



Kindergarten Handbook

Parkland Immanuel Christian School



2025
-2026

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The background features a collage of abstract elements. A large yellow hexagon with a black border is in the upper left. A dark blue hexagon with a black border is in the lower right. A black and white textured area, possibly a microscopic image, is in the center. A dark blue triangle is in the top right. A green triangle is in the bottom left. Thin lines in blue and green intersect across the page.

Mission Statement:

To glorify God through
Reformed Christian
education.

PICS Priorities

Outcomes:

- Provide biblical instruction that is faithful to the Word of God as summarized in the Reformed confessions.
- Develop student growth academically, socially, and spiritually as responsible stewards of their God-given gifts and talents.
- Ensure a joyful, safe, and engaging environment for students and staff to flourish.
- Engage the Reformed church community to support Christian education.
- Promote unity between home, church, and school.

Welcome to Parkland Immanuel Christian School!

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to working with you and your child/ren this year and getting to know you, their parents. We hope that you will find the information in this package helpful as you prepare to send your child/ren into the wonderful world of Kindergarten.

Education Policy/ Children's Program

Our education policy is based on God's Word as confessed in the creeds of the Canadian Reformed Church. God's Word teaches us that Christian parents have received the duty and authority to teach their children about their covenant God as He has revealed Himself in His creation and Holy Scriptures, so that these children may learn to understand and exercise their covenantal obligations as God's image bearers wherever He has or will place them in this life.

Since the above task is difficult for many parents in our complex society, they are obliged to help each other in engaging the services of qualified Christian teachers who will represent them to teach their children in a parental school. These teachers must exercise the parental authority entrusted to them in accordance with the only norm, God's Word, and in keeping with the mandate and standards set by a parentally appointed board (*taken from Board decision, 1992*).

The main goal of the children's Kindergarten program at PICS is to develop the young child's awareness of him/herself as a child of God. This will be done by seeking to enhance the spiritual, physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and creative development of the child. We strive to meet the individual needs of all the children in our program.

The teachers at PICS are dedicated Christians and they are certified by the Alberta Government's Department of Education. Our teachers strive to integrate a Biblical perspective into all of the classroom activities.

General Information

Introduction:

The Kindergarten program is operated differently than the rest of the school.

The PICS Kindergarten is operated under the Canadian Reformed School Society of Edmonton which acts as the legal operator. The ultimate responsibility for the K program rests with the board. This leaves the Kindergarten Advisory Committee (KAC) free to concentrate on the educational dimension of the program and the board free to concentrate on the financial and administrative dimensions of the program.

Admissions Policy

Parkland Immanuel Christian School was established by members of the Canadian Reformed Churches in Edmonton who formed the Canadian Reformed School Society of Edmonton. The Society is committed to the infallible Word of God and bound by the Three Forms of Unity as confessed in the Canadian Reformed Church. Children of members of the Canadian Reformed Church and United Reformed Church will be admitted as students. Children of parents (or guardians) who are not members of the Canadian Reformed Church or the United Reformed Church may be admitted at the discretion of the School Board only after the parents have been interviewed by the Board. The parents must agree to abide by the Society's constitution and by-laws.

Kindergarten Advisory Committee (KAC)

The KAC helps to coordinate the Kindergarten program, plans events, organizes parent meetings, and encourages parental involvement in the education of their children. It consists of five (or more) volunteer parents and the teacher/s. Following is a description of the tasks of the KAC members:

Teacher/s	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinates the educational services for the children's program• Identifies children's needs and plans appropriately• Implements the program and activities• Evaluates children's progress
Vice-President	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the chief organizer for K events
Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes minutes from the meetings• Keeps a copy of the class list and KAC members in a binder
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure all moneys payable to the KAC are collected• Request a financial statement from the PICS office and have available for each KAC meeting.• Prepares budget for KAC meeting in September
Field Trip Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plans one field trip per month, using teacher input• Books the field trips in advance• Arranges parent volunteers and keeps teacher abreast of the plans• Keeps a record of all the activities
Roster Keeper	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepares a list for the parents for what day/s they will be parent helper

Financial

The board has established membership fees for those who send their children to PICS. For those who have children attending kindergarten only, society membership fees are set annually by the board. These fees are payable to the treasurer of the school board. Since the School Board is the legal operator of the Kindergarten Program, it handles all the financial arrangements with Alberta Education.

