



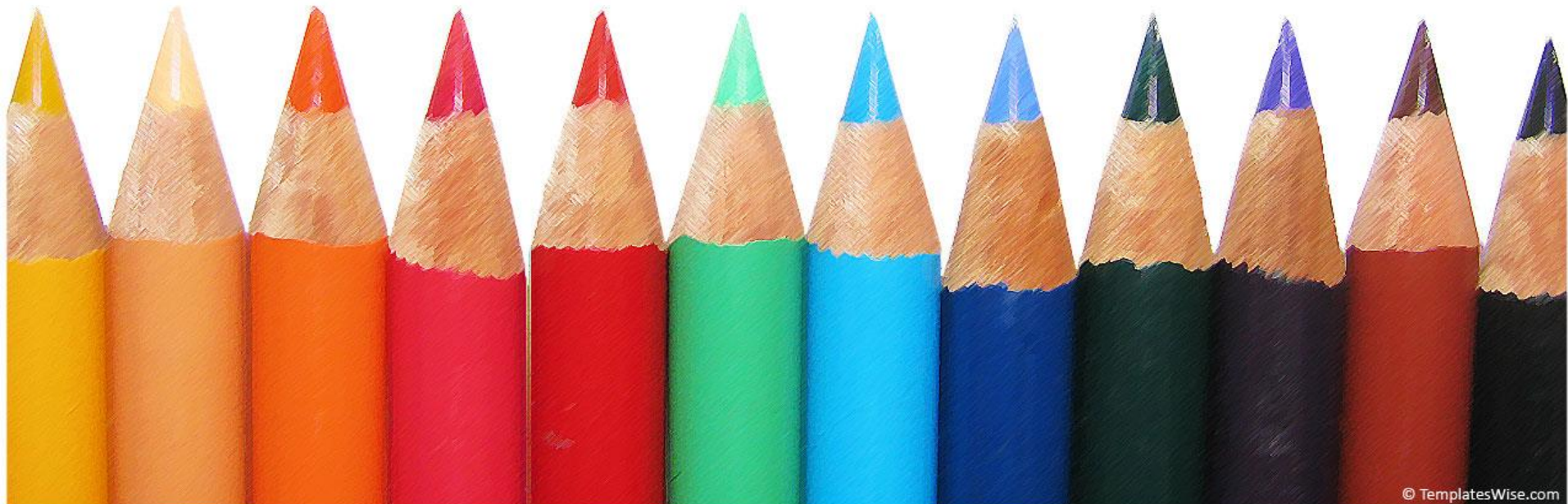
Welcome to Kindergarten

!
Mr. McElrea's Classroom
(Mac-ul-ray)
2025-26 School Year



We are so excited to have you at Bell this year!

Mr. McElrea



Welcome to Bell!

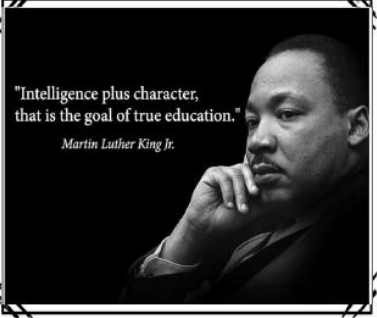
Here you will find our school website. This holds a wealth of valuable information, explore and welcome to the home of the Bulldogs! [Bell Homepage!](#)



Meet your teachers!

 meet 

MR. MCELREA



"Intelligence plus character,
that is the goal of true education."
Martin Luther King Jr.

KINDERGARTEN

Hi! My name is Mr. McElrea. I have been teaching for 19 years! This is my second year working at Bell. I also work part-time for the Seahawks. I love hanging out with my family and friends. I have 3 pets - 1 dog and 2 turtles!

FAVORITES

COLORS:
Black, Green, Blue

ANIMAL:
Dog, Snakes, Lions

CANDIES:
Peach Rings, Dots

MOVIE:
The Godfather

BOOK:
Mo Willem Books!

