



## 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 7:55 AM. Students who come by car will be dropped-off in the rear of the building. Students who walk may enter through the front door.

**Art:** Our art teacher is Sister Nancy Kilmer. She will be meeting with the children every Tuesday.

**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:** Please contact us if you'd like to send a special treat with your child for his/her birthday.

**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 be using the folder system this year. If there is anything you need to know, it will be in the Communications Folder (Blue or Gold), in your child's backpack, or you will receive it via email. Please check your child's folder EVERY day for important information.

**Computer Class:** The children will have computer class every Friday with Mrs. Musso.

**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.

**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 WBRE/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 notify you, well in advance, if any field trips are planned for this year.

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

**G 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 Monday. Our Gym teacher is Mr. Joyce. Please have your child come dressed appropriately, for Gym, every Monday.

**H Hands-On:** Research shows that Kindergarten-aged children learn best by doing. We are committed to providing each child with the best hands-on learning experience that circumstances will allow.

**Healthy Habits:** In Kindergarten, we teach the children to wash their hands regularly. It is very important that we continue to be cautious and mindful of cleanliness and appropriate healthy habits to keep us all safe.

**Homework:** There will be homework, some nights, for your child to complete. 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.

**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, opening their lunches, 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 will be utilizing **WONDERS** as our reading series this year.

**Library:** Mrs. Coupland will take the children to the library, each Thursday. If your child brings a book home from the library, please be sure to send it back the following week.

**Lunch:** This year, the children will be eating in the church basement, weather permitting. If you would like to volunteer to help out during lunch, please contact the office. You may, also, send a bottle of water for your child to drink throughout the day.

**M Math:** This year, we will be using the Math series - enVision. We, also, will be using many hands-on & Montessori materials to help the children learn Math concepts.

**Music:** Miss Walsh will meet with the Kindergarten students every Wednesday.

**N Notes:** If you are sending a note into school, please put it in your child's folder. We check the folders every morning.

**O Outside:** Please dress your child, appropriately, for the weather each day. We will go outside for a 20 minute recess every day (weather permitting).

**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 be attending mass starting on September 6th. Please help us by reminding your child that we must respect Jesus in church by sitting nicely and staying quiet.

**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 are continuously working to create a safe, welcoming environment for the Kindergarten Kids.

**Snack:** We will be taking a snack break each day. We will provide you with more information when school begins.

**T 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 *eXcited* to work with your child this year!!

**Y**      **YES!!** We are going to have a very happy, fun year in Kindergarten!

**Z** **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!!

We look forward to a year full of much fun, wonder and exciting learning experiences. Kindergarten is a magical year and we are happy to share it with all of you!! Thanks for all you are doing to make the transition into this school year a smooth one!

Mrs. Rebecca Butler & Mrs. Maripat Burke

**KBlue**

**KGold**

