

Mrs. Maddock's Kindergarten ABC's
St. Brigid's School
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I hope you will find this handbook useful and always feel free to contact me with any questions!

A

Absences: Please call if your child will be absent.

Attendance: Regular attendance is so important for your child to receive the best education.

After-School Care: The hours are 3:00p.m. to 5:30p.m. Payment and other information will be sent home soon. After-school care directors are Mrs. Garrett (Grade 6) and Mrs. Hansen (Grade 5).

Alphabet Knowledge: Your child will learn how to write upper and lower case letters and the letter sounds.

Assessment: Your child will be assessed each semester and will bring home a report card.

B

BEE Books: BRING EVERYTHING EVERYDAY

This 3-ring binder houses EVERYTHING students and parents need to keep up-to-date with what is going on at school.

Gone are the days of wrinkled papers and lost notes, newsletters, or calendars. No more searching the house to find paper in order to write a note to school. Everything you need is in one notebook!

BEE books are important! They help students to establish good organizational skills - - - - - skills that can carry on throughout their time in school.

Backpacks: Your child will need a backpack everyday for: snack/lunch box, BEE book transport. **Please be sure the backpack is a size that can be wheeled or carried independently by your child.**

Birthdays: Birthdays are so important to children. You may bring in a special treat on your child's birthday to be handed out at snack time.

Book Orders: I will send home monthly book orders through Scholastics. When you order books, I receive bonus points to update our library with wonderful books.

Before School Care: If your child arrives at school between 7:00 and 7:40 a.m. they **must** be dropped off at the Before Care Program (location: father Hayes Center-downstairs, 1st Classroom on the right). Rates to follow in Friday folders.

C

Church: We will go to church every other Friday for the 8a.m. mass. **Please refer to the Mass Schedule to refer to the dates.** Please have your child to the classroom no later than 8:50 a.m. on these days. If you arrive after 8:50 and we have left the classroom, please have your child leave their backpack inside the classroom and walk them to the church to join the class. It is important for children to attend mass on our scheduled week.

Conferences: After the first semester, there is a scheduled conference for all parents. At anytime in the year if you need a conference, please send me a note, e-mail me, or call the school and we will arrange a time.

Classroom Website: You may access our classroom website at www.sbrigid.com and click on the Kindergarten link. **UNDER CONTRUCTION AT THIS TIME.**

D

Drop Off: You may drop your child off outside the classroom doors at 7:45. School begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. Anytime before 7:45, children **must** go to before-school care, they will not be allowed into the classroom before 7:45.

On the first week of school (September 7th – September 10th) and the first week only, parents are welcomed to bring their child inside the classroom. Starting Monday September 13th, students are to be dropped off outside the classroom doors. Your cooperation with fostering the independence necessary to be successful in kindergarten is much appreciated. Dropping your child off outside the classroom door and allowing them to enter the classroom on their own also teaches them that school is a safe place to be outside of you and home. Students should enter the classroom independently, carrying their own backpacks. They are expected to unpack their belongings for the day.

Dismissal: The dismissal time is 2:45p.m. Please pick your child up outside and not in the classroom unless you need to pick your child up early for an appointment. Please send me a note if your child will be picked up early. In the event that your child must be dismissed early, please go to the office to sign them out and the office will notify me, and your child will meet you in the office. **PLEASE DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY COME TO THE CLASSROOM.**

If your child will be going home with someone other than parents, please send a note or call the school. I will not be able to let the child leave with anyone other than a parent unless there is a note.

Dress: Please dress your child with appropriate clothes according to the weather. In the winter your child needs to wear snow pants, boots, hat and gloves to go into the playground. No flip flops or Crocks will be allowed on the playground. Sneakers are the best footwear for the playground.

E

Early Dismissal: I will inform you of any early dismissals in my weekly memo and if there will be after-school care.

Emergency Form: Please fill out the emergency forms for my use during the year. We will be doing cooking so please list any food allergies.

F

Fundraisers: Our school participates in many fundraisers throughout the year for various items in the school and to provide community service. It is a great way to role model to the children on how to be active community members.

G

Grammy Bailey: Our room Grammy is here from Monday through Thursday from 9:15 to 11:30.

H

Homework: Every night I expect children to read for 15 minutes or to be read to for 15 minutes. It is essential for children to read at home. There may be other home projects that will be explained later.

Handwriting: We will be learning how to write in school using journals, a workbook, and various writing centers. I encourage you to provide writing materials at home.

I

Illness: Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a temperature or if he/she has not been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours. If your child becomes sick during the day you will be called and asked to pick up your child. We want to avoid spreading illnesses.