HOBBIES:
Drawing, Baking, Photography



meet 

Zain Suleman

"We are all a family!" :)

FAVORITES

COLORS:
Sky Blue

ANIMAL:
Bear

CANDIES:
Skittles

MOVIE:
Lord of the Rings

BOOK:
Harry Potter

HOBBIES:
Basketball & Football

- I love fitness
- Traveling is a new passion of mine
- I love to watch sitcoms
- Comedy is my favorite genre of art
- I love experiencing new cultures!

Room 150 Nuts and Bolts

- **Bedtime:** Please be sure your child gets plenty of rest at night. They will be working hard at school each day. 7:00-7:30 is a reasonable bedtime for a 5/6-year-old.
- **School Attire:** Have your child dress appropriately for school and the weather; play shoes not dress shoes. Flip-flops, thin sandals, crocs are not best for school.
- **Lunch:** Will be in the cafeteria. The hope is they can access all their food independently.
- **Before School:** Our class lines up facing the front doors of the school under the covered area **no earlier than 8:25 A.M.** Students wait quietly. There is no formal supervision before this time. You are welcome to stand with your child while they wait for the bell to ring.



Room 150 Nuts and Bolts

- **After School**: Students will exit through the main outside doors of our classroom pod.
 - **Walkers** – Parents please meet students on the sidewalk by our classroom. They need to tell me who they are leaving with before they leave school.
 - **Car Pickup** – Students that are picked up via car will be waiting in the designated area west of the flagpole. DO NOT pickup students until you are parked at one of the cones. This is for the safety of ALL students at Bell.
 - **Bus Riders/Vans** – They will be escorted to their designated bus from class helpers/myself or adult at Bell.
 - **Extended Day** – They will be walked to the cafeteria.

NOTE – PLEASE COMMUNICATE ALL CHANGES TO THEIR NORMAL ROUTINE WITH ADVANCED NOTICE (24 HOURS IS BEST). For the safety of all students in my class I will not release students to the custody of adults that are not in skyward as an approved emergency contact. Please work with the office to add anyone you plan on taking your student home. Thank you!



Room 151 Nuts and Bolts

- **Take Home Folders:** Look in your child's folder each night. Remove items that are sent home. Return any items asking for your signature. Help your child remember to bring the folder daily.
- **Volunteering:** I welcome and need parent volunteers to help in the classroom. Volunteering will likely begin around November. If you are interested be sure to apply through the [district online](#). Only approved volunteers are allowed to volunteer at the school or go on field trips.

I WOULD ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO FILL OUT THE VOLUNTEERING PAPERWORK NOW

- **When You Visit School:** *Always sign-in at the office first thing when you come to school. Also, please sign-out as you leave the building. The office will give you a visitor pass or call down to the classroom if you need to take your child out of school early. Staff members are instructed to ask any non-staff adults to get a visitor badge. We do this for the safety of all students here and we appreciate your support with this matter. If you bring your child's lunch late – just drop it off in the office and they will take care of it.*

Room 151 Nuts and Bolts

- **Art curriculum: Deep Space Sparkle** – Taught by Mr. McElrea
- **Birthdays:** We honor birthdays in our classroom with a paper crown, a pencil and sing the Happy Birthday song. ***Do not send food treats*** but a small non-edible prize is fine. Students with birthdays in the summer or before school began will get to choose a day to celebrate in May or June. Only send birthday party invitations to school if you have one for every child in the class. (I will not give out email information)
- **Communication:** It's best to reach me via ParentSquare or by email at cmcelrea@lwsd.org . I receive a lot of emails each day, so please keep your email brief. Please let me know ahead of time about upcoming changes such as: moving, health concerns or serious family issues that you think may affect your child so I can be sensitive to your child's needs.
- **Allergies** – Please be respectful of those with allergies when packing snacks and lunch as the students do sit with each other. We do not have food restrictions at Bell but we will be an Allergy AWARE classroom as we have friends with them.

