**Welcome to Ms. Preston’s Kindergarten Class!**

Dear Parents,

Good afternoon! My name is Lauren Preston and I am very excited to be your student’s Kindergarten teacher! I graduated from the University of Houston majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies in December 2010. I have been a certified teacher in EC-6 grade since December 2010. I am also ESL certified. I began my teaching career as an elementary substitute teacher for Fort Bed ISD. In August 2012 I started my career as a fourth grade teacher in Alief ISD for two years, then I taught second grade for a semester. This past January I transferred to Holy Ghost School as a Kindergarten teacher.

**What to Expect**

* I know that Kindergarten can be a little nerve wrecking for some of the students entering the class (even for the parents/guardians) but I assure you that it will be one of the most memorable experiences for your child!
* This year the students will learn alphabet, sounds, knowledge of using a book, reading patterned texts, writing, addition, subtraction, money and different areas of science, international studies and social studies.
* Besides academic skills, students to grow socially, emotionally, intellectually and morally. I believe that building confidence is key with students so there will be **positive** reinforcement for each student daily!
* We will have a classroom behavior clip chart that will be used to determine your student’s daily conduct. Each student will start on green and students may move their clips up and down throughout the day depending on the choices they make. If the student is on blue at the end of the day, he/she will receive a trip to the treasure box!

**Communication**

* Communication is a very important part of education and should be viewed as a priority by both the teacher and parent. Parents, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.  Should a question arise, send a note in your child’s folder, leave a message at school or email me.  **Remember that during school hours, I will not be able to meet with you if you drop in unexpectedly as this creates a loss of valuable instruction time.  If you feel like you need to speak to me in person please make an appointment so I can give your concern the attention it deserves.**Thank you for your help and support.
* I will communicate through e-mails, notes (sent in folder), phone calls or appointments.

**Homework/Green Folder**

* Homework is as important in kindergarten as it is in other grades.  Homework will be sent home in the Green homework folder. Make time each night to read with your child and review daily work. Please be sure to check the folder **every day** for homework information and important notes from me or from the school. **The student is expected to bring this folder to school every day as well.**

**Toys at School**

* School is a place for learning. Toys are **not**allowed and students will be asked to put them in their backpack or on my desk until the end of the day.  This includes but is not limited to: action figures, dolls, make-up, stuffed animals, jewelry, etc. Please make sure that your child is aware of this.

**Snacks**

* Snacks will be provided to the students after their nap-time (1:45 p.m.). The school provides juice/water and crackers, animal crackers or cheese nips for snack time. The students are more than welcome to bring a snack from home for this time.

**Attendance**

* Attendance is very important. Please make sure your child is in school every day.  If your child is not here they cannot learn and may fall behind in academics and social skills.  All learning and work assignments are done in class.

I am so excited to be your child’s kindergarten teacher!

Sincerely,

Ms. Preston