

Welcome

to Ms. Amber's  Class!

Meet the Teacher

Hello and welcome to 4K! I am looking forward to an educational and exciting school year together!

My name is Amber Finster and I graduated from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in January of 2014, with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education with a dual license in Special Education. I live in Elkhorn with my husband, Roy, and in February we will be welcoming a little Baby Finster! I started teaching 4K at Lakeland's Little Learners in 2015 and I have thoroughly enjoyed it! I love spending time with my friends and my very large family. I also love sports, reading, and traveling.



Contact Information

Lakeland's Little Learners Phone

Number: 262-723-8391

Ms. Amber's Email:

afinster@lakelandlittlelearners.com



Remind

Remind is a texting app that we use as another tool to communicate with our families. It sends out text messages to your phone for important reminders and communications. I will be using this app a lot since there is much less face to face contact! Please follow the directions below to sign up.

AM Class (4K1) Enter the number, **81010** for the phone number.

In the text, type **@msamber4k1** and send

PM Class (4K5) Enter the number, **81010** for the phone number.

In the text, type **@msamber4k5** and send



Arrival

-Parents that drop off - Walk your child around to their classroom in their mask. The teacher will be waiting inside the door or already out on the playground. Please try not to come to the classroom until shortly before class starts at 8:35 am (12:30pm for afternoon class)! There are other classes that share the room and teachers need time to prepare for class.

-Ms. Terry will get bus riders off the bus and bring them to the playground.

-Bring child out to the preschool playground and check in with their teacher.

-If the weather doesn't allow us to go outside, the students will find a table toy at the front tables in the classroom.

-Students will not be allowed to wear their outside shoes in the building. Please mark their name on their shoes as they will line them up on the floor under their cubby and wear their socks or slippers in the room.



Departure

-Students will retrieve their folder from their mailbox and collect backpacks and belongings

-Bus riders will line up at their designated spot by the tables with Ms. Terry

-Pick-ups will wait at the tables with Ms. Amber until their ride arrives. Pick up at the back door of the classroom.

-Please be prompt for pick-ups, you can be as early as 11:10am or 3:15pm for the afternoon class. Thank you!



Cubbies

Each child has a cubby labeled with their name. Please bring in a full set of extra clothes to keep in your child's cubby. This is not just for bathroom accidents; spills and messes happen and we want everyone to be dry and comfortable. Also, as the year goes on, weather changes, and children grow, please make sure appropriate extra clothes are available for your child. If you are looking for something to do with your child's too small clothes, please keep Lakeland's Little Learners in mind for donations, as we always need extras.

Backpacks will be hung on the hook directly under each child's cubby. (Please make sure backpacks are large enough to carry a 2 pocket folder, no mini backpacks, thank you!) When it starts to get cooler and your child starts bringing their jackets and coats please be aware that as a center policy, they are to be put in their cubby, backpack, or recyclable eco bag, they cannot hang on the hook or be put in a plastic grocery bag.

Take Home Folders

Lakeland's Little Learners will provide your child with a vinyl folder that will travel from home to school in your child's backpack. In this folder, we will send home Friday Newsletters, school communications, and family connection activities. Please check these folders daily for new information, and we will check them daily for any communication from you. There will be a "take home" and a "bring back to school" pocket, so please put communications in the correct pocket so we can get back to you ASAP. We will also be sending home a weekly parent connection activity which will be located in the plastic sleeve in the folder. We encourage you to take the folders home and bring them back every day, even if there is nothing in them, so we can all get into a routine.



Newsletter

Every Friday we will send home a newsletter. You can choose to receive a paper copy or an email. Paper copies will be sent home in your child's folder and emails will be sent out around noon. The newsletters describe what we learned during the week and what we will do the following week. We will give you ideas for weekly family activities, which are related to what we're learning in class. Also, we will list special and important dates to keep an eye out for, such as class parties and no school days.

Star of the Week



Every student will get the opportunity to be our special student for the week. The Friday before their week, we will send home a poster and instructions. Please return the instructions and the poster of your child's favorite things the following Monday. You can use the paper provided (or not), you can be as creative as you want! Your child may also bring five special items to share with the class for show and tell on Friday that week. If it is a week with no 4K on Friday, your child can bring their show and tell on Thursday.

Birthdays and Snacks

When it is your child's birthday, or there's a special occasion, you are always welcome to bring in a treat for the class. Please ask teachers for any special allergy restrictions.

-There are no obligations to bring in a birthday treat-

Lakeland's Little Learners provides a snack and milk every day for each student. There is a monthly snack calendar posted on the Lakeland's Little Learners website. If your child has food allergies, they can bring in their own healthy snack if they choose.



Month of September



Family Connection Activities:

Every Monday in your child's blue folder, you will find an activity card. Some weeks there will be another piece of paper too, depending on the activity. Activities can include identifying letters, writing numbers, or even practicing rhyming words. Every week will be a little different. Spend some time going over the activity with your child throughout the week. You can complete the activity as many times as you'd like! Try to keep the alphabet, number, shape, color, etc. charts that are sent home as they may be used again for a future activity. There is no need to return any completed activities. However, feel free to ask any questions! You can text me on the remind app, email me, or write it down and put it right in the plastic pocket.

Ages and Stages:

Lakeland's Little Learners has adopted the "Ages and Stages" questionnaire as a screening tool to help us get to know your child better. We are asking you to fill out this questionnaire about your child and return it in September. This information will help us in preparing lesson plans, give us a better idea at what level each child is functioning at, and how they have developed through your eyes. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

All About Me Theme:

We will be kicking off our school year with an "All About Me" theme, in which we will get to know more about all of the students and their families. We are looking forward to the children beginning the year by creating self-portraits, family portraits, writing their names, making their house out of shapes, and more! This also allows us to start assessing what level the children are at, and facilitate the planning of developmentally appropriate activities and lessons.

Important Dates:

9/8- First Day of School

TBD- School Pictures

9/16- No School - **(We do not have school every 3rd Wednesday of the month.)**

10/5- No School (Teacher In-Service)

10/21- No School (3rd Wednesday)

10/30- No School (Holiday Break)

