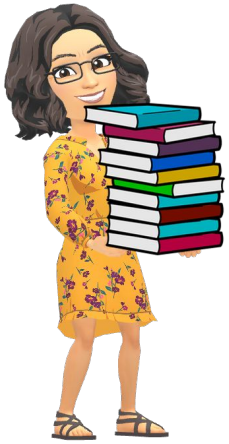
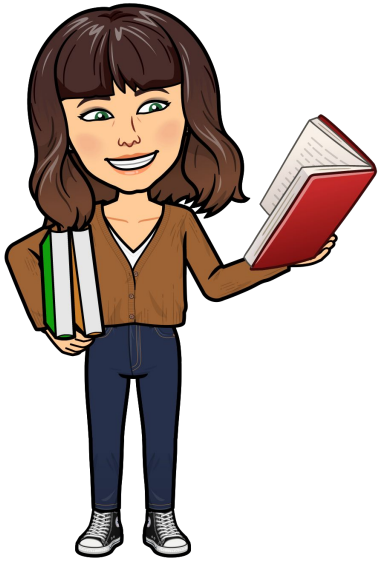

welcome
to
BACK TO SCHOOL
NIGHT
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meet the KINDER TEAM

any questions?



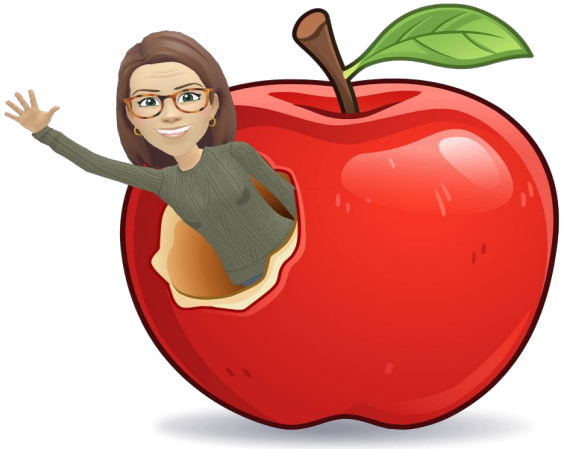
Mrs. Thompson



Mrs. Bruce



Ms. Kurimay



Mrs. Crownholm

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a little bit ABOUT ME

Mrs. Bruce

My teaching career began in 2009 in San Diego Unified teaching kindergarten! I have also taught second and third grade.

I received my Masters of Teaching in 2018 and I am a National Board Certified Reading Specialist.

This is my fourth year teaching at Natoma Station Elementary. I feel so lucky to teach at a school with an amazing community families!



In my spare time I love being outdoors, working on home projects, spending time at the lake or beach, playing pickleball, and spending time with friends!

I live in Folsom with my husband and three kids.

I am so excited to be your child's teacher this coming school year!

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a little bit ABOUT ME

Mrs. Thompson

It is so much FUN to learn along with our curious students. This is my 34th year of teaching in Folsom Cordova. I have taught kindergarten, second, third and middle school. They are all my favorites. I look forward to the giggles and growth this year.

A little about my family...My 30 year old daughter, Tessa, is a high school teacher in El Dorado County. My 29 year old son, Emory, is a cardiac ICU nurse. He is currently training to be a nurse anesthesiologist. My husband, Ben, is a print salesman and a musician. They are the loves of my life.

I spend a lot of time with family and friends. I love hiking, paddle boarding, working in my small front yard orchard, reading, and cooking.



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a little bit ABOUT ME

Mrs. Crownholm



This is my 20th year teaching and my first year at Natoma Station Elementary. While I'm originally from California, this will be my first year teaching in the Golden State. I've been lucky enough to teach in Arizona, Germany, Minnesota, Colorado, Washington, and have educated students from K-8th grade.

I live in Folsom with my husband, Jason, and our ridiculous golden retriever, Rudy. Our daughter, Kiley, is studying at University of Oregon. We love spending time outdoors!

I love teaching and consider myself a lifelong learner.

Kindergarten is such a great time for students to explore and grow! I look forward to supporting your child as they learn and make connections with their classmates.

