



Kindergarten ABC's

A

Absences- Excessive absences hinder a child's progress. If your child is absent, you must send a note to the school when he/she returns. Please do not write the excuse note in the agenda. Remember to include your child's name, teacher's name, date of absence, and the reason for the absence.

Agendas- Each child will be provided with an agenda book at the beginning of the school year. The agenda books contain important information about our county policies. The agendas are also used for communicating your child's behavior daily. Please make sure to check them on a daily basis and sign or initial that they have been checked. In the event that your child loses his/her agenda book, a new one may be purchased in the front office for \$8.00.

Allergies- Please make sure to alert the school office and your child's teacher to any allergies that your child may have.

Arrival- Your child should come to school no earlier than 7:30 A.M. unless he/she is a bus rider or enrolled in Kid's Club. Car riders should be dropped off at the back of the school and then he/she walks to the cafeteria. Kindergarten students will be held in the cafeteria until 7:50 A.M. The Kindergarten teachers will walk the students to their classrooms at 7:50.

Assessment- We use several instruments to assess students in Kindergarten. Report card assessment is done every nine weeks. Each student has an assessment binder that will go home with report cards.

Attendance- Regular school attendance is essential for your child to make the most of his/her education. Please make every effort to have your child at school everyday.

B

Backpacks- Your child's backpack should be big enough to hold a pocket folder and a 3-ring binder. Backpacks help your child carry their folder, agenda book, notes, projects, and books to and from school. Please check your child's backpack daily.

Birthdays- Birthdays are very important to children. If you would like to bring treats for the class on your child's birthday, please schedule a time and date to do so with your child's teacher. In order to prevent hurt feelings, we ask that you do not send birthday invitations to school to be passed out unless you are sending one for each student in your child's class.

Breakfast- Breakfast is served beginning at 7:30 A.M. each morning. The cost of breakfast is \$1.00. Parents are encouraged to pre-pay their meals by sending a check or money or by registering for on-line account access at www.parentonline.net.

Bus- Forms will be sent home at the beginning of the school year in which you may indicate if your child will be riding the school bus. Please let your child's teacher know if there will be a change in bus number at any time during the year. Avoid daily changes in your child's transportation method if at all possible. If you need to make a ride change, call the school office (444-3956) by 2:30 p.m.

C

Clothing- Please dress your child in comfortable clothing that is appropriate for Kindergarten and is in compliance with the Wilson County Schools Dress Code Policy. We also ask that you send in a complete change of clothes to be kept at school in case of spills or accidents. The extra clothes should also be in compliance with dress code.

Communication- Communication between home and school is very important. If you feel the need to talk to your child's teacher, please call the school, send a note, or email the teacher.

Conferences- Parent-Teacher conferences will be held in September. If you feel at any time that a conference needs to be held please contact your child's teacher to make the necessary arrangements.

Curriculum- Our Kindergarten curriculum consists of Saxon Phonics, Houghton Mifflin Math, and Scott Foresman Reading. If you would like more information about these programs you may contact your child's teacher.

D

Dismissal- Dismissal is at 3:00 P.M. Please do not come to the classroom to pick your child up. Your child will be dismissed by his/her teacher and will go to the designated pick up locations with a teacher. Car riders should be picked up at the back of the school.

Dress Code- Students should be dressed in accordance to the Wilson County Schools Dress Code Policy. A copy of the dress code will be sent home at the beginning of the school year.

E

Early Dismissal- Transportation forms for early dismissal will be sent home in the middle of the year in the event that Wilson County calls for an early dismissal due to inclement weather. Please keep a record of this so that you will remember what to expect if this situation occurs.

Email- Your child's teacher can be reached by email at their school address: Mrs. Grant's email is grants@wcschools.com, Mrs. Chastain's email is chastainj@wcschools.com.

Emergency Information- Please make sure that phone numbers and addresses are kept up-to-date in the front office.

F

Field Trips- The Kindergarten classes will take educational field trips during the year. A permission slip will be required anytime that we take a field trip.

Fire Drills- Your child will participate in frequent fire drills throughout the year. Each class will practice the procedures together so that your child will be prepared.

Fundraisers- Our school participates in several fund raisers throughout the year to raise money for various things for our school. We hope that everyone can participate, but it is not required.

G

Guidance- Our school counselor will conduct classroom guidance every other week.

H

Handwriting- We use ball and stick handwriting at Tuckers Crossroads Elementary. You will receive a handout of ball and stick handwriting at the beginning of the school year. Please practice the correct strokes with your child.

