

**Welcome to the
Red Owl's
Discovery Class**

Dear Parent(s),

I wanted to take just a few minutes of your time to introduce myself. My name is Kayla Siadak. I have been in this field for many years. Prior to MDO I worked at Kindercare as a One year old teacher, I nannied 3 boys ages 1,2, and 3, and was a Nursery Volunteer Coordinator for my former church. My husband, Tim, and I have a dog we are obsessed with and a really fat cat and are expecting our first child in January. I love anything Christmas, pink, and of glittery. I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child.

Here's a little about what to expect in our classroom this year-

Each month, our classroom calendar/newsletter will be on our website

www.mdoracine.com We try to follow our planned schedule as closely as possible.

We take advantage of the beautiful weather with outside play time and nature walks.

PARENT INFORMATION BOARD

Drop off time is 9:00am and pick-up time is at 2:00pm. Please drive through the alley just North of our school building for drop off and pick up. All students, not in After Care, must be picked up by 2:15 pm. If they are not picked up by 2:15 pm they will be placed in our After Care program.

BACKPACKS

This year we are not storing extra clothes at school. Each day please send your child to school with a backpack with the following items:

- **Complete change of clothes** (Tops, bottoms, underwear, socks, and shoes) If you child is still potty training please send multiple sets.
- **Lunch**
- **Water Bottle** (They will take their water bottles everywhere with us. Outside, gym, music and movement, etc.

SNACK SIGN UP

We ask our parents to bring their child's snacks at the beginning of each month. Please provide enough snacks for 12 children to help carry us through the month. Your snack should include two food groups for the classroom. A list for healthy snack ideas was sent out and also will be posted on our website resource page. MDO will provide water using water filtration pitchers.

LUNCH TIME

MDO supplies 2% milk at lunch and we encourage you to pack a nutritious healthy lunch. If you do not want your child to drink 2% milk for lunch, please provide a milk alternative. This may be stored in a refrigerator at school. Please save sweets and candy for home. We will be practicing self-help skills all year long. Please pack self-serving lunches, it is very helpful. Please remember to label all containers including the lunch box because it is a busy time of our day and easy for items to be misplaced.

SEPARATION ANXIETY

I truly understand that it may be difficult for you to leave your child in a new surrounding and in the care of someone new, especially if your little one is in tears. It is normal for both parents and the child to have feelings of sadness and anxiety. I would suggest the following to help with this transition period:

- * Talk to your child before attending their new adventure.
- * Explain to your child about all of the fun, new things that they will be doing including rest in their sleeping bag. Perhaps practice sleeping in their sleeping bag at home.
- * Always say “Goodbyes” and reassure your child that you will return after rest time.
- * A prompt drop-off and goodbye is easier for your child and the tears usually last for a short time.

At any time, please feel free to call or stop and speak with the director. If your child is having great difficulties adjusting to being in school we will call you and we may suggest a shortened time for them to be in school and gradually lead up to their full day.

NAP TIME

Each child will need a sleeping bag and a small pillow if you would like. These items will be stored in a XL ziploc bag. If your child has a nap time comfort item, please remember to bring it. If it is an item that needs to be taken home each day please put it in a ziplock bag inside their backpack. If it is an item that can stay at school please put it in the child’s sleeping bag. Please, no toys for nap time. Especially for the beginning of the school year. Our naptime usually runs from around 12:30 pm to 2:00pm.

KID REPORTS

Each day you will receive an email sent through a kids report that will detail your child's day at the center. There may be pictures as well. Please check your app store for the Kid Report App which will give you detailed information as it is put in the system,

Please **alert** us, prior to your child's first day, of any special **health concerns or allergies**. Allergies will be posted in the classroom and communicated to the entire school

I am so very excited for this school year. We are going to have so much fun learning through songs and poems. We will be working on colors and shapes, practicing for cutting, manners, and recognizing our letters and numbers. We will start every day out with free playing with our friends. We will have time for circle time where we will work on the date and read a story about the topic of the week. We will have time for music and movement where we will dance and sing and move our bodies. We will run and climb and ride bikes outside or in the gym for at least 30 minutes a day and do a different art or sensory activity daily. I am so excited to get to know you and your child more this year! If you ever have any questions or comments please feel free to email me at kayla.siadak@mdoracine.com.

I am looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Ms. Kayla