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a little bit ABOUT ME

Ms. Kurimay



Experience

This is my third year at Natoma Station. My first year, I taught 2nd grade and this is my second year teaching Kindergarten. Prior to teaching at Natoma Station, I taught for nine years at California Montessori Project, one year in kinder and 8 years in 1st-3rd grade. I have taught in the public and private sector. My 20+ years experience includes teaching K-5 grade and reading intervention.

About Me

I am a mother of two, and have three grandchildren. I love being in nature, gardening, spending time with family and friends, reading, and practicing yoga.

Education

- Multiple Subject Teaching Credential
- Social Emotional Learning Coursework
- Early Childhood Montessori Credential
- Elementary I Montessori Credential
- Mindful Educator Essentials Certificate
- Mindfulness Fundamentals Certificate

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Our TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Responsive Classroom

Inclusion

Restorative Practices

- We want our students to have fun while learning, feel connected to their teachers and schoolmates, and be excited about coming to school… now and in the future.
- We believe that social/emotional learning is as important as academic learning. We strive to nurture the whole child.
- We work together to instill kindness, curiosity, perseverance, and joy in our students.

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Our Responsive Classroom

Morning Meetings

Goals of Morning Meeting:

- Set a positive tone for the day
- Create the positive power of community within our classroom
- Model and practice social and emotional skills
- Facilitate social, emotional and academic learning

Components of a Morning Meeting:

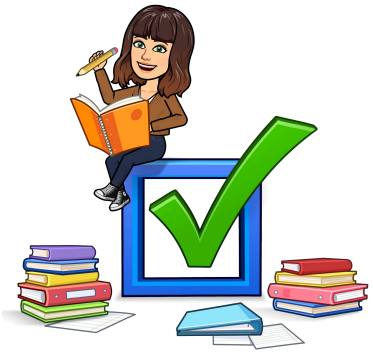
- Greeting
- Sharing
- Group activity
- Morning Message

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Cheetah CLASS RULES



- Show Respect



- Make Good Decisions



- Solve Problems



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SNACKS, LUNCH & WATER BOTTLES

- Kindergarteners have a daily...
  - 9:30-10:00 - snack/recess break
  - 11:35-12:20 - lunch/recess break
  - 1:50 - 2:05 - snack/recess break

- Please pack a snack separate from the lunchbox as students do not take their lunch box to recess.
- If your child is getting a school lunch, they still need a snack from home each day.
- Breakfast and lunch are free. Breakfast starts at 7:45 am in the multipurpose room.
- Please have your child keep their water bottle out of their Cheetah Bag due to spills. Children will put water bottles and a small, separate snack in a wagon when they arrive. They will put their lunch box in a different wagon.
- Please click here for appropriate food and water bottle options.
- Please click here for healthy snack ideas and here for snack bag or snack container examples.
- PLEASE LABEL ALL SNACK CONTAINERS, WATER BOTTLES, AND LUNCH BOXES, ETC.

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list of needed SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- PTO purchased a Cheetah Bag for each kindergarten student in lieu of a backpack. Please have them bring the Cheetah Bag to school each day. They will receive their Cheetah Bag on the first day of school!
  - Please refrain from hanging keychains and other accessories from their Cheetah Bag handles.
- All other supplies provided by the classroom teacher or school.
- Please have your child keep all personal supplies and toys at home, including cellular watches. Personal items are distracting and may get lost or broken.

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class WISH LIST

We purchase many materials for the class throughout the year. Although we are not requesting classroom donations, gift cards are always appreciated. (Please check the links below to view wish lists teachers have created for their classroom.)

Mrs. Thompson/Crownholm's Wish List Mrs. Bruce's Wish List
Ms. Kurimay's Wish List

The following are a few of our favorite places to purchase items for your children:

• Amazon • Teacher Pay Teacher gift card • Safeway • Teachers Pay Teachers	• Costco • Sam's Club • Walmart	• Target • Cash Donations to the office with teacher name

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Arrival/Dismissal

- 8:15 – Doors open and class starts
- 1:21 – Pick up time until August 21st
- 2:45 – Pick up time starting August 24th
- 1:15 – Pick up time every Thursday

- Please be on time. Students who arrive late need to go to the office with their grown-up to get an arrival slip to give to their teacher.
- We are a closed campus. However, kindergarten families are expected to drop off and pick up at the classroom door. An adult needs to wait with their child until the teacher opens the classroom door in the morning.
- Student care/day care providers will take care of drop off and pick up procedures.
- Our playground may only be used during school hours, with school staff and/or teachers.
- ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES –From the principal– CLICK HERE for more information on our parking lot and drop off/pick up procedures. Please remember that the school parking lot is only for school staff and buses. It is not for student drop-off or pick-up.

