



# École Mary Queen of Peace Elementary School



## Curriculum Night 2011 Kindergarten



# Kindergarten Classroom Routines and Expectations



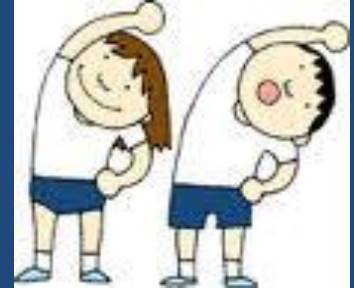
- Our morning session begins at 8:20 am and dismissal begins at 11:20am.
- Our afternoon session begins at 12:20 am and dismissal begins at 2:20 pm.
- *\*\* Please notify us in writing if your child's usual dismissal routine changes. Place a note in his/her baggie, as email may not be read during school hours.*
- *\*\*Illness: if your child is sick, please send in a note upon their return to school. If there is no note - it is written as unexcused . Any unexcused absences are forwarded to the office.*
- Ziploc baggies should be returned to school everyday. Please feel free to use these baggies as a means to communicate with us.

# Kindergarten Classroom Routines and Expectations continued ...



- Please ensure that your child has a snack each day for recess. This includes both the morning and afternoon sessions. Please send along a placemat in your child's lunchbox to ensure a clean eating surface.  
\* For the afternoon session, could you please limit the amount of food packed, as children just finished their lunch. If possible could students practice opening food packaging.
- Please ensure that the snacks you are providing do not include fish and fish products, eggs, peanuts and other nuts, and/or kiwi.
- With regards to special treats (i.e. birthdays, Halloween, Christmas etc..) please keep in mind school allergies. Also, be cognizant of class sizes and please send in items that do not require cutlery.

# Kindergarten Classroom Routines and Expectations continued ...



- Students should wear their gym clothes to school on gym days (AM- 3 and 4 & PM- DAY 6. The days which your child's group has gym were previously communicated through a parent memo. Please see your child's teacher if you need a new copy of your child's schedule, or visit the teacher webpage, once it is activated.
- Outdoor shoes are required for outdoor play and to wear home each evening.
- Indoor/gym shoes can be stored in school, and it would be appreciated if you could supply your child with a labeled shoe bag to hang on their hook. \* Also please place your child's name on their shoes/sneakers.
- If your child cannot do up his/her own shoe laces - please provide your child with VELCRO sneakers. Thank you 😊

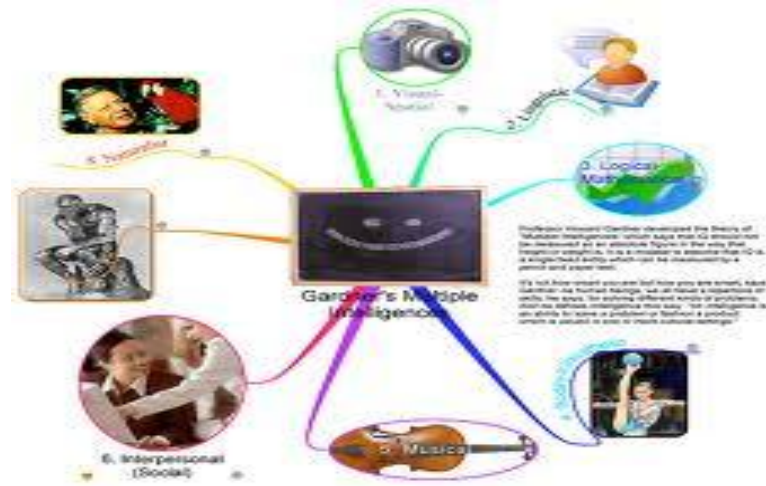
# Kindergarten Classroom Routines and Expectations continued ...



- The importance of sharing and speaking nicely to classmates during instructional time and playtime.
- Remembering to raise your hand before sharing your wonderful ideas.
- After snack - putting all garbage in the garbage can/ placing empty juice boxes in the recycling bin.
- Using your inside voice when speaking.



# Assessment



- Just as one size of learning doesn't fit all, one form of assessment doesn't suit either. (Ex. one piece of journal writing or a paper and pencil worksheet evaluation is **not enough**.) So when assessing their learning, we need different approaches to check and adjust the learning; the same as we adjust our instructional strategies to meet the learner's needs.



