



Joel

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Kindergarten Information Booklet
2022-2023**

Dear Parents,

We want to personally welcome your child to Kindergarten. The first year in school is a great adventure away from home for children, and is very important for future academic and social achievement.

This Kindergarten booklet has been created to assist you in helping your child make the best possible adjustment to Kindergarten and the many new experiences of school. We feel that the information presented in this booklet can help your home and school become joint partners in better helping your child reach his/her full potential.

The aim of Kindergarten is to provide a foundation for your child's education. It is a program geared to make the transition from home to school as smooth as possible, and to make each child's first experience with school a successful and happy one.

The Kindergarten program is designed to help stimulate a good self-concept, providing each child with many experiences of achievement. Kindergarten children will work and create independently and learn to cooperate with others in a group. The program will provide opportunities for social and emotional development, cultivate language development, and expand physical and mental growth.

Lastly, the Kindergarten program provides opportunities for learners to grow academically in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. We are excited to go on this adventure with you and your child.

Here's to a great year!

The Kindergarten Team

Mrs. Buhler, Ms. Coffee, Ms. Corgan, Ms. McCormack, Ms. Rebuzzini, and Mrs. O'Leary

Kindergarten Program

The program is designed to provide children with a transitional experience from home to school. The program offers an introduction in the areas of self and social emotional development, language arts, math, science, social studies, library, computer, music art, physical education, foreign language, and play activities. The following are the goals for Kindergarten.

Social / Emotional

Kindergarten children are naturally a curious, friendly, open, and honest group. They can be expected to do the following:

- interact with their peers
- speak to peers and teachers in full sentences
- learn classmates' names
- sit in a group and take turns
- wait for a short period of time
- engage in social problem-solving
- sustain play for five to ten minutes
- develop empathy for others
- follow the rules and routines of the class
- separate easily from their parents within a week or so
- form a friendship with one or more children in the room
- converse with adults at their comfort level
- develop a positive self-concept
- transition from task to task and from one adult to another

Academic Growth

Language Arts

- Listen and respond to a variety of literature
- Recognizes/writes own name
- Comprehends main components of stories read aloud
- Names letters, and their sounds
- Expresses ideas clearly and effectively
- Uses drawing, dictation and writing to share ideas

Math

- Identifies numbers 0 – 20
- Knows number names and the count sequence to 100
- Count to tell the number of objects up to 20
- Compare sets of objects up to 10 (more, less, equal)
- Compare two numbers between 1 and 10
- Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking away and taking from.
- Describe and compare measurable attributes – (longer, shorter, heavier, lighter)
- Sort objects and count the number of objects in each group
- Identify and describe basic two and three dimensional shapes
- Describe, compare, and create shapes

Science

- Observe the changes in the seasons
- Recognize the effect weather has on daily life
- Learn about the environments world around you using the five senses
- Describe characteristics that distinguish living from nonliving things
- Learn about plant and animal needs
- Explore force, machines & engineering

Social Studies

- Develop an awareness of self, family, school, and community
- Learn and follow school rules
- Develop respect for self and others
- Discuss current events
- Recognize the world is round and composed of land masses and water (maps and globes)

Special Activities

Art

- Students will understand the elements of art-line, shape, texture, color, form, space
- Students will learn how to express themselves in a 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional format.
- Students will make connections between the visual arts, other disciplines and daily life.

Music

- Chant and sing a variety of rhymes and songs, while developing our voices and expanding our repertoire.
- Maintain a steady beat and play simple rhythms on classroom instruments.
- Develop an understanding of beat, tempo, dynamics, pitch and rhythm.

Physical Education

- Remember sneakers on the day they have Physical Education.
- Work out at home at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day.
- Please check our “Healthy and Balanced” website – monthly.

Library

- Students may borrow and return one book each week.
- Your child should have a plastic bag in their backpack to help protect books from leaky water bottles and lunch bags.

World Language/Spanish

- Listens to and follows directions.
- Demonstrates positive attitude & effort.
- Actively participates in language through listening & speaking.

Other Important Information

Snack

The kindergartners need to bring their own snack daily. Please pack your child's snack separately from his or her lunch to avoid confusion and include any necessary utensils. Please label the snack container with your child's name.

Lunch

Lunch menus can be found on the school website. Fill out order forms and send them back to school.

Volunteers

At Open House individual teachers will discuss volunteering procedures.

Parent Communication

- Each child will have a home/school folder for communication.
- Report cards will be sent home twice a year. (January/June)
- Conferences are held twice a year. (December/March)

Ways Parents Can Help

- Prepare your child in advance that he/she will ride the school bus with new classmates. Make the first day a “delightful” one.
- Teach your child his/her first name, address and telephone number, as well as your name.
- Help your child learn to dress himself/herself. Teach your child how to zip and button, and to tie shoes. Select comfortable clothing so he/she can play and enjoy school.
- Inform the teacher and nurse of any food allergies your child may have.
- Make sure your child is ready early enough so that he/she has plenty of time to eat a good breakfast without hurrying.
- Show interest in the work or papers your child brings home to help develop a good self concept. Have a special place for him/her to keep them. Talk to your child about school. Let your child know that you enjoy listening to reports about his/her activities.
- Read stories to your kindergartner and let him/her tell short stories. Bedtime is an excellent time for good stories and poetry.
- Encourage regular attendance and punctuality. We encourage children to enter the building at 8:31AM, although school begins officially at 8:46AM. Early dismissal from Kindergarten is at 12:15PM and the full-day session concludes at 3:15PM.
- Make sure labels are on all outer personal belongings, with both first and last names (jackets, sweaters, boots, mittens, books, shoes and tell objects, backpacks, lunch boxes, etc).