

June 2021

Dear Bishop John A. Marshall School Kindergarten Families,

I hope all of you are looking forward to a restful and relaxing summer! As we prepare for the 2021-2022 school year, I would like to provide you with a few details to ensure a smooth introduction to your child's kindergarten year.

We slowly transition our kindergarten students during the first week of school. In order to allow me the opportunity to get to know your child and to provide him/her with all the routines of kindergarten, we divide the class during the first week. Half the class attends on August 30 and August 31, while the other half attend on September 1 and September 2. Starting the week of September 7 (school is closed on September 6 for Labor Day), the entire class will meet and continue on as an entire class. We find this gentle introduction works best for students and allows students (and parents!) to work out those "beginning of school jitters." Please see the attached list to know when your child will be attending during the first week of school.

Please be sure you have marked your calendars for our Kindergarten Social on Monday, August 16 from 4 pm-5pm. We will meet behind the school on the playground; the purpose of the social is to allow students and parents to connect with one another and school personnel. It is also a great opportunity to have questions answered, should you have any. Please note that the school will be closed for cleaning during that time so if the weather is inclement, we will have to cancel.

Many parents wonder what to bring on their child's first day of school. The list is pretty simple: a healthy snack (or parents can order snack through our online portal), and a cold lunch (or parents can order lunch through our online portal). Breakfast and lunch calendars, as well as other information will be added to the school's website later this summer.

Our school day starts at 8:00 am. Students may begin arriving at 7:30 am, and will go to the multipurpose room until 7:50 am, at which point they will be dismissed to our classroom. During the first few weeks of school, we will be establishing routines and learning how to be more independent. After the first two weeks of school, I would like to see students enter the classroom by themselves and take care of their own belongings (coats, lunch boxes, etc.) Students are dismissed at 3:00 pm. Should parents be permitted to enter the building this coming year, please wait in the hallway while waiting for your child so he/she may finish up work and hear important announcements.

Occasionally, our younger students have bathroom accidents. It is not always possible to provide the necessary cleanup. Teachers are not able to provide care in the bathrooms due to boundary concerns. Students must be able to take care of themselves independently. If teachers feel that an issue has occurred beyond a student's ability to maintain proper hygiene, the student must be retrieved immediately. We are very sensitive to the health and well-being of all of our students and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

If you would like to donate age-appropriate games or puzzles to our class it would always be appreciated. We enjoy Ravensburger puzzles, floor puzzles, and games. It certainly helps out when we have inclement weather for indoor recess.

Whew! That's a lot of information to take in at once! I encourage you to keep this note for reference, and ask for clarification when we meet at our social, if necessary. Additional information is also available in the Parent/Student Handbook, which will be uploaded to our school's website during the summer. The handbook contains a great deal of information that will be useful as you and your child navigate the kindergarten year.

I am very excited about the upcoming year, and look forward to getting to know you and your child. Enjoy the rest of summer!

Please note: We are unable to accommodate any changes to this schedule, due to the impact it will have on other families. Thank you for your understanding.

August 30 and August 31

Willy Curran
Mason Dixon
Ceci Wright
Courtney Collard
Beech Hoehn
Quinn Krukar
Gus Wykoff
Clyde Sprzynski
Kailey Terhune

September 1 and September 2

Harry Wicks
Gertie Flanagan
William Lawrence
Parker Fabiano
Piper O'Neill
Blaise Ott
Rose Sweitzer

Sincerely,

Mrs. Beth Piper
Kindergarten Teacher