# Assessment Tools



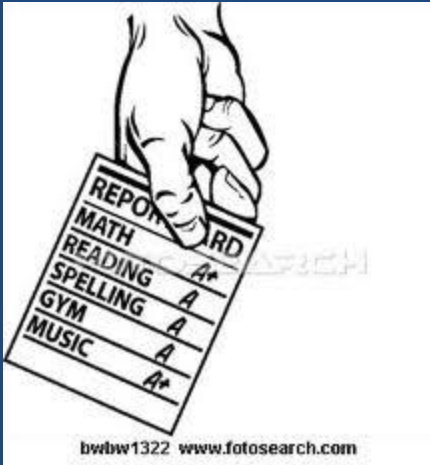
- **Before learning:** entrance card, interest surveys, etc...
- **During learning:** observation, checklists, discussions, and work samples.
- **After learning:** presentations, exit cards, one-on-one teacher conferencing.



## Assessment continued...

- Assessment is complex. Teachers make decisions based on our professional judgement of what we see and hear. The students' grade is based on all work completed throughout a unit/theme. It is not an average. It is a culmination of observation, checklists, discussion, word lists, student-teacher conferences, demonstrations and other assessment strategies.

# Reporting



- Report Cards are sent home in November, March, and June.
- *Mandatory Parent-teacher conferences* are held during the first and second reporting periods. A year-end conference may be held if necessary.

# The Kindergarten Program

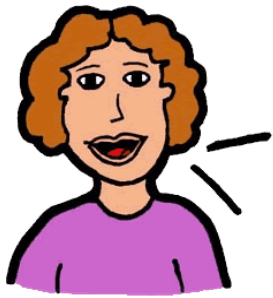


- The Kindergarten Program is designed to support the intellectual, physical, social, emotional, spiritual, and moral development of the four, five, and six-year old children.
- Due to various learning styles of children, the Kindergarten program is flexible and cross-curricular. Through the use of a thematic approach, all subjects are presented in an integrated fashion. While studying apples, for example, we might read fictional and factual books about apples, view a video or filmstrip, compare the size and colour of apples and present this information in a graph, make a class apple book, count sets of apples, study about how apples grow, and do some apple art.
- However there are times when more direct teaching of specific skills will occur as in the teaching of Reading, Writing and Math.

# Language Arts

- Morning Message / Routine (Calendar)
  - Circle Time
- Listening & Speaking
  - Guided Reading
  - Paired Reading
  - Home Reading
    - Read Aloud
    - Buddy Reading
  - Independent Reading
- Writing & Representing
  - Phonics/Spelling





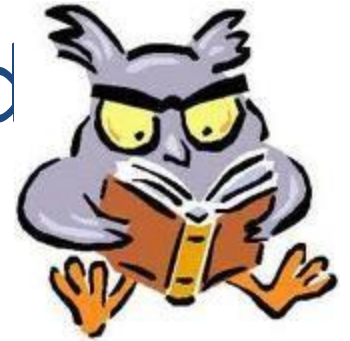
# Language Arts continued



## Listening and Speaking:

- Listening and speaking are interrelated. Before attempting to speak, children in a French Immersion program will require many opportunities to listen to French language models. During this period of listening and understanding, the length of which varies from child to child, children will absorb a great deal of language listening to songs, stories, poems, and speakers. Students will later venture into an active stage of producing language.

# Language Arts continued



## Reading:

- The Kindergarten reading program encourages each student to:
  - Recognize his/her name in print, and eventually the names of classmates;
  - Recognize the written forms of the alphabet and numerals;
  - Develop left-to-right orientation and understanding of sequencing;
  - Recognize initial and some final sounds in words.
- 
- After Christmas, we will begin our Home reading Program in which the children will take home a baggy book and sight words to practice. French Immersion students will be able to access the baggy book stories recorded in French on the website. We are currently working towards uploading the music and stories to our webpage. We will keep you informed.
- 
- The alphabet will not be taught in order, but rather the children will be exposed to the letters that is recommended by Occupational Therapists. This order has been created by starting with the letters that are easiest to form first. (i.e.: F, E, D, P, etc.)

