

Kindergarten Parent Information & Sept. Schedule

When our school year begins, we know that you all may have many questions regarding what will happen day to day for your child beginning his/her school career. We have outlined the basic items of information that each parent needs to know about Kindergarten. Always feel free to call us at school if you have questions about what is happening in our classes. Children sometimes misunderstand information or expectations, and a quick call may clear things up! (I often ask parents to please remember one thing: I will believe only 10% of what I am told about home if you promise to do the same about school!) Somehow things sometimes get mixed up in the translation and in the retelling by a five year old, not purposely, but quite innocently.

Kindergarten School Day is from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Mrs. MacAfee's Kindergarten Room is Room #19

Mrs. Korzinski's Room is Room #18

Mrs. Pizzey's Room is Room #12

School Phone number 250-870-5118

The school monthly school newsletter can be found at the school website:

[PSE School Newsletters](#)

Mrs. MacAfee's contact info:

Voicemail: 250 870-5000 ext. 6026

E-mail: allison.macafee@sd23.bc.ca

Mrs. Korzinski's contact info:

Voicemail: 250 870-5000 ext. 6519

E-mail: sarah.korzinski@sd23.bc.ca

Mrs. Pizzey's contact info:

Voicemail: 250 870-5000 ext. 6205

E-mail: madison.pizzey@sd23.bc.ca



Attendance

Consistent attendance is essential for your child to obtain the maximum benefit from the Kindergarten program. Also, please try to be on time, the first bell rings at 8:25 to let the children inside and classes begin promptly at 8:30 AM. We start as soon as the bell rings and when a child arrives late, it disrupts everyone. If your child does arrive late, they must enter through the front doors and check in at the office, the late arrival is marked on their attendance record. This is a school policy. If your child is unable to attend, or is going to be late, please use the [School Messenger App](#) to let the office know. Information about this can be found on our school website, under the Parent section. If your child is going to be away for an extended period of time, please let the office know so that arrangements can be made to make sure they do not fall too far behind.



Parent Helpers

We are happy to welcome back parent volunteers to our classrooms and are a much appreciated addition to the Kindergarten classes. In order to do so, you will need to complete and return a volunteer package from the office prior to volunteering. Please see our school secretary in the office for paperwork. We will only need parent helpers occasionally (i.e. celebration days, field trips, preparation of special projects). When the classes need a helping hand, a notice asking for assistance will be sent home with the children.

Back and Forth Folder

Your child will bring their back and forth folder home most days. When you receive this folder in your son/daughter's backpack please empty it and return the folder to school the next day. The children will bring school work, newsletters, and notes home in the folder. If you need to send any items to me please place them in the folder. These are checked daily.

Monthly Newsletters/ Homework Calendar



At the beginning of each month a newsletter is sent home with your child. These newsletters will help keep you informed about what is happening in our Kindergarten class. Attached to the monthly newsletter will be a monthly calendar and a homework calendar with different activities for you to do with your child each day. Each time a homework activity is completed, initial the box and return the calendar when it is completed. The children will be able to choose a school reward for doing their homework. The homework calendar is an optional activity.

Extra Clothes

Please send extra clothes in your child's backpack (underwear, socks, shirt and pants) in a Ziploc bag. This bag will always remain in the bottom of their backpacks for any emergencies. These clothes do not have to be uniform clothes.

Show and Tell

During the school year your child will be participating in our show and tell program. The purpose of show and tell is to increase your child's oral language skills as well as to help develop a positive self-image. As a parent, your enthusiasm and involvement in the preparations of the show and tell items will help your child gain confidence and lead to greater success in oral language skills. In each month's newsletter, I will send home a simple show and tell assignment, unless the month is very busy. The assignment is usually generating clues about what your child is bringing. Our sharing schedule will be attached to the monthly calendar in our newsletters.

Special Events / Field Trips / Celebrations

During the year many special days and events will happen in Kindergarten. Look for announcements about celebrations at such times as Halloween, Diwali, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, Eid, 100 Day and for special activities such as Teddy Bear's Picnic and a pajama party. Information will come home in monthly newsletters and as each special event is planned. Several field trips will also be planned. Most of these will be seasonal walks and others may involve transportation by bus. A general field trip permission form will be sent home at the beginning of the year. This form is asking for permission to go on any outdoor exploration walks near our school (such as Ben Lee Park). A permission slip will be sent home for any other field trips and it will need to be signed and returned A.S.A.P. If we do not have your permission, we cannot take your child on a school field trip. Other arrangements would be made for your child at school.



Physical Education



Gym is part of our Kindergarten program and therefore each child needs a pair of running shoes (these will also be used as indoor shoes). **Your child will need to be able to put on and fasten these shoes independently.** Velcro or elastic closures are often the best for little hands. Please label running shoes and anything else that comes to school, uniforms included.

Nut Free Class & School

WE HAVE CHILDREN IN OUR CLASS AND SCHOOL WHO ARE EXTREMELY ALLERGIC TO PEANUTS, TREE NUTS AND NUT PRODUCTS. We will not tolerate any nuts at school (peanuts, pistachios, almonds, cashews or other tree nuts or nut products) being sent to school for lunch or snacks. Please respect these severe allergy concerns. They can be fatal. Thank you for helping to keep all our students safe.