Registration Forms

The Student registration form is required by the school in order to set up various files. Please complete the forms and return them to the school by January 27, if possible. One form is a School Membership form. This form is for the Board so that it can keep its membership rolls up to date. If your family is not a member of the Canadian Reformed School Society of Edmonton, please complete the form and hand it to the school secretary; we will ensure that it is passed on to the appropriate people. If you have older children enrolled at school already, please disregard this form.

Volunteer Application Form

Parents are requested to complete and submit a Volunteer application form to the office for our records. Parent helpers work closely with children and are a great resource to assist in running our programs.

Birth Certificates & AB Health Number

Alberta Education has mandated the school to obtain and file copies of the students' Birth certificates. Please provide this certificate or a clear copy of it with your registration forms. We can make a copy for you in the office or at the kindergarten orientation meeting, if necessary. It is also important that we have your child's AB healthcare numbers on file.

Communication

At PICS, we believe strongly in open and honest communication with parents as an essential part of your child's education. Your questions and concerns are always encouraged and welcomed. No one knows your child better than you, and we welcome your insights. Confidentiality is imperative for the parents, teacher and children. Each month you will receive a newsletter from the teacher. This is our way of keeping in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any concerns, suggestions, or encouragements.

Report cards are handed out three times a year. The Kindergarten report card is different from the regular school reports. The first report will consist of a letter outlining your child's progress while the second and third reports will be a more specific list of your child's achievement in various areas. Conferences are scheduled after the first reporting period. Parents have the responsibility to schedule a conference after the second reporting period if they wish to discuss the progress of their child.

Every Wednesday we email out a newsletter with information about daily happenings at school. New families will be automatically subscribed to the email address provided on your registration form. You can subscribe with additional addresses on the members page of the school website www.parklandimmanuel.ca, please email the office (office@pics76.ca) if you need a login to the members page set up.

Besides the weekly newsletters, the Board publication PICS Life will find its way to you with messages from the staff, board and sometimes even the students, about 8 x per year. PICS Life is also available on the school website, where school information is kept up-to-date.

Attendance/Bus Schedules

Students should not be at school prior to 8:20 am, since there is no supervision before that time.

Students must board their bus and stay on the bus until it leaves after school is dismissed. If you are picking up your child, please arrive at the school by 3:15 pm. Please send a note if you are picking up your child at the end of the day.

If your child is not able to attend school, it is important that the school be notified prior to 8:30 a.m. either by a phone message (780-444-6443) or by email to office@pics76.ca. A written note to the teacher is also appreciated. It is imperative that both the home and school know where the student is at all times.

All children who arrive after 8:30 a.m. are required to sign in at the office. If your child must leave before school is dismissed, you are required to sign him/her out at the office prior to leaving. If your child is being picked up by someone other than his/her parents, please notify the teacher in writing or call the office.

A bus schedule will be published and sent out in late August via email and the PICS Website. Any questions about the busses should be directed to the Transportation Committee (transportation@parklandimmanuel.ca) or the bus drivers.

Grade Placement

If a teacher feels retention may be in the best interest of a student, the teacher will notify and discuss this matter with the parents and appropriate school personnel. The school, with parental input, will make a decision regarding the best placement for the child by the end of June.

Student Dress

Students are children of God and must reflect this in their clothing. Here are a few guidelines:

- Clothing must be modest, neat, clean, and appropriate for the occasion.
- Tank tops or shirts must hang below the belt line when arms are raised; no "spaghetti straps".
- T-shirts exhibiting inappropriate slogans or designs are not suitable clothing apparel.
- Shorts or skirts must extend beyond the tip of the finger when the arms swing freely.
- Caps and hats are not to be worn in school.
- Shoes must be worn at all times in the building for safety reasons.

