

Kindergarten FAQ for Parents

It goes without saying that we are excited to start a brand new year with your little one. We know that it is a milestone for not only the student but also the parent. We are aware that you have questions that you would like answered as quickly as possible to calm the nerves. Below you can find a list of the most commonly asked questions by families prior to the first day of school.

Drop-off

Daily Schedule

School Starts at 8:55

Lunch/Recess 11:10-11:55

School Ends at 3:45

Students can enter the playground at 8:30 A.M. Students will line up at 8:55 in class lines outside the two southern kinder doors. Once lined up, it's a 'Kiss and Go' policy. We ask that parents remain outside while students enter the school independently with their classmates. If you need to connect with the office or arrive late, please walk around to the front and enter through the main doors.

Dismissal

The bell will ring at 3:45 P.M. Parents are asked to be waiting outside at the two southern doors by the kinder classrooms. Students will come outside to designated areas to meet families. Please make sure your student high fives their teacher before they leave. This ensures that the teacher knows they are being picked up. Teachers are not available to conference with parents at dismissal. Please email your child's teacher if you need to speak with her or would like to set up an appointment. If you are not there to pick-up your student by 3:50 P.M., they will be waiting in the office. If you need to pick-up your student early, you will need to enter through the office and sign them out. **Discovery Link** students will be released from the classroom to Discovery Link teachers.

Breakfast

Brown participates in *SmartStart*. If your student needs breakfast, they can stop in before school to grab a bite to eat at no charge.

Lunch

Students have two options:

1. Bring their own lunch with their name on it
2. Purchase a school lunch. You can prepay through *My School Bucks* or give cash/check to cafeteria staff. Menus are available online or in the office.

Snack

Students should bring in their own snack with their name on it every day. Snacks should be healthy, non-refrigerated and child accessible. Teachers will **NOT** have extra snacks for students.

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Homework

Homework is an expectation throughout a student's academic career, but in kindergarten it might look a little different than expected.

The kindergarten homework includes:

1. An activity calendar: Each month an activity calendar will be sent home. Each day there will be a recommended activity that you can do with your child to help review/deepen their knowledge of what they are learning in class.
2. Math review: our math curriculum, Bridges, has home connection activities that will be sent home weekly in Friday folders. These do not need to be returned to the teacher after completion.

Other school projects will occur throughout the year. Stay tuned for more information about those to come.

Birthday Celebrations

We know that birthdays are a special day; we will take the time to celebrate them with a song, sticker, or special hat. Because of food allergies, we can **NOT** pass out food items. This is for the safety of all the students. Instead, your student has a choice of a) bringing in a show-n-tell item or b) inviting a family member in to be a guest reader (please contact your student's teacher to set up a time). Parents are also welcome to come eat lunch with the birthday kiddo.

Classroom Parties

This year kinder classes will have a few themed parties scattered throughout the year. They will typically be held at the end of the day (3:00-3:30). Classroom teachers will send out more information about the parties as they are scheduled.

Volunteering

The beginning of kindergarten can only be described as "go slow, to go fast"! Routines and behavior expectations need to be taught in order to have a successful year. Please be patient because we will not have volunteers until after we get settled in. Your classroom teacher will give you more information when they are ready for helpers.

Parent-Teacher Communication

Bloomz: The majority of communication will be through an app/website called Bloomz. Each classroom teacher will use this app to communicate special events, reminders, and other important information throughout the year. Stay tuned for more information at the beginning of the school year on how to sign-up for your classroom Bloomz.

Email: Email is a quick way to get in touch with the teacher. All email addresses can be found on the school website. We will respond back as quickly as possible.