Attendance



- Please arrive to school by 8:35 am. The bell rings at 8:35. We head inside at this time so we can start right away.
- If you come late, please use the front door and check in at the office.
- Email absences as soon as you know. Please send the email to: bellattendance@lwsd.org and myself.
- OR call the safe arrivals line at: 425-936-2511

General School Schedule

- 8:35 First Bell – We head inside right away 😊
- 8:40 Tardy Bell (students go to office to get admittance pass if late)
- 10:00 Morning Recess (15 minutes)
- 10:15 Return from morning recess
- 11:30 Lunch Recess (30 minutes)
- 12:00 Lunch in Cafeteria (20 minutes)
- 12:20 Return from lunch
- 2:14 Afternoon recess (14 minutes)
- 3:15 Dismissal (1:45 Dismissal on Wednesdays)

(**Half Days – 11:45am**)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MUSIC	LIBRARY (Books Due)	P.E.	MUSIC	P.E.

LUNCH

New this year, ALL students can receive free lunch!

SNACKS

- Please pack 1 snack per day! Pack your child's snack separately from their lunch.

• Please pack a snack that does not require utensils and they can open on their own, thanks!

Lunchbox
example



Snack
example



LWSD Curriculum



- ❖ English Language Arts: Wonders, UFLI, Heggerty
- ❖ Writing: LWSD Writing Curriculum
- ❖ Handwriting: Zaner-Bloser
- ❖ Math: Inquiry Journeys
- ❖ Social Studies: TCI
- ❖ Science: Amplify/NGSS Needs of Plants & Animals, Push & Pulls and Sunlight & Weather.
- ❖ Art: Deep Space Sparkle

*The Kindergarten State Standards
can be found online at:

<https://www.lwsd.org/programs-and-services/curriculum-instruction/washington-state-standards>

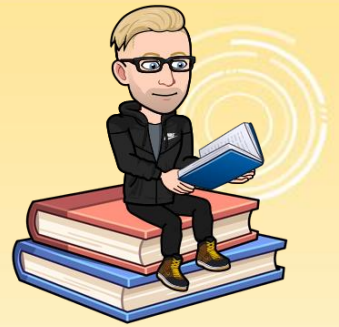
Online Resources



- [Parent access](#): Your home to online access.
- [Student access](#): Your Childs access to online materials and digital resources.
- [Skyward](#): Digital gradebook.
- [Quest](#): If interested check the website.
- [NGSS](#): New Science Standards
- [A.G. Bell School Website](#)
- [Lunch Menu](#)

Kindergarten Homework

Read to your child every day!



- Read a variety of materials to your child – fiction/non-fiction
 - Use an expressive voice.
 - Be sure your child and you both have a library card. Check out books from the local library.
 - Every other day or so ask 2-3 questions during your reading time to build understanding:
 - Before reading: What does this cover picture make you think the story will be about?
 - During reading: What do you think will happen next? Why? or Why do you think he did that? How does that make you feel? What would you do?
 - After reading: Why do you think the author wrote this? What did you learn from it?
 - Read to your child for at least 15 minutes each day, even if your child is able to read to you.
-
- **Creative Play is Essential Homework**: Remember, childhood is a journey, not a race. Young children need to play – a lot! Learning experts consider play with a variety of peers and family members to be the most important homework of all for kindergartners. Imaginative, active, hands-on play builds thinking skills that help children understand concepts such as how letters represent sounds, words represent ideas, illustrations can represent actual events, scientific records represent experiments and equations represent number stories. While playing, students learn and practice social and thinking skills they will need throughout life. Play is a child's work.

Kindergarten Homework

Discussions, Wondering, Exploring are Fantastic Kinds of Homework: The best homework to do at home is to read to your child, talk, question, wonder about things, explore, create, experiment, and play with your kindergartner. Cooking, building forts, making gifts and note cards, visiting museums, dress-up dramas, carpentry, chores, neighborhood nature walks, trying home experiments are all simple and highly effective ways to enrich your child's home learning. Avoid workbooks or video/computer games as daily homework. Limit TV/Digital time as much as possible. Young children need many hands-on experiences to develop understandings and communication skills we take for granted.