- All students are expected to have indoor footwear for classroom and gym activities in addition to shoes/boots to be worn outside.
- Black soled shoes are not permitted in the gym.

Inclement Weather or Emergency Closure/Indoor Recess

- Should it ever be necessary to close the school or cancel busses due to inclement weather or unsafe road conditions, power failures, heating, plumbing, or water malfunction, the school has an automated alert system set up. A text message/phone call/email will be sent out with the alert message.
- It is the responsibility of the parents to determine whether or not it is safe for their child to leave for school under severe weather conditions, as well as at other times.
- Permission to stay inside during recess: Elementary students are expected to be outside during recess and noon hour except when the weather is inclement (i.e. raining, -25 degrees). If children are too sick to play outside, they should be kept at home. Germs spread quickly through a classroom. Please think of others and do not send a sick child to school. (Arrangements should be made prior to your child being allowed to stay indoors for recess.)

Parking

For the safety of the children, please park in the main parking lot. On school days from 8:15 AM to 8:30 AM and from 3:15 PM to 3:30 PM, there is a No Vehicle Movement Rule in effect for the Bus Lane. Parents and visitors may not drive in the lane used for buses, to ensure student safety and smooth departure for buses. Vehicles that arrive during this time are expected to enter the parking lot using the East entrance, and exit using the West end. All parents who drop off or pick up elementary aged students must escort their children to and from their vehicles to the south sidewalk of the school. Please use the second or third row parking, and walk your child(ren) to and from the sidewalk. (Board policy updated Dec. 2016)

Services

Learning Assistance

At Parkland Immanuel Christian School we realize that all students are unique. In order to optimize learning for all students, a learning assistance/ special needs program has been put into place. The learning assistance coordinator oversees this program. If parents have any concerns about their child(ren) starting Kindergarten in the Fall, they can approach the Learning Assistance Coordinator prior to school starting, so that needs can be taken into consideration when planning for the next school year.

Parents and/or teachers can contact the learning assistance coordinator if they have concerns about their child or student's social, behavioral, or academic development. Based on the circumstances, the learning assistance coordinator can provide observations and assessments. The learning assistance coordinator collaborates with the classroom teacher regarding the student's needs. When beneficial to the student, an individualized program plan is put in place with specific goals targeting the areas that require growth. At times a student's needs can be pervasive. In these cases, the learning assistance coordinator can pursue funding from Alberta Education. Based on the student's needs, external supports can be requested. When necessary, an educational assistant is able to provide individual or small group support.

If you have any concerns about your child, feel free to contact Arenda Vanderveen at the school at 780-444-6443 or email avanderveen@pics76.ca.

Health Services

Please do not send a sick child to school. Whenever a child becomes sick at school, the parents will be notified and asked to pick him/her up.

The school is visited periodically by a public health nurse. Please contact the school and the nurse if your child develops a communicable disease to enable both parties to keep track of the number of cases of illness

in the school and to discuss care of the child and regulations regarding the length of time the child should remain at home. The public health nurse for PICS can be contacted at Alberta Health, phone number: 780-342-1234.

Any health issues need to be brought to the attention of the school office. If medications are required, parents are encouraged to administer required medications to their child before or after school if possible. If medication is to be taken during school hours, parents will supply the medication in its original container and give written instructions to the school secretary who will administer the medication.

Banking

PICS offers a banking program through Edmonton Christian Credit Union for all students in Kindergarten through grade 12. This is a fundraising event and encourages children to be good stewards of the money that God has entrusted to them.

On the first Thursday of every month, a volunteer helps to collect contributions from the students and helps with their banking. Those who contribute a set amount monthly earn a bonus at the end of the school year, and the Christian Credit Union matches these bonuses as a donation to the school! These banking dates are published in September, mark them on your calendar.

PICS Traditions:

Many sorts of things go on at PICS, besides the regular lessons. The following information is intended to help you become aware of some of the regular and not-so-regular events that you will want to know about.

Kindergarten classes attend full-school assemblies through the year when there are special events. These will typically be published in advance in the school newsletter and parents are welcome to attend as well.

