the New Year. We will explore winter as a season and the things there are to do. We will be reading a variety of winter-themed literature and will begin skating. It will be a great month!

SCHOLASTIC

Book orders will be due on January 21 by the end of the school day. Orders can be placed online and submitted to me (Leah Townsend) or you can send in the paper order form with a cheque.

LITERACY IS A FAMILY THING

Beginning at the end of January is our L.I.F.T. Bags. Students are able to take the bag home for one week if you return the sign up form - no bag will be sent home without a consent form returned. You will be responsible for the materials in the bag when it is sent with your child. The L.I.F.T. bags are a program that support children's literacy and numeracy development by providing books and materials which families can enjoy together at home. The bags are theme-based and contain an assortment of books, games, wipe off boards, etc. Directions and suggested activities are included. Please do not feel that you need to complete every activity in the bag. They are intended to promote literacy and numeracy in the home, not to be a burden and an overwhelming amount of activities. If you sign up, you will receive a bag approximately once a month.



MS. TOWNSEND'S KINDERGARTEN GROUP A JANUARY NEWS PG. 3



JOHN WALTER MUSEUM FIELD TRIP

As part of the historical thinking section of our Social Studies curriculum, we will travel to The John Walter Museum in the river valley to participate in the "Urban Pioneers" program.

Students will have the opportunity to bake scones, dip candles, card wool, make butter,

Tour the houses, and learn about families/communities and traditions of long ago. This Field trip will take place during class time on Wednesday, January 16. The permission form will be coming home in early January. If you wish to volunteer, sign up on the permission form!

PLAYING OUTSIDE

Please remember to send weather appropriate clothing for your child every Day. Ski pants, mitts, hats, and scarves make For optimum fun in the snow! We go outside Twice a day for recess so proper attire is Required. Please encourage your child to Dress themselves in their gear at home.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who attended Our Christmas Concert, brought in supplies For special days, and volunteered in class in December. A successful year would not Be possible without your support!!

SKATING

Thursday, January 10 will be our first skating day, weather permitting. We are also scheduled to skate on 3-4 other Fridays through January and February. We will be skating on the outdoor rink here on the school grounds. We will cancel skating should be weather be -20 with the wind chill. This decision will be made the day of skating, unless the forecast predicts extreme weather the night before. I will let you know through the day if skating has been canceled.

Each child must have a pair of sharpened skates and a CSA approved helmet, as well as warm winter gear to participate. Please ensure the helmet has a CSA approved sticker on it. Bicycle helmets will not be considered adequate head protection. Make sure it fits snug, and the chin strap is adjusted so it makes contact under the chin when fastened. We will skate 11:00-12:00 and will definitely require help with tying up skates! Visit Totem Outfitters on 99th Street to purchase used skates if you do not have any!

Thank you, Ms. Townsend