

Kindergarten Orientation

2022

Welcome to Neil M Ross! We cannot wait to SOAR with your little ones this year.

REQUIRED SUPPLIES

- 1 Large Backpack (labelled)
- 1 Pair of **VELCRO** or **secure slip on** **NON-MARKING** Shoes for indoor use (labelled)
- Headphones for your student's use (LABELLED)
- 1 Reusable Water Bottle to come to school each day (labelled)
- 1 Box of Kleenex Tissues for Classroom Use
- 1 LARGE Packages of Wet Wipes for Classroom Use
- 1 Bottles of Hand Sanitizer for Classroom Use
- 1 set of extra clothing (see note to the right)

CLOTHING

Children learn best when they are actively involved, and sometimes that means getting messy. Please send your child to school in comfortable, easy to wash clothing.

EXTRA CLOTHING

Please send a change of clearly labelled clothing, underwear and socks in a LABELLED bag, to remain at school, in case your child needs to change.

LABEL CLOTHING

Please ensure that ALL clothing and footwear are clearly labelled, including the clothing and shoes that your child will arrive in.



STAGGERED ENTRY

Students with last names that begin with A-K attend on Tuesday, August 30th. Last names L-Z attend on Wednesday, August 31st. ALL students attend classes together on Thursday and Friday.

COMMUNICATION

Each month you will receive a digital class newsletter and calendar outlining our learning, field trips, special days etc. Your teachers will also use email, Seesaw, and a class webpage to share with you class pictures and important dates and information. Please visit often to see all that is happening in Kindergarten.

School wide information will be sent through email and also through a weekly email blast sent on Sunday mornings.

SNACKS and LUNCHES

Snack/lunch time is a social time, but allergies require that there be no sharing. Just a reminder that NMR is a NUT FREE school. No peanuts/nuts of any kind should be sent in snacks and lunches.

AM Class: Please keep snacks small and nutritious. A simple leak-proof container is an easy option for snack.

Full Day Class: Please send a healthy snack and a lunch as well (only one lunch kit is necessary.)

Water is our beverage of choice therefore a reusable water bottle should come to school with your child each day to be returned home for cleaning at the end of the day.

BIRTHDAYS

Each child is recognized on their special day within the class and by the office staff. If you choose to send in a special treat to share with the class, it must be NUT FREE; this includes treats labelled “may contain” or “made in a facility that processes nuts.”

ATTENDANCE

If your child will not be at school, it is very important to use the SafeArrival App or log on to the NMR website for the link. If you experience difficulty, please call the school (780) 459-1244.

NO KINDERGARTEN DAYS

These are days that are separate from our District PD dates. The calendar can be found on the NMR school and GSACRD District webpages.

<https://www.gsacrd.ab.ca/about-us/division-calendar>

PROGRAMMING

The Kindergarten program focuses on the following areas of your child’s development: SOCIAL, PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL, CREATIVE, EMOTIONAL, AND SPIRITUAL.

The Kindergarten Program Statement outlines what young children need to learn to prepare for entry into Grade One and to provide a foundation for later success. These areas are:

- English Language Arts and Literature
- Mathematics
- Community and Environmental Awareness
- Citizenship and Identity
- Personal and Social Responsibility
- Physical Education and Wellness
- Creative and Cultural Expression



We learn pre-reading skills, including letter names and sounds, rhyming, breaking apart and putting together sounds in words through the Animated Literacy Program. Each of the 43 sounds in English are explored through read-aloud storybooks, puppet characters, storytelling, song and sign language gestures. Encourage your child to share these stories and gestures with you as they learn them in school. We will also be using the Heggerty program of explicit and systematic Phonological and Phonemic Awareness Lessons through the year. We cannot wait to see your student’s growth this year!

Math literacy (numeracy) is as important as language literacy in academic success. The Kindergarten outcomes are: numbers to 10 (counting forward and back from any number, subitizing and representing numerals and quantities), patterns and relations (sorting and understanding patterns), understanding the passage of time, and measurement (comparing by length, mass and volume.)

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF STUDENT GROWTH

- Assessment of student progress is an ongoing process.
- Samples of your child's work are shared through Seesaw.
- A Celebration of Learning takes place late in the fall providing an opportunity for the children to show you what they have learned to date.
- Checklists and informal testing are done to show how the children are progressing throughout the year.
- A formal Report Card will be shared in March and June.

Each new experience adds to a child's knowledge, and when the child shares an experience with an adult, there is a great potential for reinforcing the learning. Parents are in the best position to help children make connections between past experiences and new ones. Talking with your child about their day in school sounds easier than it is. Here are some suggested questions that may help your child share some more specific information with you.

- Tell me how you made that.
- What are you learning about now? (Apples, Halloween, Winter...)
- What learning centers did you go to today?
- Tell me about a story that was read to you today.
- Who did you work with and who did you play with today?
- Who sat with you at snack?
- What did you do in Gym class?

ARISE! GET UP! GET GOING! GO WITH GOD!

Our Catholic Faith is reinforced through our school day. We participate in several service projects to live our faith. We open each day with prayer and song, pray before eating, and end each day with a closing prayer. We welcome and celebrate each and every child's unique gifts and talents as they are all God's children, created perfectly to plan.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Our classrooms love volunteers! We love to have parents assist us both in the classroom and on field trips. All volunteers at the school, in any capacity, must have their Criminal Check and Child Welfare Check completed before volunteering. See our front office to obtain the forms/information.

LIBRARY

When library begins, your student will have a book to borrow for a week.



We are looking forward to a wonderful start to our year! If you have any questions, please never hesitate to ask. Thank you!

Your Kindergarten Teachers,
Mrs. Brady and Mrs. Searle (K1 Full Day), Mrs. Caldaralo and Ms. Japuncic (K2 AM),
Miss. Stefner and Mrs. DiTimoteo (K3 AM)