Special school events that occur periodically during the school year, such as special dress-up days, and school spirit days are organized by both the high school and middle school leadership teams. The elementary student body is divided into four house teams. Students earn points for their team throughout the year by participating in special day events and various challenges.

Here follows a month by month listing of things we do at PICS during the year:

September:

An Open House is usually held in August/September to enable students and parents to meet their teachers, check out their new classrooms and drop off supplies. Watch the newsletter for details about this.

The school year opens with the Opening Assembly on the first day of school. The Governor General's Bronze Medal from the year prior will be handed out at that time.

Elementary students (up to grade 6) will be selling chocolate bars, and parents will be reminded of the gift certificate program, both fundraisers run by the Ladies Aid to support various needs at school.

A program that has become thoroughly loved is the monthly "Hot Lunch". If this program will run during the current school year, a form will be sent out early in the year, one per child, which will cover each month of the school year. Please be sure to only order hot lunches on your child's given kindergarten days.

An out-of-school sports activity that has come to mean a lot to society members and the financial support of our school is the Fall Classic Golf Tournament which is held each year in September.

Any other fundraisers will be announced in the weekly newsletters (ie, Mission food sales).

October:

By mid-October students have had their individual school pictures taken. Because of staggered days, one Kindergarten class will have their pictures taken on “re-take” day.

There will be a Thanksgiving assembly before Thanksgiving weekend.

Reading month is usually held in November. Activities vary from year to year. Guest readers are invited to come to read to the students and extra reading is encouraged by a competition!

The Canadian Reformed Teachers or PICS Staff Convention usually takes place around the Thanksgiving weekend. That will mean approximately a week of holidays for the students.

November:

If there is a Cedar and Snow Market planned for this December, you will notice a lot of information about it in the newsletters coming home. This event is a lot of work, but it is a ton of fun and loved by all who participate!

A Remembrance Day assembly is usually held as close to Remembrance Day as possible.

In the last week of the month a general membership meeting is held. At this time election of new board members takes place.

First term usually ends towards the end of November for Elementary and Junior High students, followed a week later by Report Cards and Parent-Teacher interviews.

December:

In the first or second week of December, parent-teacher interviews will be held, please check the newsletters for interview dates and process. Appointments with elementary teachers will take place in their classrooms. It is highly recommended that parents of Kindergarten children attend the first parent-teacher interview.

Every second year, the elementary students will be busily preparing for a major school program. These evening programs alternate yearly between Christmas and Easter/Spring.

The last day of school before the Christmas Holidays will end with a Christmas assembly. Everyone is invited to come!

Christmas Holidays are a two-week affair starting on a Monday and ending on the next week's Friday to include both Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

January:

School starts again on the Monday after New Year's Day.

You should be getting information about the AB Education government survey soon, and you will be encouraged to participate in this! 😊

Registration forms for the next school year are typically sent home in January as well. Watch for these packages to come home with your children!

An informational night for parents of next years' new Kindergarten students will be organized sometime in this month.

February:

This month is actually a very energy-filled one at PICS. Heart week occurs every February, where we get ready for a special time: Mufu Day! This week is a very special one for PICS. It is a time of fun and fundraising for an orphanage in Kenya, the Mufu Home. All the fundraisers are for this home which houses 20-40 children. You will hear about a coin race which corresponds to a different theme every year, and everything culminating on the Thursday, Mufu Day. That day will have an assembly with current information about the

Mufu Home. The elementary students all participate in a variety of activities which usually include the mini-OlymPICS (outdoor variety of activities), a hotdog lunch, and a carnival and rummage sale in the gym. Parents are highly encouraged to participate in Mufu Day especially for the afternoon as students are difficult to monitor when they are all over the school participating in different activities. Friday is a Professional Development Day (no classes), and with the following Monday being Family Day, this makes a nice break.

March:

This month is relatively quiet for elementary students. Second term report cards and parent-teacher interviews will be held some time during this month.

Our "spring break" is often the last week of March, but occasionally falls in April.