# Language Arts continued



## Writing:

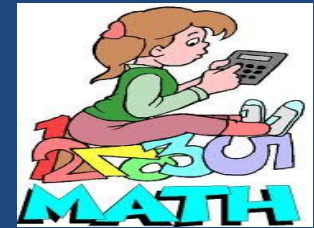
- Writing in Kindergarten can begin immediately, first taking the form of drawing. Following this, students experiment with written language using beginning sounds to represent words, pictograms, copying of words, and through teacher modeling. A certain amount of time will be devoted to developing printing skills while exposing the students to the alphabet. By now all students should be able to print his/her own first name independently. Also, please practice fine-motor skills such as cutting and the proper way to hold scissors with your child.

## Viewing and Representing:

- The children will participate in viewing activities in which they view filmstrips, videos, presentations, posters. The students will be given opportunities to respond through the use of various media (writing, drawing, painting, speaking).



# Math



- The Department of Education Curriculum Guide and new resource is organized around four strands:
- Number Sense  
Example: in Kindergarten rather than using the terms 'addition and subtraction' ,we use the phrase same number as, more than and less than. Also, rote counting to 30, counting down from 10, what number comes before/after etc...
- Patterns and Relations  
Example: Exploring, creating and recognizing patterns and relationships.

# Math continued . . .

- **Shape and Space**

Example: Estimating, measuring and comparing objects by length. Being familiar with the four basic shapes and their attributes.

- **Mathematical Communication and Reasoning**

Example: Students will explain during a teacher-student conference the differences and similarities between different shapes.





# Math continued . . .

- These concepts are presented through various whole-class, small group and individual activities. These activities will be hands-on and make use of various manipulative materials (pattern blocks, unifix cubes, counters, attribute blocks, etc.).

# Science



- The role of science in the Kindergarten program is to stimulate interest in science, to encourage observation using all the senses, to develop the skills of classification, to stimulate children's natural desire to investigate their environment, and to clarify concepts.

# Social Studies



- The Social Studies Program at the Kindergarten level is designed to promote socialization and personal development. It presents young children with the concept of self in the context of the home, school, neighborhood, and community.
- Children should be able to problem solve in a mannerly fashion when issues arise between friends during structured and unstructured time.

# Art

- The role of art in Kindergarten is to stimulate the child's natural tendency to explore the visual world. Awareness of the seven basic elements of art using different media:



Line  
Shape  
Colour  
Value  
Texture  
Form  
Space

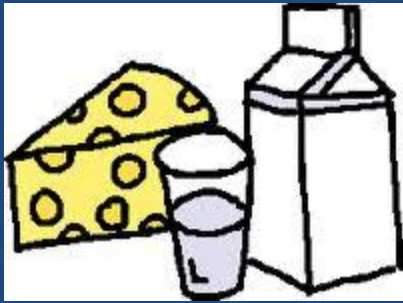




# Religion



- The overall aim of Religious Education is to encourage students to reflect on experiences they encounter in their daily lives. This will be accomplished through literature, dramatic play and songs.
- Students will be introduced to various celebrations found around the world - such as: Eid, Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas etc.
- If any family member would like to come in and speak about any of our celebrations, please let your child's teacher know.



# Health

- The Kindergarten Health Program is designed to connect the daily needs, interests, and experiences of the Kindergarten child to healthy practices.
- The entire Primary program is organized around the following components:

Mental Health

Self Care

Active Living

Environment Health

Relationships

Nutrition

Physical Growth and Development

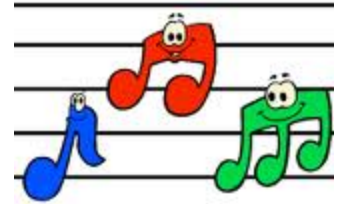
Dental Health

Injury Prevention and Safety





# Music, Physical Education, & Technology



- Our Music teacher is: Mrs. Colleen Beson-Nolan.  
And our choir is with Denise Cumbie.

- Our Physical Education teachers are:

Mr. Colin Fewer, Mr. Tim Facey, and Patti Crewe.



- Our Learning Resources specialist is :  
Mr. Michael Walter.

