



## KINDERGARTEN PARENT HANDBOOK

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a Christian Education community in Celebration with students, teachers, parents, pastors and parishioners focused on the teachings of Jesus Christ. We believe that every student is a child of God. We are committed to the development and growth of the unique gifts of every student to bear witness to Christ in their community and the world beyond.

## **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE OF KINDERGARTEN**

Kindergarten is a bridge between the home and the school, and a place where the child can have experiences that will help develop good attitudes, habits, and skills. These abilities will help the child meet new situations with confidence. The aim of Kindergarten is to provide an environment that promotes the growth of the whole child: physically, artistically and aesthetically, socially and emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually.

Kindergarten uses the thematic approach and activity centers. Center time is used to introduce, reinforce, and practice concepts and skills. The children are exposed to the importance of job completion, achieving a level of excellence and working cooperatively while completing projects. Center time also provides children with opportunities to act and react to social situations, to recognize and control their emotional expression, to explore and gain depth of understanding in areas of interest and to develop creative and verbal expression. Centers are used in both directed and open-ended activities. The centers may include:

Housekeeping/Dress-up  
Construction/Blocks  
Play pellets  
Listening  
Alphabet/Word  
Colouring

Art  
Science  
Math  
Reading  
Painting

Puppets/Drama  
Writing  
Puzzles  
Journal  
Play dough

## **DAILY SCHEDULE-FULL DAY SCHEDULE**

The daily schedule for the day will be broken down approximately as follows:

### **Morning**

8:40	School Begins / Class Assembles
9:00	Prayer/Calendar
9:30	Show and tell
9:30-10:00	Language Arts Lesson
10:15-10:30	Snack (outside recess)
10:30-11:10	Math followed by Math tubs
11:10-11:45	Art Lesson
11:50-12:05	Lunch
12:05-12:30	Outside
12:30-1:10	Music
1:10-1:50	Centers
1:50-2:30	Story
2:30-2:35	Dismissal

Afternoons will be focused on play-based activities that may include centers, gym, music, stories and quiet time.

### **SHOW AND TELL**

We will begin Show and Tell in October. Show and Tell is an opportunity for your child to tell the class something or show an item from home. It is one of the ways that children are encouraged to speak in front of the class. Your child will have this opportunity when he/she will be the Special Helper.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

As you well know, birthdays are a very significant event in the life of a kindergarten child. We usually sing to the birthday child and acknowledge the special day. Please do not send birthday party invitations to school, unless you intend to invite the entire class. You can appreciate why we make this request.

## WAYS TO HELP PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN

- create a happy attitude toward school so that your child anticipates with pleasure their first school experience
- help your child learn safety rules, especially in crossing the street, not to ride with strangers, what to do if he/she gets lost
- set aside a definite time during the day for sharing books with your child
- **\* teach your child how to put on and take off their clothes, especially coats, boots, mitts, shoes, etc.**
- discourage “baby talk”
- establish habits of picking up and putting away his/her toys, books and clothing
- provide opportunities for your child to play with others of his/her age
- teach your child how to listen. Be sure you are in the same room and have them look at you before you speak to them. Occasionally ask them to repeat what they heard you say.
- encourage independence in routine activities e.g. dressing, brushing teeth, cleaning up
- teach your child to recognize and print their own name using upper & lower case letters
- encourage your child to colour and draw pictures
- count and sort everyday objects and identify and make patterns

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Of major importance to Kindergarten is the “Principle of Unity”, a vital relationship between home, school, and the community. The unification of the whole child is influenced by the classroom and the family. The family is an integral part of a child’s development and the involvement of parents in the classroom can only enhance the overall growth of children.

## VOLUNTEER TO:

- enrich the children's learning experience with your presence in the school
- bring your special skills and talents to enrich school life for children and teachers alike.
- Because you have the right to know what your child is learning. Volunteering increases your understanding of the program.

A calendar will be placed by the classroom door at the beginning of every month. If you are interested in sharing your time with us, please write your name in the highlighted spaces.

## KINDERGARTEN SUPPLY LIST

Please label and bring for the first day:

- One box of Kleenex
- Gym shoes for classroom and gym use (Non-marking, no zippers please)
- Large backpack for holding snack bags, school work, and home reading
- 2 large glue sticks (white)
- 1 plain exercise book (white paper/no lines)
- 1 package of photocopying paper 500 sheets letter 8 ½ x 11 (available at Staples)
- 1 half-interlined exercise book
- 1 package of **Crayola** crayons (24)
- 3 duo-tangs - red, blue & green
- 5 HB **Standford Mirado** pencils
- 1 white **Staedtler** eraser
- 1 package of **Laurentien** pencil crayons (24)
- 1 plastic envelope for library books (to be purchased from school office)
- 1 pair of **Fiskars** (child size) scissors
- 1 coil bound scrapbook (size 14 inches x 11 inches)
- 1 old button up shirt for art