April:

The first Wednesday in April is traditionally the date for the Annual School Drive. The Promotion Committee arranges this and canvassers contact everyone in the school society in order to raise extra funds for the operation and maintenance of the school.

If there was no Christmas program in the past December, the students may be very busy preparing for the Spring Concert, to be held in either April or May.

In April, a Grandparents/Special Persons Day Open House is held at PICS. Students and grandparents alike love this, and we encourage those who do not have grandchildren at school to adopt one for the morning!

May:

Watch the PICS Life for the date of our spring membership meeting, usually held at the end of May. This is the time that, among other things, the budget will be presented to the school society membership for approval.

June:

Sports Days for students in Grades 1-3 is often run on the second Friday in June. The Kindergarten class **may** participate in this activity day if they have school on that day. This also depends on the number of students involved in this day as space can be an issue with growing school numbers.

Our Kindergarten students will have their graduation ceremony in June, marking the end of a year filled with learning and fun.

June also sees many end-of-year field trips so you can expect to see lots of permission forms coming home.

Close to the end of the kindergarten school year, there is a combined field trip where parents and siblings are usually invited to join along. Watch for information in the Kindergarten newsletters.

So you see that we have a full year here at PICS. But all our planning is done "DV", that is LORD willing.

General Kindergarten Information

"...that children might know the works of God..."
Psalm 78: 1-7

What is Kindergarten?

Entrance into Kindergarten is usually a child's first venture away from home all by him/herself. As parents, you are probably wondering what sort of experience this will be for your child. The following brief outline will acquaint you with the goals for the children, parents, and staff involved in the Kindergarten program this year.

Kindergarten Program

Our program is based on the six principles as outlined in the Kindergarten Program Statement – September 2005.

Principle 1:	Young children learn best when programming meets their developmental needs.
Principle 2:	Young children develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that prepare them for later learning.
Principle 3:	Young children with special needs, through early intervention strategies, develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes that prepare them for later learning.
Principle 4:	Young children build a common set of experiences through interaction with others.
Principle 5:	Parents have the opportunity for meaningful involvement in the education of their children.
Principle 6:	Coordinated community services meet the needs of young children and their families.

The kindergarten program statement provides learning expectations in seven learning areas. The following learning areas are interrelated and are integrated through instructional activities:

1. Early literacy
2. Early numeracy
3. Citizenship and Identity
4. Environment and Community awareness
5. Personal and Social Responsibility
6. Physical Skills and Well-being
7. Creative Expression

Young children learn in an integrated way and many of the learning expectations identified in this program statement will be accomplished simultaneously.

Goals

- To provide meaningful learning experiences from a Christian perspective.
- To enhance the development of the total child – spiritually, socially, intellectually, emotionally, and physically.

Our program design involves the following:

- Devotions, Bible stories
- Math and literacy skills
- Learning center activities – blocks, housekeeping, paint, skill centers, learning games and puzzles, etc.
- Sharing time, singing, stories and rhymes
- Thematic activities (seasons, under the sea, friends, etc)
- Skill development (tying shoelaces, printing, cutting)
- Parent/child activities/events
- Participation in PICS activities where appropriate (Heart Week)

Some components of the centers are listed below:

Block Play:	A variety of different sizes of blocks to aid in the development of intellectual growth, perceptual and problem-solving skills, motor development, and positive peer interaction.
Art Activities:	Drawing, painting, play dough, etc. to develop creative abilities and expression of thought.
Manipulative Play:	Puzzles, Lego, Tinker Toys, toy machinery, etc. to aid in the development of visual discrimination, eye-hand coordination, memory, matching and classifying.
Writing Center:	Pencils, crayons, markers, paper of various colors and sizes, stapler, tape, etc. to aid in the development of an awareness of print, eye-hand coordination, expression of thought, beginning writing skills.
Math Centers:	Blocks, play money, balance scales, measuring devices, counting and sorting materials to develop number sense, problem-solving skills, sorting and classifying, shape and color recognition, and an introduction to various measurement devices.
Book/Library Center:	Books, CD players/books to help develop an appreciation for literature and introduce the children to reading, to develop an awareness of the concept of print, sequencing, consequences and outcomes of situations. Each week, the children will be allowed to take two books from the school library. The day will be determined at the beginning of September.
Dramatic Play:	Miniature kitchen, puppets, etc. to encourage the development of language and manipulative skills, sensory awareness, positive peer interaction. This center can serve as a restaurant, hospital, store, etc.
Music:	Singing of songs, clapping of rhythms, playing musical instruments, listening to tapes and CDs to provide opportunities for creative expression and the development of listening and coordination skills.
Science:	Nature objects, magnifying glass for observations, etc. to discover, observe, and explore basic concepts that are evident in everyday life.