Practicing Social Skills is Awesome Homework: Polite manners such as saying please, thank you, excuse me; waiting to be recognized before speaking (not interrupting), using a quiet voice level, giving compliments, introducing yourself to peers, keeping hands to yourself when in stores and public places, apologizing, saying hello, and speaking in complete sentences and making eye contact and answering when asked a question are important skills for children to learn. Teaching and reinforcing manners are also excellent homework choices, as are developing patience and stamina.

Developing Independence and Responsibility is Excellent Homework: Simple chores are also good kindergarten homework. Your child should be dressing him/herself, tie own shoes, helping care for pets, removing dishes from the table, tidying up the bedroom, cleaning up simple spills, putting clothes and toys away, putting things away before going on to something else, and remembering to bring the folder to and from school each day. Teach your child to tie his/her own shoes, brush and floss and make the bed.

A TIME TO REVIEW, NOT BE CHALLENGED

Parent Homework

1. **Check your child's folder daily.** Remove old items from the Home side. Have your child read booklets or pages to you. Help your child practice work they had difficulty doing.

2. Please read the **Storytime – principal newsletter and our classroom newsletters.** I email newsletters to you via ParentSquare. Important dates you'll find in these:

- Day and Evening School Events
- School Holidays
- Early Dismissal Dates and Times
- Field Trips

3. **Keep sick children at home. If in doubt, keep them out. Always call the school and leave an absence message. Always wait 24 hours after a fever or vomiting has subsided (that is district policy).**

4. **Permanently mark your child's name on anything that could be left or lost.**

5. Avoid taking trips during school days and try to make medical appointments on Wednesday afternoons or days off from school. I understand this isn't always possible. When possible, missed work may be sent home for your child to do when you return. Trip work will be waiting for them when they return.

At Bell, Bulldog's B.A.R.K.!



1. **Be safe.**
2. **Accepting**
3. **Responsible.**
4. **Kind**

My role is to help your child develop independence, learn to reflect on the choices he/she makes, learn from mistakes and take responsibility for those choices. **“Do your best and forget the rest!”**

As a whole class we can earn “star jar stones” for positive behaviors. After the jar is full the class earns a special surprise. 😊

Lunch in the classroom for great lunchroom behavior.

CLASSROOM



SAFE
Listen to directions,
follow routines



RESPECTFUL
Use materials
correctly



RESPONSIBLE
Try your best



KIND
Use kind words
and actions

RECESS

VOICE LEVEL
4



SAFE
Walk on the
blacktop



RESPECTFUL
Follow rules and
directions



RESPONSIBLE
Take care of
equipment



KIND
Use kind words
and actions

LINE-UP

VOICE LEVEL
2



SAFE
Walk straight to
line, stay in spot



RESPECTFUL
Body to self



RESPONSIBLE
Arrive after 8:35



KIND
Use kind words

These posters help show how we can make good choices in different areas at school. Thanks for talking about these. ☺

VOICE LEVEL

4



Outside Voice

3



Presenting Voice

2



Table Talk

1



Whisper Voice

0



Silent

LUNCHROOM

VOICE LEVEL
2



SAFE
Stay in your seat



RESPECTFUL
Listen to adult
directions



RESPONSIBLE
Eat and clean up



KIND
Include others

Social Problem Solving

- A skill that is taught
- Recess meetings
- "I" statements - taking personal responsibility for actions
- Discussion and reconciliation
- Presentations by school counselor - Kelso Choices
- Calm Down Corner - a safe place in the classroom to regroup.

