

ALL ABOUT KINDERGARTEN



We have attempted to include all policies and information you will need to know about the school year; however, if there is anything we do not include that you have questions about, please don't hesitate to contact either one of us. Our phone numbers are listed on the last page. Please keep this information handy!

CURRICULUM AND CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION

Mrs. Knopp and Mrs. Ball will team teach, with Mrs. