

Welcome to Room A11,
Autistic Support Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade!
Your child's teacher for the 2019-2020 school year will be Mrs. Conklin.
Many of our students are returning for a second or third year in A-11, but
we also have a few new students as well.

I have provided your child with a communication log book and school correspondence folder, as well as crayons, markers, glue sticks, scissors, pencils, and a toothbrush. Please make sure that you have these supplies at home for your child to be able to practice with you, too. The communication log will be sent home daily for you to review and sign, and homework will be sent on Monday and collected on Friday, and begins the week of September 9. We will not have books sent home on half days or trip days.

Starting the first day, your child will be using a communication folder. Please sign every day and make sure to work on the homework each night instead of all at once. Remember that practice and repetition is the key to success for children with autism.

We will have snacks, breakfast, and lunch in school every day. Parents are asked to please send a snack to share with the class at the beginning of every month, starting the first week of September. Please note that if your child has special dietary issues, allergies or preferences, you should inform us AND you should send them food from home daily so that we can heat/serve/accommodate them as needed. All items from home should be labeled with your child's name. Food that contains peanuts or tree nuts may NOT be sent to school. Allergies are important to tell us about, as the Nutritionist will also be bringing fruits and veggies for the children to taste twice a month. We cannot provide alternative lunches for children, but we do have a refrigerator and a microwave in our room to accommodate lunches from home.

Beginning the first, we will be introducing the children to the routines we will use all year in our classroom. Your child's attendance at school every day is necessary for them to make progress in school. Our students will attend prep every day with a general ed room for purposes of inclusion, and we will also have two different groups who will attend inclusion for math and reading in the general education rooms. All A-11 students will attend inclusion in one

of these two groups. Lateness and excessive absences mean that your child will miss important learning time. Conversely, children who attend daily usually make the most progress, and achieve appropriate control of troublesome behaviors much quicker.

There will be trips that we will take during the year with the general education classes in addition to community outings with the upper AS rooms, so that our children are able to socialize with their peers and make friends.

In October, we plan to go to a pumpkin patch and in April we plan to go to the zoo. Even more trips are still being planned. The cost of these trips will be announced at least two weeks before payment is needed, and parents may attend these trips with our class in a limited number, with proper clearances filed in the main office. We will hold bake sales to try to assist with payment for the bus. Parents are encouraged to participate. I will send text, email, or Facebook reminders prior to trips with any special instructions.

In addition to trips, we also cook each week in the classroom, and once a month with our friends! We follow picture recipes and enjoy the socialization of being together with our friends from other classes. Again, knowing about allergies or food issues is very important. Please take a moment right now to send a text to Mrs C if this is applicable to your child.

Most of our students are on the bus, but if you are bringing your child to school for any reason, please note that you must come in through the main entrance of the main schoolhouse. That's the tall one with a Front Street door. Parents will not be able to walk thru the building and down to A11 unless we have made an appointment in advance. No students will be dismissed early after 230, so please plan doctor's appointments accordingly. Also, if your child arrives after 10:30, the computer codes it as a half day.

More information is always available for you to understand fully what amazing things you can expect for your child this school year. We have a class Facebook page, ConklinandCompany, to share information and pictures with parents, and a release will come home for you to sign in order to participate.

Please know that all of our children make more progress when we work together with this goal in mind. The staff and I are here to assist and encourage your child to do the very best they can. I am available

before 8 pm most evenings by text, if you need me, at 267-738-8793, or you can send an email to me at mswilley@philasd.org. Please text and let me know that an email has been sent so I am sure to see it quickly. Please make sure I also have your email, just in case. I ask simply that you please respect the fact that I also have a family, and may sometimes not be available, which is why texting is best.

Thanks for working together so our kids can achieve!

Stephanie Conklin

Please send the following supplies with your child in their bag by Tuesday, September 10, 2019 and again by Wednesday, February 5, 2020. Most of the supplies can be purchased in the dollar store.

We need to get routines started early so that they will be effective for your child all year long. Your child's IEP goals address academic, social, personal and domestic maintenance needs. We will use the supplies to teach your child how to be as independent as possible in life.

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- ✓ 1 Pack of white copy paper
 - ✓ 2 Boxes of tissues
 - ✓ 2 Rolls of paper towels
 - ✓ a 4-Pack of dry erase markers (like EXPO) September only
 - ✓ pack of Baby wipes (for faces)
 - ✓ container of Disinfecting wipes (like Clorox, for tables)
 - ✓ Large pump Hand sanitizer (not purse size)
 - ✓ Small tube of toothpaste (that your child likes)
 - ✓ Antibacterial hand soap (with a pump on top)
 - ✓ Change of clothes with everything labeled, including undies, and placed in a gallon sized Ziploc bag so nothing gets lost ☺

*If your child is not fully toilet trained, please also provide diapers and diaper wipes. We recommend sending in a full pack, and we will notify you when either gets low. You will see a note in the communication log regarding supplies.