Reading, Math and Christian Living are Major Goals:

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will be taught to print their names and copy print from a variety of forms.• They will learn to appreciate books through daily story reading sessions.• They will learn the order of the alphabet, how to form the letters and beginning sound/symbol relationships.• Oral language and journaling.
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will learn counting skills, number formation, sorting, comparisons, classification and measurement, simple addition and subtraction, problem solving.• Children will learn colors and shapes.
Christian Living	<p>In the classroom, children will daily be taught Biblical standards, morals, and values for living through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prayer• Relating to the teacher and peers• Singing Bible songs• Listening to, discussing, retelling, and drawing about Bible stories• Learning to respond correctly in given situations and developing Christian character.

Volunteers

Your child feels special when you come to volunteer for Kindergarten and we truly appreciate your contributions. Please sign in at the office when you arrive and sign out at the office when you leave.

When we have the children in opening and closing group times, you may be doing some preparation work. You may not necessarily be in the classroom as we often have laminating and photocopying to be done. Other duties may include bulletin boards, helping with crafts, or even light cleaning. You may also be asked to prepare materials for future use at a center, cleaning paint brushes, or stuffing take-home folders.

Parents are also a valuable asset at centers. You may be introducing a center, assisting a small group, helping at, or supervising a center. When possible, we try to have your child start the day with you at the center. After they have completed the activity with you, they can choose another center. Encourage children to do the talking – Why? How Many? What color? Is there another way to do this? What else can we make? Questions such as these require children to think for themselves and foster creativity.

When working with children, it should be remembered that we are trying to help them be more independent. For example, if a child cannot tie his/her shoes or zip up his/her jacket, expect him/her to try first before assisting, and give encouragement.

If you enjoy reading stories, singing or playing an instrument, sharing about your job, hobby or a trip you've taken, ***please*** let us know. We are all enriched when we can share talents with each other.

PLEASE NOTE: The roster keeper will distribute monthly calendars with you slotted in for a morning. If you are unable to come in on your day, it is your responsibility to exchange with another parent or make alternate arrangements. Our field trip coordinator will book you for field trips.

If you are not able to help out in the classroom, there are many other ways you can be involved in the program. We often need parents to do things outside of the classroom that complement and extend the children's learning in the classroom, such as shopping for supplies for the classroom, tracking down "beautiful junk" for class projects, preparation work (coloring, cutting, pasting, etc.) for projects.

If you are a working parent, do remember that grandparents, aunts and uncles can come to assist in the classroom. Please know that you are always welcome to drop in to our exciting kindergarten learning community!

Ensure that the office has a volunteer application on file – the application is in your kindergarten package and available on the PICS website.

Birthdays

Each child's birthday is acknowledged individually as close to the actual day as possible. If your child's birthday is in the summer, we celebrate his/her half birthday. The roster keeper will try to schedule your turn to volunteer close to your child's birthday.

Show & Tell

Children are free to bring an item that is significant to them and tell the class about their treasure. This is a great opportunity to practice oral communication as well as listening and questioning skills. (Show & Tell day for your child will be scheduled each month. Please refer to the monthly calendar for information. **Please try to discourage your child from bringing toys to school other than for Show & Tell.**

Field Trips

Kindergarten goes on a number of field trips throughout the year that coordinate with our themes, approximately one per month. Whenever possible we try to accommodate parents who would like to volunteer. Sometimes the guidelines are set for us. Unless you have a nursing baby, no siblings are permitted on field trips. Permission slips must be signed prior to the fieldtrip. Verbal permission is not sufficient.