Contact information

Here is my email: cmcelrea@lwsd.org

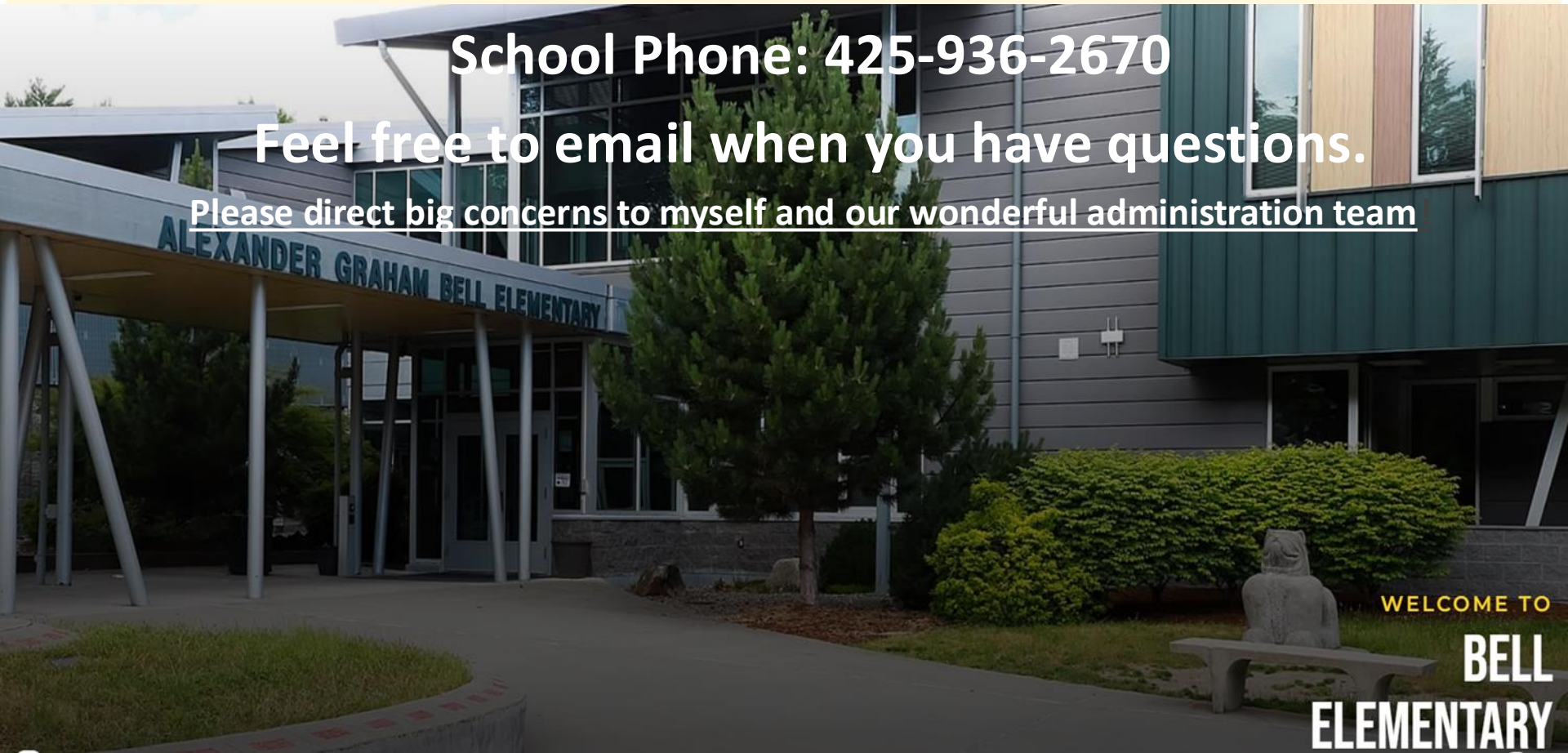
Principal - Mr. Story: bstory@lwsd.org

Associate Principal - Mrs. Brookhart: rbrookhart@lwsd.org

School Phone: 425-936-2670

Feel free to email when you have questions.

Please direct big concerns to myself and our wonderful administration team



WELCOME TO

BELL
ELEMENTARY