Homework- Your child will have homework throughout his/her Kindergarten year. Homework procedures for each class will be discussed at Open House Night.

I

Illness- Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a temperature. Children should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If our child becomes ill at school, you will be called to come and get your child.

J

Jackets- Please make sure to put our child's name on jackets and other outerwear.

K

Kid's Club- This is a before and after-school program for those parent's who need childcare during these times. It is open 6:30-7:30 a.m. and 3:00-6:00 p.m. Please contact the Anne Hall at 449-8781 for more information.

L

Library- A library schedule will be sent home as soon as possible. Kindergarten students check out books from our library beginning in September. Each child will be given a special library bag to carry his/her book to and from school. Please be sure to read your child's book each week and return it by the scheduled library day.

Literacy Bags- Your child will be bringing a bag home each week that will contain book(s) from our classroom library. Some of the bags will also have a "reading buddy" from the stories. We hope you enjoy reading to your child and talking about the books. Please be sure that all items are in the bag before returning it to school.

Lunch- The cost of lunch is \$1.50. You may pay for lunch by the day, week, month, or longer. Your child will be given a cafeteria account number and his/her account can be accessed on-line at www.parentonline.net. You are welcome to come and eat lunch with your child. Please sign in at the office and wait for us at the cafeteria door.

M

Mid-nine Weeks Progress Reports- A progress report will be sent home each mid-nine weeks. Please go over these with your child before signing and returning to school. Your child's reports will be kept in a binder to be given to you at the end of the year.

Money- Please remember to send money to school in an envelope. Put your child's name, dollar amount, and what the money is for on the front of the envelope (lunch, book order, etc.). This is extremely important and helps us with our morning routine. Money can be easily misplaced when the teachers are getting the children settled each morning. Often times a child will forget what the money is for if not in a marked envelope. Thank you!

N

Newsletters- A weekly newsletter will be sent home with your child. This is an important tool for keeping in touch with our parents and will tell of our week's activities, skills, concepts as well as upcoming events.

Notes- If your child is absent you will need to send a written excuse that will be given to the office. Please don't write the excuse in your child's agenda. Ride change notes, health comments, questions, etc. can be written in the agenda. Look for notes from the office or from teachers to come home in your child's take-home folder or agenda.

Nurse- If your child becomes ill at school a school nurse or a trained member of our office staff will take care of your child until you can be reached to pick him/her up from school.

O

Open House- This is a wonderful time to see your child's classroom and the many things we do to make learning fun. (Date and time to be announced.)

P

Paint Shirts- Please remember to send a long-sleeved adult shirt to school. We will use these when working with some art projects. Please be sure your child's name is in the collar for easy identification.

Parent-Online- You may access your child's lunch account at www.parentonline.net. This site also allows you to check the balance and add money to the account when needed.

Parties- We will have various parties throughout the year. A room parent will contact you to help with our celebrations if needed.

P.E.- Please make sure to send your child to school in tennis shoes on his/her P.E. day.

Popcorn Words- Your child will be learning many words that are frequently used (pop up) in story texts. Some of the words don't follow phonics rules and can't be sounded out. We memorize these words and you can find them on each teacher's classroom website.

PTO- Our Parent/Teacher Organization encourages all parents to join and become involved. Monthly meetings will be announced.

Q

Questions- Please contact your teacher if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's education. Contact can be made through the office or in your child's agenda.

R

Read- Please try to read to your child daily and let your children see you reading daily.

Recess- Your child will have recess each day, weather permitting.

Report Card- We are on a nine-weeks grading period. Your child will receive a report card each nine-weeks. It will be sent home in a 3-ring binder along with assessments. Please be sure to sign report card and return it along with all papers in binder.

Rest Time- Please send a regular sized bath towel for your child to rest on. Due to lack of space we ask that you do not send blankets or pillows for rest time. Towels will be sent home on Fridays to be washed. Don't forget to bring it back on Mondays. Please be sure your child's name is on the towel and the bag.

Restrooms- Two of our Kindergarten classes have restrooms and your child is allowed to go when needed as long as it doesn't interrupt a lesson. Unfortunately accidents will happen and we will make sure your child changes into their change of clothes. The third Kindergarten class will go as a group (or individually as needed) with their teacher to the larger bathroom near their classroom.

Room Parents- There will be a Room Mother/Father sign-up sheet in your child's classroom during Open House Night.