Discipline

Our classrooms are full of love, laughter, and patience but there is structure. Expectations and routines are outlined and repeated on a continual basis, so that by mid-year the children automatically assume responsibility for themselves, their belongings, and their behavior. Inappropriate behavior is dealt with by first speaking to the child and making him/her aware of the consequences (such as time out if needed or loss of an activity time). **If a behavior is repeated a number of times, parents will be notified.**

It is essential that all parents keep their observations or opinions about specific children to themselves and not discuss it with friends or with other parents. Perhaps a child is having an “off” day and is usually able to function very well in a group situation.

It is more effective for the teacher to handle a discipline situation rather than a parent volunteer even if it is your child that requires speaking to. Please do not take these instances personally. As a rule, each child has a tendency to behave “out of character” when the parent is present. They do improve as the year unfolds.

Parent volunteers should encourage orderly conduct when working with a small group, on the playground and at lunch time. If a child is disobedient and and/or disrespectful, the parent should send the student to the teacher and report the situation.

What does a typical day in kindergarten look like?

Our days are active and busy! The schedule is a flexible one that changes according to the needs of the children and program content, but we try to keep a fairly regular routine so the children can be prepared and ready. Some days are set aside to do special projects within a topic: field trips, class writing, holiday celebrations, etc.

A Kindergarten day is divided into blocks of time. The times are flexible depending on the time of year, interest, themes, special visitors, field trips, school assemblies, special school-wide activities, gym, library, etc. Therefore, taking all this into consideration, following is an example of a typical kindergarten day.

A Day in the Life of Kindergarten

- Settling-in-time/Informal sharing
- Devotions/Prayer/Memory Verse/Singing
- Helpers/Calendar/Weather/Counting/Day Schedule
- Bible story/craft/journaling
- Handwriting practice
- Bathroom/ Recess/Snack/Show and Tell
- Teacher-Directed Lesson/Language/Readiness Skills/Literacy Centers
- Theme related activity/art/craft
- Lunch and Recess
- Math (teacher directed lesson/ learning stations)
- Centers (children’s choice)
- Music
- Story Time
- Circle Time/Closing Prayer/Dismissal
- *Library times will be included on a weekly basis.*

Getting Your Child Ready for School

Many parents say, "Can I help my child be ready for school?" Yes, you can! The list below is provided as a guideline of some of the abilities four and five year olds are capable of, keeping in mind that each child develops to his/her own unique timetable. You can encourage your child to:

Follow simple directions (i.e. help mom and dad)
Finish small tasks (i.e. putting away toys, books, clothes, etc.)
Sit still for short periods of time (15 minutes or so).
Speak clearly, not baby talk. Use simple sentences.
Say "please", "thank-you", and "excuse me".
Use a Kleenex properly.
Wash and dry hands and face alone.
Attend to toilet necessities quietly and unassisted.
Learn to put on and take off coat, mittens, hat, etc.
Have respect for his/her own property as well as the property of others.
Practice knowing his/her own name, address, phone number, birthday and parents' names.
Take his/her turn and allow others to take their turn when playing.
Draw using crayons and other materials, and fill in outline figures.
Use modeling clay, play dough, building blocks, puzzles and so on.
Listen quietly to stories.
Look at a picture and name things in it.
Listen to a short story and tell what happened in it.
Recognize the main colors: yellow, orange, red, green, blue, purple, brown, black.
Let other people speak without interrupting them.
Print their first name using upper and lower case lettering.
Provide opportunities for your child to use scissors, pens, pencils and markers.
Read to your child every day for 15 minutes (or longer!) and have fun by pointing out the title, author, beginning and end of the story. Take time to talk about words and letters.
Sing songs to develop literacy skills. Point out letters in magazines, on signs, etc. Talk about letter sounds.
Recite/read familiar rhymes. Talk about words that rhyme.
Accept responsibility willingly. 😊