

## WELCOME KINDERGARTEN PARENTS

The first years at school are very important years in your child's life. Early impressions affect the way in which children will react to people, to new experiences, and to life in general.

The staff at your local public school is getting ready now to help you provide a rich learning atmosphere for your child.

Our kindergarten programme helps children grow in a child-centred, activity-oriented atmosphere by providing opportunities for each child to:

- ! develop a happy, positive attitude to learning
- ! adjust to his/her new environment
- ! strengthen self-confidence and self-worth
- ! develop independence
- ! form good habits of health and safety
- ! learn to accept routines and responsibilities
- ! develop concepts and skills appropriate to his/her stage of maturity
- ! inspire creativity and individuality by learning through play
- ! learn more about him/herself and how to interact with others
- ! expand natural curiosity by exploring and investigating aspects of the world
- ! learn to respect others and their property

During the kindergarten years, careful observation based on key learning indicators will assist us in planning strategies to help your child learn. You will receive regular communication about your child's achievement at school.



## Suggestions to Parents

### Before School Begins

You can help!

1. Read to your child often - the greater the variety the better.
2. Provide opportunities for your child to play with other children.
3. Introduce a brief period away from family members (e.g., babysitter, relatives, friends).
4. Encourage your child to accept responsibility and independence for dressing and undressing, tidying up, and personal hygiene.
5. Travel the route your child will take to and from school. Visit the school playground during the summer.
6. Take time to talk and listen to your child. Speak slowly and clearly. Discourage baby talk.
7. Always correct your child in a consistent, honest and gentle, but firm, manner. Praise good behaviour.
8. Select and control your child's television viewing.
9. Enrich your child's education by providing new experiences (e.g., parks, library, beaches, trips by car, train, bus, picking strawberries etc.).
10. Build a working relationship with your child's teacher. Together you can develop your child's confidence and give him/her needed support and guidance.

### After Your Child Begins School

Keep on helping!

1. Smile and praise your child's efforts. Remember that "doing" is how children learn. Praise works wonders.
2. Work in harmony with your child's teacher. Children need the comfort of adult cooperation.
3. Provide a "special" place for things your child brings home to share with the family.
4. Provide a special place at home for your child to "play school".
5. Avoid comparing your child to another. All children use the same stepping stones on the road to maturity but the rate of development and stages of maturity vary greatly from child to child.
6. Establish regular routines relating to meals, bedtime and tidying up.
7. Show your child love, encouragement and support.
8. Be an attentive and interested listener. Encourage your child to talk with you.

**We promise to do the same!**

## A MESSAGE TO PARENTS

When your child enters kindergarten, the people who work at the school begin to share, with you, the education of your child. Until the first day at school, family and playmates have been the main teachers. Now the responsibility for social, physical, emotional and academic development will be yours and ours.

The Kindergarten Program is designed to provide rewarding experiences and to help children interpret these experiences through routines which promote maximum physical, mental, emotional and social growth.

Parents and teachers share responsibility for making the transition from home to school as harmonious and profitable as possible. Mutual understanding and communication between parent and teacher are essential to the happiness and sense of security of a kindergarten child. Education is a cooperative enterprise between parents and teachers - neither group can do their most effective work without the help of the other.

We look forward to working with you and your child.

Yours truly,

Principal: .....

Teacher: .....

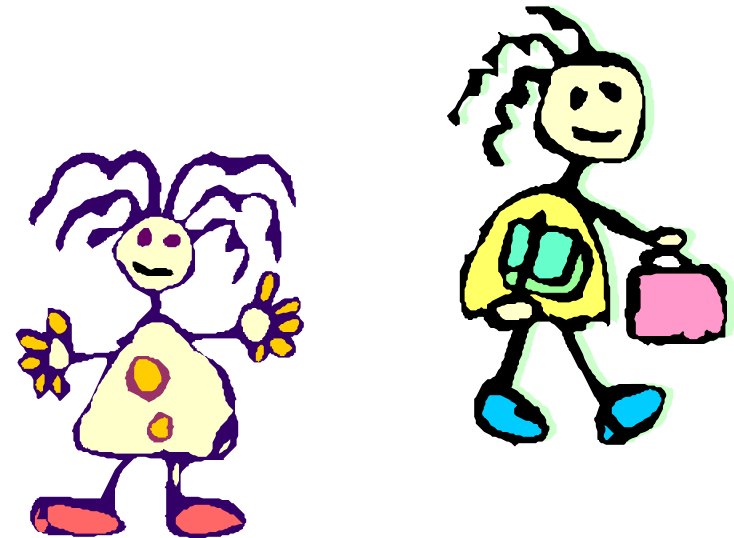
Public School: .....

Phone Number: .....

*Learning  Together*



## WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



## WELCOME TO PUBLIC SCHOOL!