J

Journals: We will have journals that we will use to write stories that the students will be able to bring home at the end of each month.

K

L

Library: Students will go to the library weekly to be read to by Mrs. Szemela the librarian. Our classroom has an extensive library which the children will utilize for B.E.A.R. (Be Excited About Reading) daily.

Lunch: You may choose to have hot lunch or packed lunch. More information will be coming from the hot lunch coordinator.

M

Math: We use Harcourt School Publishers (HSP) Math as well as manipulatives during math centers. Your child will need to count to 100, recognize numbers 0-35, create patterns, and be able to do simple addition and subtraction.

N

Notes: Any notes you will receive from me will need to be signed and returned so I know you received the note.

O

P

Prayers: We will pray every morning and afternoon with the whole school and throughout the day with our classmates.

Parent Involvement: I love parent involvement! There are many different ways for parents to get involved in our classroom without having to physically be here! I will be sending a volunteer form in late September with more information. Another great way to get involved is through HSA (Home and School Association).

Protecting God's Children: This class must be taken before you can volunteer at the school/classroom or chaperone on field trips. See the office for more information on class times and locations.

Physical Education: I will be giving you a P.E. schedule. On those days your child needs to wear the gym uniform. Also, **please bring an extra pair of sneakers for P.E. other than outside sneakers. They will be kept in the classroom to bring to gym.** This enables us to protect our newly redone gym floor.

Q

Quiet Time: The students will rest for 15-20 minutes in the afternoon following lunch and recess. The second half of the year, quiet time becomes B.E.A.R. Time (Be Excited About Reading).

R

Room Parent: If you would like to be a room parent please sign-up. Room parents will be in charge of contacting parents for parties, field trips, and projects.

Recess: There is a morning recess and an afternoon recess.

Reading: We use Reading Street by Scott Foresman. It incorporates the 5 parts of literacy: reading, writing, listening, viewing and speaking.

S

Snack Time: We will have snack time in the morning so please pack a **healthy** snack. I will explain to students that we cannot share snacks because of allergies, but please enforce this rule at home.

School Supplies: I have sent a list of supplies needed for the beginning of the school year. Please maintain your child's supplies. I will send home a list of other materials that may be needed if you would like to donate them.

Show and Tell: Every week we will have show and tell. Your child may bring in anything that will fit in his/her backpack. Each child will show his/her item to the class and talk about what it is and why it is important to him/her.

Stretching: The students and I will begin each day with routine stretches, simple yoga moves and breathing techniques. We will go on walks during the year.

T

Tardiness: Students coming to school after 8:00a.m. are considered tardy and it will be recorded on the report cards.

Toys: Toys from home are not allowed in school **at any time**. This includes trading cards (Pokemon, baseball, etc.), Nintendo DS and other video games, and I-pods/MP3 players. Children may bring an item from home only for Show & Tell on the designated day.

U

Uniform: Please follow the St. Brigid's guidelines for uniform. Please keep extra clothes (does not have to be another uniform) in backpacks in case of an accident. This is very important, especially during the winter months when socks and pants tend to get wet even through snow pants.*****Please be sure to label all items (coats, jackets, sweatshirts, pants, shorts, etc.)**

V

Volunteers: There are many ways to volunteer. I will be sending home information on volunteering for our classroom in late September. The HSA (Home School Association) is another great way to get involved.

Vacation: Please inform me if you will be going on vacation.

W

Water Bottles: Your child may keep a water bottle on his/her desk during the day. **It must be a spill proof bottle. A pop up is the preferred kind.** I find it very important for children to stay hydrated.

Weekly Memo: Every week I will send home a memo to let you know what we did during the week and important dates for the following week.

Wishing Tree: Our classroom has a Wishing Tree. When you enter the first door to our classroom, the tree is hanging to the left. On the tree are apple sticky notes with items needed for our classroom learning.

Most of the items are supplies needed for literacy and math centers or for thematic units and activities.

There is no obligation to purchase these items.

If you are able to help, feel free to pull an apple! ☺

X

Y

Yearbook: There will be a yearbook to buy during the spring. Pictures will be taken in the fall and in the spring and you will be able to purchase them.

Z

ZZZZZ's: Your child needs plenty of sleep. He/She may be very tired during the first couple of weeks of school. Kindergarten students require 10-12 hours of sleep. If your child has not been sleeping well or you feel like they are having an "off day" please send me a note or give me a Call at the school.

Now you know my ABC's. I hope this will help you. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. Communication is important to make this a great year.

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