

Winter Snow Gear



Dear Room 2 Families:

Now, that the winter weather has arrived, please try to help your child stick to the following guidelines during this season that will greatly help to make getting dressed for recess, playing outside, and packing up at dismissal much more successful for everyone!

UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO LIMITED SPACE, STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LEAVE SNOW PANTS, BOOTS, ETC. AT SCHOOL.

Students will only need to bring their winter BOOTS and SNOWPANTS when there is snow falling or predicted during the day or for playing at recess when there is a lot of snow on the ground.

1. Wear a winter coat along with a warm winter hat, gloves/mittens, scarf/warmer (if you have one) to school each day. We try to go outside each day unless it is too cold (usually below 20 degrees or icy or wet). Mittens are much easier than gloves for students to put on independently. **Please LABEL your child's initials or name on the tag or somewhere on these items.**
2. Your child is allowed to bring/wear snow pants and winter boots. **Please send them in a PLASTIC bag (so if they get wet from recess, the snow pants can be put back in the bag and not leak in the backpack and LABEL the bag, the snow pants and boots with your child's initials or name.** You should then put the plastic bag inside another travel bag for your child to carry to school. The plastic character type bags with handles are great for transporting the snow pants and boots, and these type of bags make it easy for your child to identify which one belongs to him/her.
3. If your child wears **BOOTS** to school, **please send in a pair of SNEAKERS** in the **BACKPACK** (not the plastic snow gear bag in case it gets left on the bus) to change into during the school day. Students should **NOT WEAR THEIR BOOTS ALL DAY** because they will get very warm and also they will track water and salt throughout the classroom and school areas.



On most of the days when there is snow outside on the playground, students will have the option of dressing in their snow gear (if they want) during recess time (depending on the condition of the snow and that it is not icy or dangerous). However, please understand that getting an entire classroom full of students dressed in snow gear takes a great deal of time and energy! So, we may not be able to get dressed in the snow gear on some days if we are running short on time. **Please try to practice with your child so he/she can try to do most of the dressing and undressing of the gear without needing a lot of help!** I will be more than happy to help zipper and tie shoe laces if students need help; however, it will be really helpful if students can attempt to try to do it independently or ask a buddy to help them. It is very helpful to remind students to put their sneakers on independently and then ask to have their laces tied.

The school rule is that students MUST have snow pants, boots, mittens and a hat if they are going to play in the snow. If they do not have the snow pants but they have the boots, they will NOT be allowed to play in the snow, and they will need to stay and play on the blacktop. The boots are a great idea on days that are really cold for added warmth and also to keep the feet dry if there is any snow melting on the blacktop area.

Please remind your child to put the hat and scarf on and zipper the coat BEFORE putting on the mittens or gloves. Also, I am teaching the students to put their mittens and scarf into their hat and put that into their coat sleeve for easy access and cut down on the time to pull them out of their backpacks. We usually store the boots and snow pant bags in the hallway on boot trays so they will not get the carpet wet, and also they will be easier to find and put on.

I truly **THANK YOU**, in advance, for your help with getting out to recess in a timely manner and getting dressed and packed up with all of the warm gear at dismissal this winter season! This year, all of the Kindergarten classes have their special classes (Art, P.E., Music or Library/Media) during the very last block of the day (2:30-3:25). **Therefore, I will only have 5 minutes to make sure all students are packed up with coats and hats on with all of their belongings to go home! PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL ITEMS ARE LABELED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME OR INITIALS.**



I try REALLY hard to make sure that nothing is left behind at dismissal, but it can be very difficult if the students do not remember what their items look like ... so please LABEL as much as you can to help! I do realize that it can be an inconvenience for your child to bring the extra winter gear to school, but the students absolutely do love playing in the snow during recess with their school friends! I really appreciate your cooperation with these school guidelines during this winter season.

Sincerely,

Lori Casavant