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attendance PROCEDURES

If your child is going to be absent, please notify the school office AND email your child's teacher(s).

- Please email your child's teacher if you know ahead of time that your child will be late or need an early dismissal.
- Natoma Station phone number: (916) 294-9145
- Teacher emails:
  - K1 : jethomps@fcusd.org Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Crownholm mcrownholm@fcusd.org
    - Please email both teachers every time you send a message.
  - Room 13 : abruce@fcusd.org Mrs. Bruce
  - K2.: ckurimay@fcusd.org Ms. Kurimay

- Independent Study
  - Refer to the Natoma Station website for further information about independent study contracts
  - Parents need to let the office know 3 weeks in advance if they need an independent study.

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Volunteers

Room Parent

Prep Materials for the class

Help put out bikes and scooters

- We seek volunteers for in-class help, at-home help, field trips, etc. Stay tuned for a volunteer sign-up form.
- See NSE website to sign up online to volunteer. Be sure to scroll down the page to see all of the forms, etc. Please begin the process for volunteering as soon as possible.
- We will send home prep projects (cutting, gluing, folding, stapling, trimming, etc.) to those family members who express interest in doing them. (volunteer clearance not needed for these tasks)
- We need a few volunteers to take bikes/scooters out of our playground shed 1-2 times a week and a few more volunteers to put the bikes/scooters away at the end of the school day. This can be done at drop-off and pickup times.
- Each classroom is seeking a room parent or two co-parents. We keep this job VERY simple.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



ART DOCENT
1X/MONTH
LEAD ART LESSON (DIRECTIONS PROVIDED)



GARDEN DOCENT
1X/MONTH
TAKE SMALL GROUPS TO GARDEN
CAN MAKE OWN LESSONS, OR USE ONE PROVIDED



ROOM PARENT
SUPPORT PTO W/ COMMUNICATION TO CLASSROOMS (TEMPLATE PROVIDED)
DECORATE DOOR DURING TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
SUPPORT WITH CLASS PARTIES



COPIES
1X/WEEK, LESS THAN 1HR/WEEK
MAKE PHOTOCOPIES IN OFFICE FOR NEXT WEEKS LESSONS



FRIDAY FOLDERS
1X/WEEK (CAN ROTATE RESPONSIBILITY MONTHLY)
FILL STUDENT FOLDERS WITH LESSONS/FLYERS EVERY THURSDAY



CLASSROOM HELPER
WEEKLY OR AS NEEDED (ADVANCE NOTICE GIVEN)
HELP WITH GRADING, READING, OR OTHER TASKS
TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED



FIELD TRIP CHAPERONE
ASSIST SMALL GROUP ON FIELD TRIPS

classroom MANAGEMENT





- We practice positive reinforcement. We state directions in the positive. Rather than saying, "Don't color right now," we say, "It's time to put crayons down. We will color again soon."
- A few students a day will be be selected to receive a Happy Gram each day, and will bring home an object from the treasure box.
- Students can earn cheetah cash when they are caught showing respect, making good decisions, or solving problems. Cheetah Cash can be used to purchase items from our treasure box.

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Family EXPECTATIONS

- Please be sure your child is at school on time each day. Natoma Station Bell Schedule. Arriving on time and being prepared sets a positive tone for the day.
- In general, please help by guiding your children, but do not do their work for them.
- Spend some time reading together nightly.
- Please encourage your children to clean up their work and play spaces rather than doing it for them.

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Cheetah Bags!



- Our school PTO provides each kindergarten student with a Cheetah Bag. Your child will use their Cheetah Bag each day in-lieu of a backpack.

- Please keep water bottles out of the Cheetah bag, as even spill-proof water bottles end up leaking at times! Students will have a designated spot for water bottles upon entering the classroom.

- Each Friday, students will bring home a Friday Folder with fliers from the school and classroom work. Students will return Friday Folders each Monday morning. Library books will also need to be returned on a specified day (TBA) for each class.