Rules/Consequences- You will be given our classroom discipline plan to go over with your child and sign. We want every child to have the opportunity to learn without disruptions due to behavior issues. We have six rules in Kindergarten:

- We are always good listeners.
- We are helpers, not hurters.
- We are walkers, not runners.
- We are builders, not breakers.
- We are talkers, not shouters.
- We are quiet workers, not players.

S

Safety- Your child's safety is top priority. We take every precaution when your child is in our care. Please send a note with your child or call the school office (444-3956) by 2:00 p.m. if he/she is to go home a different way.

Schedules- A daily classroom schedule will be sent home once we get settled and have established a schedule for the year.

Secret Sacks- We will send our first Secret Sack home after we meet our first weekly letter. This is a fun activity that helps to reinforce each letter of the alphabet as they are introduced. We will send home a lunch bag and a note specifying the letter we are studying. Please help your child find one object in your house that begins with the letter of the week. Make sure the object is nonbreakable and

small enough to fit in the bag and then secure the bag closed. (We don't want any peeking from curious Kindergartners!). Then with your child, think of 3 clues describing the object you put in the bag and write the clues on the outside on the bag. More information about secret sacks will be explained at our Open House.

Shoes- It is very important to wear comfortable shoes. We suggest shoes that are securely attached to the feet for all of our kindergarten activities. Sneakers are required for the days the children will be going to the gym for P.E.

Snack- The children will have a small snack break each day. If you would like for your child to have a snack, you will need to send a nutritious snack each day. Examples include fruit, vegetables, cereal, popcorn, cheese, crackers, etc. Please do not send chips, cookies, or candy. A good rule of thumb is that if one of the first ingredients is sugar than the snack is probably not a very nutritious one. The children may also bring a drink to have with their snack. Please stay away from the drinks that are full of sugar and any type of carbonated drinks. Snack should be sent each day separate from lunch (if your child brings a lunch from home).

Supplies- Each child will be responsible for his/her own supplies (pencil, crayons, glue, etc). A supply list was sent home at registration. If you need a new one, please let your teacher know.

Support Classes- Our support classes include Physical Education, Music, Art, and Media Center. A schedule of support classes will be sent home at the beginning of the year.

T

Take Home Folders- Your child will be bringing a work folder home each day. Please take the time to sit with your child and go over the activities they have completed at school. Make sure you send the folder back to school each day.

Tardiness- If you get your child to school after 7:58 you will need to pull to the front of the building, park in a marked space and bring your child into the office to be signed in late. The back entrance will be closed and locked at 7:58.

Toys- Toys from home are not allowed unless they are brought in Secret Sacks.

Transportation- If your child will be going home a different way than what we have in our files, you MUST call the school office (444-3956) by 2:00 p.m. or send us a note. We will not let your child go with another adult or a different way unless you have notified us.

U

Units and Themes- We will study several different units and themes this year. Some examples are: The Gingerbread Man, Shapes, Colors, Spiders, Thanksgiving, Clifford, Zoo, and Presidents.

V

Visitors- We encourage visitors in our classroom. Please let us know if you plan on visiting and make sure that you sign in at the office before you come to the classroom. We will be looking for your sticker when you enter the classroom.

Volunteers- We always need volunteers. We do have a school wide volunteer program. If you are interested in volunteering at our school or in our classroom, please contact us or the office staff. We would love to have you!

W

Washing hands- We REALLY encourage the children to wash their hands several times during the day. Clean hands help keep those nasty germs away that make us sick. Please make sure that your child knows how to wash his/her hands with soap and water instead of just playing in the water. We want the children to stay healthy!

Weather- Please make sure your child comes to school each day dressed appropriately for the weather. We will try to go outside each day, weather allowing. Our outside time is normally in the morning, so jackets will be needed on those cool mornings.

Websites- We do have classroom websites. We try to update the sites at least once a week. You will receive more information from your child's classroom teacher.

X

Your child is "**extra**" special to us!

Y

Yearbook- You will have a chance to buy a yearbook in the spring. What better way to capture those elementary years than with a TXR yearbook!

Z

Zero the Hero and Zerona- Zero the Hero or Zerona will come and visit us every 10th day of school. They will both make a special appearance on our 100th day of school.

Zzz's- Your child should get plenty of rest each night. Kindergarten students require 10-12 hours of sleep a night. It is so important for your child to be alert and ready to learn each day. We encourage parents to set a bedtime and be consistent.

State Standard for Kindergarten can be found at the www.wcschools.com web page or <http://www.tennessee.gov/education/ci/standards/index.shtml>

