

Welcome to St. Timothy Kindergarten!!

Early Childhood is a magical time of discovery with its own agenda and accomplishments.

The best way to prepare children for the years ahead is to provide them with a safe environment where they can have fun and take risks at the same time.

This year your child will be learning to:

- play and work with others
- share and cooperate
- listen to others
- express thoughts, feelings and ideas
- explore and expand abilities and interests

There will be a wide range of activities designed to:

- build self confidence
- develop thinking and cognitive skills
- develop physical skills
- develop friendships and social skills
- increase interest and enjoyment in books, stories and print

Our classroom activities and interactions are designed to develop children's self-esteem and positive attitudes towards lifelong learning!

Kindergarten Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

8:25am to 11:30am

No Kindergarten on Thursday

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation days are: Wednesday, August 31st and Friday, September 2nd. There is no Kindergarten on Thursday, September 1st.



***** REGULAR CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th *****

Mail Bags / Monthly Newsletters / Calendar

Everyday your child will be coming home with a mailbag. We use this mailbag to send home letters, art, calendars, books, etc. It is very important that they are checked and returned to school everyday! A calendar and newsletter will be sent home monthly to inform you of what is happening in the classroom and keep you aware of the upcoming events. Please keep this handy as reminders.

Email

Please fill out the **Email Communication Form** attached and send it back to school. I will be emailing out reminders or last minute changes happening in the Kindergarten class. Feel free to email or call the school to communicate with me at (780)456-7375.

School Supplies

All school supplies can be brought to school on Tuesday, September 7th. In addition to the supplies from our school supply list, please ensure the following items are sent to school with your child's name on them:

- 1) Indoor shoes (with non-marking soles) to leave at school
- 2) Backpack
- 3) A change of clothes in a **labeled Ziploc bag** to remain at school
- 4) Smiles!!!



Kindergarten Wish List

There are a few extra items that we would love to have in our classroom to help enrich your child's Kindergarten experience. It is **not** mandatory to purchase these items but we welcome them at any time throughout the year.

- scent free shaving cream
- stamp pads (any colour)
- large containers of Household Sanitary Wipes (Costco is great for these)

Coming & Going

It is very important that your child arrives at school and is picked up on time. Please inform me of how your child is getting to and from school by filling out the **Classroom Information Form** attached and sending it back to school. Please give names of daycares and babysitters.

Dropping Off Your Child

When the morning bell rings at 8:25am, the Kindergarten students will enter through the Kindergarten entrance at the back of the school by the 'Say and Play' sign. There is morning supervision outside the school from 8:15am until the morning bell rings.

Please do not send children indoors before that time. I will pick them up at these doors when the bell rings. Thank you. Be aware that children will be outside unless it is raining or extremely cold (-20 or below with the wind chill).

Picking Up Your Child

Students will only be dismissed once their designated pick-up person has arrived to greet them at the Kindergarten doors. Please wait outside the school to not disturb student learning. If there is a change to this routine please phone the office or send a note to school with your child. If you do need to enter the school, please respect the school rule that there are no outside shoes/boots worn inside the school in wet/dirty weather.

Absence

If your child will not be at school or will be arriving late, please let us know (we worry)! Please do not wait for us to call you. Our school phone number is **780-456-7375**. If your child is late, please let the office know.



Emergencies

Knowledge of your child's allergies or other medical alerts is extremely important. Please give us this information so that your child's classroom environment is as safe as possible.

It is essential that the emergency and home phone numbers be kept up to date. Please inform the school of any changes during the school year.



A Pair is Two

Please label in permanent marker all of your children's belongings. Shoes, boots, mitts, hats and scarves are the easiest to lose! This will help quicken dismissal, especially during the winter months. It also helps alleviate any confusion when two children own similar garments.

All children are asked to have a pair of shoes that can be left at school for indoor use (preferably runners). Please assist your child in buying shoes they can successfully fasten themselves (**slip-ons or Velcro tabs work fine for little fingers not quite ready to tie laces**).



Happy Birthday to You!!

We love to celebrate birthdays! We will celebrate each child with a birthday crown, song and special treat. **Please do not send in any food to share with the class.** Holiday or weekend birthdays will be celebrated as close to the real date as possible and summer birthdays will be celebrated in May and June. Look at the monthly calendar for the date.

Parent Helpers / Volunteers

There will be many special days throughout the year where we will require and appreciate help and extra hands in the classroom. Please check the monthly calendars to see when these days are (they will be labelled with volunteers needed) and let me know through email if you are able to volunteer and on which day. I will send you a confirmation for the date and time.

I understand how volunteering in the classroom may be difficult for parents who are working full time, but please realize that there are other ways you can become involved, such as, preparing materials at home that the students will need for a particular project. I welcome and appreciate any help you can offer. Thank you!

For safety reasons and consideration of the other children we ask that you make arrangements for care of younger siblings on days that you plan to be with us. Thank you.



Fieldtrips

Throughout the year there will be many fieldtrips. Some will take place in the classroom and others will be off site. These fieldtrips are a wonderful opportunity for your child to have hands on learning experiences that tie in with the learning we are exploring in class.

When fieldtrip forms come home, please send the consent form back to school on or before the due date with all of the applicable information filled out. Keep the front pages of the fieldtrip forms at home in case you need to refer to them.

We will require parent volunteers for many of our fieldtrips. If you are willing to volunteer, fill out the volunteer section on the fieldtrip consent form and I will contact you. Since there are often limited volunteer spots on our fieldtrips, I will try my best to give every volunteer a chance to attend at least one fieldtrip throughout the year.

Snack Time

Each child will bring their **own snack each day**. This snack must be completely prepared and ready to eat within a 10 minute time span. Please send a small healthy snack (i.e. an apple, yogurt, carrot sticks, etc.).

WE ARE A NUT FREE CLASSROOM

Remember, **this is not a lunch for your child**. One or two small things will do. Please do not send chocolate bars or candy. In the past, parents have found that instead of a juice box (most of it is wasted) a small plastic drink container works best and then what your child does not drink can come home and be saved for later. Please **do not send pop** to school.



Parent-Child Teacher Celebrations of Learning

Celebration of learning occurs twice a year in November and March. Your child will accompany you and together we will celebrate your child's growth and successes, building a mutual understanding and appreciation of your child's learning.

Class Parties

We love to celebrate in Kindergarten. We will have four class parties this year. Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter. Please look for the party sign-up sheet during Meet the Teacher night and sign up for whichever item you would like to send to school with your child. **You are only required to sign up for one item for one party.** If you are unable to sign up, I will randomly put the remaining names in and will send home the completed party sign-up sheet to all students. I will also send a reminder out before each party.

I am so thrilled to be teaching your child this year. I am looking forward to a wonderful year with your child and will work in partnership with you to make this a memorable first year of school. I feel very blessed to be teaching Kindergarten at St. Timothy! Please feel free to contact me at school (780-456-7375) if you have any concerns or questions.

Here's to a great school year!!

Mrs. Carmen Antonello
Carmen.Antonello@ecsd.net



PS: Future notices home will not be this long!!