Lunch/Snacks

Please ensure that your child has at least 2 snacks. One snack will be eaten mid morning and one snack will be eaten mid afternoon. **It would be helpful if the two snacks you send to school be placed in the outside pocket of your child's**

backpack. Please ensure that your child has a healthy lunch and has enough food to keep them fueled for their Kindergarten day. It would be helpful if lunches came to school in some sort of lunch bag/box and placed in the larger pocket of your child's backpack. Please note we are unable to microwave items brought from home. Lunch hour is from 11:00 a.m. to 11:58 a.m. It consists of an outside play time and an eating time.

Please do not send juice boxes to Kindergarten. The students rarely drink the entire juice box and they can make a mess. Please send a water bottle instead.

Tiny Teacher

In our class we have a daily student helper who is called the tiny teacher, T.A. or teacher assistant. T.A.'s do small classroom tasks, sit in a special chair, complete calendar activities on our Smartboard and lead the others in line, etc. ALL children will get equal turns at this. If someone is absent when their turn comes up his/her name will remain at the top of the list until they are back.

V.I.P.'s

During the year each child will have a chance to be our Very Important Person or V.I.P. for an entire week. During the week they will sit on our special V.I.P. chair, a special display about them is set up in the classroom, they bring special items to share with their classmates and at the end of the week they receive a hat and a certificate. A detailed notice is sent home the week before your child's special week.

Library

Each Kindergarten class will have their own special library time where they go to take out one book to bring home. You will be sent more information about this when your child's teacher knows their library day. It is important that the books are returned each week as your child cannot take out another until their previous book is returned.



Scholastic Book Orders/ Highlights

From time to time an order form may come home. Ordering books and materials is not mandatory, however the books are available at a very reasonable price and we receive free books and materials to use in the classroom each time an order is placed.

Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays are a very important event in a five year olds life, therefore we make each Kindergarten child's birthday a celebration. Each birthday girl/boy will receive a birthday hat, a little gift and we will sing a special birthday song. They will also receive a birthday greeting from the office staff and/or Mrs. Ferguson.



If parents wish to send along a nut-free treat for the class they are certainly welcome to do so. We suggest one individual item that is allergy friendly for each child, like a cupcake. I usually find these in the bakery section of Walmart. In June we will celebrate any summer birthdays. ***We ask that birthday invitations are NOT distributed at school including at the door. Those children who are left out feel badly and don't understand number limits, etc. If you need help in getting invitations distributed, see the teacher and we will quietly slip them into backpacks for you.

Home Reading Program

In the Spring, we will begin an at home reading program to help prepare your child for Grade 1. Your child will bring a bag of simple-to-read books home to share with you each week. More information will be sent home to you when the program starts.

Beautiful Junk for Make and Take Centre and Crafts

If you have anything around your house that you feel we may be able to use or recycle in our craft activities please send it along. Below is a small list of examples of items we like to use in the classroom:

- Gift wrap rolls, paper towel rolls, toilet paper rolls
- Egg cartons
- Ice cream buckets / Cleaned margarine, yogurt, or sour cream containers
- Interesting bits and pieces
- New straws, chopsticks, popsicle sticks

Basically, anything that is interesting for the children to use to create new things.

Items to Bring to School

please label all items, including uniforms

- ☐ Running shoes with Velcro or slip-ons. These will be left at school as inside shoes. Please also be sure that the shoes your child is wearing to and from school are ones that he/she is able to put on and take off independently.
- ☐ One lunch box large enough for your child's lunch and at least two snacks in an outside pocket of their backpack.
- ☐ A water bottle.
- ☐ One backpack large enough for your child's lunch box, back and forth folder and library books.
- ☐ One box of tissues.
- ☐ Extra clothes (socks, underwear, shirt, pants) in a bag at the bottom of their backpack.
- ☐ School fees can be paid thru School Cash online (see school website). Fees include the student cultural fee + a school supplies fee. This price will be confirmed in September and you will be notified.

We know it is not always easy to watch your young children go off to school each day, but we assure you that we will try to offer them the best possible Kindergarten experience we can and we look forward to getting to know your children and you as the year progresses.

Sincerely,

Kindergarten Team at PSE

Kindergarten Gradual Entry Dates
for Pearson Road Elementary September 2023

Tuesday, September 5th

No school for Kindergarten, half day for Grades 1-12.
Kindergarten teachers will be completing parent zoom interviews that were not done in the Spring.



Wednesday, September 6th & Thursday, September 7th

All Kindergarten students will be in school for full days from 8:30-2:30. ***Students and parents meet in the gym at 8:30 on both of these days.*** At that time, we will announce which teacher your child will be with for the day. Please note that students will not officially be placed into classrooms during these days. These days are to help us determine the best placement for the students. ***Students will need lunch and 2 snacks for both of these days.***

Friday, September 8th

No school for Kindergarten students. Class lists will be finalized and parents will receive a call from their child's teacher to confirm their placement and their schedule for mini sessions.

Monday, September 11th and Tuesday, September 12th

Students will attend school for a half day of instruction (mini sessions) from 8:30-11am or 12-2:30 pm. ***Students will need one snack for both of these days.***

Wednesday, September 13th

First full day for Kindergarten students. Students come from 8:30-2:30 and will need 2 snacks and a lunch. Your child's teacher will give you details on where to drop off and pick up your child.