

August 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Kindergarten Students,

Welcome to Kindergarten! We are so excited to meet you! Our Kindergarten philosophy is “**Learning Through Play**”. We will explore, sing and dance. We will wonder, read, play and write. We will problem solve, laugh, create and learn together. It is our goal to help students become thoughtful, self-directed, happy, and confident learners. We hope to engage children in active and meaningful ways that reflect both their interests and needs. There will be a balance between child-directed play, teacher-directed play and structured learning experiences.

We have planned a variety of fun learning experiences for your child that will require some help. If you are able and willing to help supervise field trips and classroom activities such as crafts, baking, reading support, and opportunities to help out in the classroom, we would be very grateful. If you are interested in volunteering in some capacity, please drop by the police station on Airport Road and fill out a free police information check that will be put in the school file. Parents will not be able to volunteer in the classroom without completing this no-fee police information check.

McCammon Traditional Elementary is a wonderful school with a strong commitment to family and community. We are looking forward to a great school year ahead. See you in September!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Abby Van Schagen, Mrs. Shauna Monkman, and Mrs. Rebecca Semke

Welcome to
Kindergarten!



Pre-Kindergarten Meeting & September Schedule!

In September, the Kindergarten schedule is designed to allow for the transition between home and school to be as comfortable as possible. Time is allotted for classroom visits with parents and each child. Each 20-minute meeting will take place in a Kindergarten classrooms. Please bring the following to the interview:

- **\$45** cash for school supplies (*at McCammon Traditional Elementary, Kindergarten supplies are grouped for all children to share.*)
- **Indoor runners** (*label first/last name*) – slip-on or Velcro... **NO LACE-UPS PLEASE**
- **Box of Kleenex**
- Any medical reports that would help us care for and better understand your child

We are very excited to meet with you and your child! Your child's meeting date/time has been scheduled for _____ . If you are unable to make your scheduled meeting time, please call the school (604) 795-7000.

McCammon Traditional Elementary Kindergarten

The following is a list of answers to frequently asked questions at this time of year.

1. School Hours

Monday through Friday 7:55am – 1:57pm

- Please be prompt! Being on time helps to develop a positive classroom routine.
- At the end of the day, please wait outside your child's classroom door. Students will remain in their classrooms and teachers will dismiss students one at a time to their parent/guardian. **Please send a note if your child is going home with someone other than their usual caregiver.**



2. Backpack – the best size will accommodate a child's large library book and should come back and forth every day.
3. Inside Shoes – one pair of runners (slip-on or Velcro, **NO LACE-UPS PLEASE**) to remain at school, labeled with child's first/last name
4. Snacks/Lunch – Please provide healthy food options for your child. **No juice boxes** please as children are rarely able to finish them within the given time and there are usually many spills associated with having drinks in the classroom. Students are encouraged to bring a labelled, refillable water bottle.
5. School Supplies – Kindergarten students share school supplies that have been pre-ordered. Please bring \$45.00 cash to your child's interview.
6. Labels – please label children's indoor and outdoor footwear, jackets, and backpacks with permanent marker.
7. Extra Clothes – Please send a change of clothes (including underwear and socks) that will be kept in your child's backpack. This will be helpful as we will be doing weekly outdoor education, outdoor recess and lunch as often as possible, and in case of an accident as they do happen.
8. Bussing – If you wish to have your child bussed, you will need to contact Transportation at (604)-792-1255 to register your child before they can ride the bus. There is a \$25 registration fee. You will be responsible for dropping off and picking up your child from the school until you have registered him/her. **There will be no bus available for drop-off in the afternoon for Kindergarten students until they are attending the full day (Monday, September 20th) so you will need to pick up your child at the times on the gradual entry schedule attached.**



GET READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Here are a few things you can do to help your child get ready for their first year of school:

- Read this letter with your child and discuss any concerns or worries they may have.
- Practice printing their name beginning with a capital (upper case) and followed by small letters (lower case). (*We use the terms upper and lower case in kindergarten.*)
- Teach them to identify letters in the alphabet (upper case and lower case).
- Practice counting orally to 30 and practice counting objects, putting a finger on each object as they count.
- Practice cutting and pasting! Practice cutting along a line.
- Read a story with your child daily. Discuss the events and characters in the story.
- Enlist your child's help in picking out a special backpack, lunch kit, indoor school shoes.
- Encourage your child to wait for their turn to speak and congratulate them when they do not interrupt you, but rather wait to speak and say "excuse me". (This is great practice because in kindergarten there are 20 children and students absolutely must be able to wait their turn and use their hand.)
- Visit the school playground. Help your child to climb on the equipment safely and teach them to "pump" on the swings.
- To encourage your child's independence:
 - help them to button/unbutton pants so they can be independent while using the washroom,
 - send them to school with shoes they can take off and put on by themselves, and
 - help them to be able to take on/off a coat or sweater by themselves.