On library days the students are permitted to check-out one book only and return it on the following day 1 of the cycle in order to receive another book.

- ❖ Please see memo previously sent home for the appropriate days on the class calendar or visit teacher webpage.



# Homework

- Homework is an important part of the weekly routine. Parents are encouraged to set up a routine for the week, e.g. 10 minutes per evening, and to provide your child with a quiet place for homework completion.
- Homework will include vocabulary recognition, home reading, word rings (sight words), reinforcement of mathematical concepts, and other concept practice when necessary. There will be several class projects to be completed at home throughout the year.
- \*\* French Immersion Students will receive themed vocabulary strips to reinforce the French Language.
- The goal of homework in Kindergarten is to begin development of study skills necessary as children advance through the school system.

# Homework continued

## Possible activities to try at home:

- **Note:** When practicing your letters and numbers - try making these tasks fun by using such things as whiteboards, sand, play-doh, your leg, another person's back - instead of using paper and pencil all the time 😊
- By using your monthly calendar as an indicator of what letter and sound we will be focusing on - practice forming both the upper case and lower case of that letter. *\* Remember to always start at the top (besides lower case d and e).*
- **Note:** we will attach a copy of the teaching order of the letters of the alphabet as well as some important tips to use when practicing printing. **\*\*** A very important package will be sent home on Monday - with all this information.
- Practice making numbers 0-10 and saying the numbers 0-10 and 10-0 as well as from any given number i.e. start at 6...7, 8, 9
- Printing name with an upper case and the rest lower case

# Homework continued

- Orally being able to communicate their Full name, birthday, age, phone number, address.
- Know your main colours (found in a small box of crayons)\* In French for Immersion students.
- The importance of nice colouring - staying inside the lines, use of different colours to bring out their wonderful illustrations.
- Identifying upper/lower case letter when mixed-up. Try Printing the letters on index cards (using a single card of for each upper and lower case letter) or purchasing a set of cards from the dollar store.
- Again, these items are **ONLY** suggestions to try! **HAVE FUN WITH IT** 😊. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

# Miscellaneous

- *Family volunteers* (please submit sheet if you have not already - we would love to have you in to read and help with tech, class. Please return asap.) If you need another form- they are found at the back of the room.
- *Donations* of wet wipes, tissues, hand sanitizer, and whiteboard markers.
- Coats, zippers, buttons, shoe laces. \* Please practice!!
- Limit the amount of food packed for *snacks* as the children have 15 minutes to eat and clean-up.
- Scholastic Book order: orders will be distributed on Mondays and thus if wishing to order you must submit on or before Friday of the same week. No cash will be taken, thus all cheques are to be written and payable to Scholastic Canada. Also, keep in mind of the price for the NL column. Order can take anywhere from 2 -3 wks to come in.

# Miscellaneous

- **Bus Tags:** if they become loose, or detached from your child's book bag please fix or let us know.
- **"Attention Note"** : If your child comes home with a note labelled attention - this is to notify you of his/her listening, areas where he or she require further practice with a concept etc.. You ask that you sign and return this sheet, thus we are aware that you have acknowledge the note.
- **Alphabet bag:** In both French and English classes, we will be using an alphabet bag to reinforce letter /sound recognition and increase vocabulary. As it will be indicated on your child's calendar, Thursday of each week is the day when your child is required to bring in ONE item that begin with the current letter of the week. However, keep in mind for French Immersion students that if the letter of the week is 'A' for example, they cannot bring in an apple - as apple in French is 'pomme'. Therefore, we know that this may be complicated for some families, so we will be sending home a duotang to help you with this process. The duotang has to be returned at the end of the school year.
- **Birthday Invitations:** your child will receive if not so already a list of his/her classmates. Please keep this list for invitations and valentines. Also, please note, to be fair, either invite all students in their class or just girls/boys depending. Furthermore, according the ESDNL policy we are not permitted to send home any phone number, or emails of other students/parents.
- **LeapFrog phonics:** This can be purchased at Wal-Mart/ Sears/ Toys R us. This is a useful tool for letter/sound recognition.

# Thank you / Merci

- We look forward to sharing a fantastic school year with you and your child. The year ahead promises to be filled with learning, discovery, and fun!