- Please help your child empty their Cheetah bag each day and use the work as a conversation starter to talk about how their day went and what they learned.

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celebrating BIRTHDAYS

- We will celebrate birthdays to make your child's day special. Summer birthdays will be celebrated at the end of the school year.

- If you would like to send an item for your child's birthday, we suggest a single, simple item (Ex: pencil, small bouncy ball, sticker), for each child in the class, in-lieu of a goody bag.

- Please no food items due to allergies and food restrictions.

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all about HOMEWORK

Recommended practice and enrichment at home.

- 20 minutes of daily reading at home is encouraged.
- On the Natoma Station website you can find a link to a resource called Clever. Through Clever, your child can access:
    - Lexia (reading practice - 20 min/week recommended)
    - Atlas (math practice - 20 min/week recommended)
- **Clever** log-in codes will be sent home in September and will be used through the school year.
- We will send home a reading folder at Back to School Night.
- Helpful tips for working with your child at home

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all about GRADING

- Student classwork is reviewed, but not graded. Completed classwork is sent home in Cheetah Bags daily.
- We will assess students in the areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking, math, science, social studies, and lifelong learning skills (social skills).
- Conferences will take place in November, at the end of the first trimester. Progress reports will be sent home at that time, as well as in February and May. Typically, only one conference (in November) is necessary per year.

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overview of MATH

- Common Core State Standards will be taught using a variety of materials, which include:
  - hands-on manipulatives and games
  - paper and pencil
  - digital resources
  - Thinking Math
- A majority of our classroom work will be hands-on activities and games. When math worksheets come home incomplete, please take a few minutes to have your child finish the work and tell you about it. It should be at their independent level.

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overview of READING

- Daily instruction and activities based on the Science of Reading (best practices for reading instruction in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, & comprehension)
- UFLI (University of Florida Literacy Institute) is a research-based foundational skills program proven to help readers build skills and confidence for fluent, independent reading.
- Heggerty is a phonemic awareness curriculum that is designed to show improvement in students' reading, spelling, and writing as the students learn to hear the sounds in words.
- Students will learn a list of high frequency words (sometimes referred to as: irregular words, sight words, heart words) that will be taught in class and need to be reinforced and practiced at home.
- Benchmark English Language Arts curriculum (comprehension)

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Fostering a Love of Reading

- UFLI High Frequency/Sight Words
- How to read a book with your child to promote comprehension

- UFLI Home Connection

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digital PLATFORMS

Clever

Access to School District Curriculum via Clever (See slide 23)

- Lexia (online ELA practice, 30 min per week recommended)
- Atlas-math practice that goes with our Thinking Math lessons

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scholastic BOOK ORDERS

About every 6 weeks, we will send home Scholastic Reading Club flyers in your child's Friday Folder. You and your child may choose from great quality reading resources, and then order online. Placing orders is optional.

- Visit scholastic.com/readingclub. Search for school and teacher.
- Submit your order online.
- Your order will be delivered to the school and sent home with your child.
- Every purchase you make earns free resources for our classroom. Simply follow the steps below to order for your child.

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staying SAFE & HEALTHY

- Please let us know if you or your family are experiencing any health issues or if you have any concerns for your child.
- Please do not send your child to school if they have a fever. Do not administer fever-reducing medication and send them to school. Students must be fever free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school.
- You must give any needed medications to the school health clerk in the school office if needed during school hours. Students can not bring cough drops or chapstick to school.
- Please call the school office (916-294-9145 option 1) and email your child's teacher if your child will be absent. Please see Attendance Procedures on slide 14.

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ways we'll COMMUNICATE

- Teacher and school communication will primarily be through Parent Square.
- Teachers send home Friday Folders most Fridays. Folders need to be returned to the classroom every Monday morning.
- Please contact your child's teacher for any specific concerns.



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Information from the Principal

NSE 2026-2027 Parent-Student Handbook

Mrs. B's 2026-2027 Natoma Station Back to School Night Presentation Coming Soon!

NSE Drop Off & Pick Up Procedures

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Thanks for your time!

- Thanks so much for your support.
- This will be a wonderful school year. Together, we will help your child learn, grow, and thrive.
- We are so excited to work with you and your child.

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