



The ABCs of Kindergarten

This document will give you information about everything you need to know about our classroom!

A **Absence:** If your child will be absent, please call and leave a message with Mrs. Susan, our school secretary, @ 570-343-2790. Please give the specific reason why your child will not be in school.

Arrival: Students may arrive between 7:30 AM and 8:00 AM. All students who arrive via Car Line will have their temperature checked before they exit their car. Any students who walk and enter through the front door will have their temperature checked before entering the building.

Art: Our art teacher is Mrs. Emmert. She will be meeting with the children, in our classroom, every Thursday.

Attendance: Good attendance is linked to success in school. It is very important for your child to come to school every day, as long as he/she is healthy.

B Backpacks: Please make sure that your child has his/her backpack every day.

Birthdays: This year, we are not allowing any birthday treats/treat bags/favors to be sent into the classroom. PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANYTHING TO SCHOOL, We will acknowledge your child's birthday in a special way.

Breakfast: This is the most important meal of the day. Even though your child may not want to eat before school, please offer him/her a healthy breakfast.

C Calendar: We will learn about the calendar every day during our morning routine.

Communication: Open communication is important. We will not be using the folder system this year. If there is anything you need to know, it will be on paper, in your child's backpack, or you will receive it

via email. Please check your child's backpack EVERY day for important information.

Computer Class: The children will have computer class every Friday with Mrs. Harding. She will be coming into our classroom this year.

Conferences: We, typically, have Parent/Teacher conferences in November. Please feel free to call your child's homeroom teacher or set up an appointment if you need to speak with us at any other time.

Covid-19: During this unprecedented time, we are working very hard to keep everyone safe. We are following guidelines set by the Diocese of Scranton.

D Discipline: We work hard, as a class, to make our classroom a positive and safe place for all. We will learn how to be our "best" in the classroom, hallways and playground.

E Emergency Closings: In case of bad weather, please watch for school closings on WDAU or WNEP.

Emergency Information: Please make sure that all information that you are providing is accurate and clear. All phone numbers must be current and all emails should be correct. This is VERY important!!

F Field Trips: We will not be going on any Field Trips, as of right now. If this information changes, later in the year, we will notify you.

Flexibility: We will all need to remain flexible as guidelines change or new protocols/safety measures need to be implemented.

Friends: We are ALL friends in "Friendergarten"!!

G Google Classroom: We will give you more information about our Google Classrooms and how you can find activities on our sites.

Grades: Kindergarten students receive report cards at the end of the second and fourth quarters. If this changes, we will notify you. In Kindergarten, grades are based on formal assessments, informal assessments and observations.

Gym Class: Your child will have gym class every Wednesday with Mr. Jones. Please have your child come dressed appropriately, for gym, every Wednesday.

H Hands-On: Research shows that Kindergarten-aged children learn best by doing. Although this is going to be a very different year, we are committed to providing each child with the best hands-on learning experience that circumstances will allow.

Healthy Habits: All students will use hand sanitizer when they enter the building. They will wash/sanitize their hands throughout the day. They will, also, be required to wear masks at all times, with the exception of lunchtime. We will, also, have outside mask breaks.

Homework: There will be homework, most nights, for your child to complete; however, we are not going to have you send any homework back to school the next morning. Math homework will be completed at home and you may check it. If you see that your child does not understand the homework, on any given night, please send a note in and we will have extra practice on

that concept. Your child will have a plastic Reading Folder, which will stay at home. We will send home additional papers, which you can add to the folder, frequently. If a paper comes home with 3 holes on the left side, it is a paper for the Reading Folder. Please practice reading via the folder. You should, also, review any papers that come home with your child each day. This will help him/her to learn sight words, reading patterns, etc.

I **Illness:** Your child should not come to school if he/she is sick. We want to keep everyone as healthy as we can.

I **Independence:** Independence is the goal for Kindergarten children because it builds self-esteem and self-confidence. Kindergarteners are very capable of doing many things on their own and we encourage them to do as much as they can for themselves, in the classroom. Please work on the following skills at home with your child: zipping, tying, dressing, buttoning, etc.

J **Jesus:** Jesus is always present in our classrooms. We teach the children to treat others as Jesus would treat them.

K **Keep Updated:** Please check your child's backpack daily and read notices from the school as well as the Kindergarten teachers.

L **Language Arts:** Our students will learn how to read, write and speak using various programs. We have a very strong phonics program. FUNDATIONS and Heggerty Phonemic Awareness are both used daily and we, also, utilize stories from Reading Street.

Library: Mrs. Solimine will come to our classroom every Monday for a library lesson.

Lunch: This year, all students will bring their lunches in a disposable bag. They will eat their lunches and dispose of anything left-over, along with the bag. This is for the cleanliness and safety of everyone.

M **Masks:** Your child **MUST** wear a mask to school.

Math: This year, each child will receive his/her own hands-on Math Toolbox. These will help to reinforce math concepts. We are happy to provide these as it is so important for children to learn using manipulatives!!

Music: Mrs. Hoover will be coming into our classroom, every Tuesday, for music class.

N Notes: If you are sending a note into school, please have your child carry it into the building. There will be a basket for your child to place the note in so that we see it.

O Outside: Please dress your child, appropriately, for the weather each day. We will go outside for a 20 minute recess and a few mask breaks every day.

P Pick Up: If your child needs to be dismissed early, please notify us. You will need to go to the office to sign your child out. Mrs. Susan will notify us when you arrive to get your child.

Q Questions: If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by writing a note, sending an email or calling us at the school. We will be happy to get back to you as soon as possible.

R Religion: Religion is a very important part of our day. The children will recite different prayers throughout the day. We have both formal and informal religion lessons. The Kindergarten children will not be attending mass, at the present time. If this changes, we will notify you. We will, however, view masses on-line, in order to teach the children about the mass.

Restrooms: The Kindergarten students may use the restrooms as needed. Please remind your kids that they **MUST** wash their hands **EVERY** time they are leaving the bathroom.

S Safety: We have been working to create a safe, welcoming environment for the Kindergarten Kids. We are following guidelines, provided by the Diocese of Scranton, in accordance with the CDC, PDE and other government agencies.

Snack: We will not be breaking for a snack this year. This is why breakfast will be extremely important!!

T Temperature Checks: Each child, and teacher, will have to stop for a temperature check before entering the building.

Toys: Please DO NOT allow your child to bring any toys into the classroom. They should not have toys in their backpacks.

U Uniforms: Please refer to the dress code for this year.

Unique: Each Kindergarten child is unique and very special!!

V Virtual: In the event that we have to move to virtual instruction, at any time during the year, please know that we will continue to provide a quality education and a solid curriculum.

W Writing: We do lots of writing in our classroom. Writing follows stages. Please do not worry if your child prints some letters backwards. This is a very normal occurrence and you should not stress over this!!

X We are very e**X**cited to work with your child this year!!

Y **YES!!** Although it will be a very different year, please know that it will, also, be a wonderful year in Kindergarten!!

Z **Zoom:** If, at any point, we need to utilize virtual learning, we will be able to see each other using Zoom.

ZZZs: Please make sure that your child gets plenty of **ZZZs** each night!! A well-rested child is ready for all of the fun and wonderful things that are planned for Kindergarten!!

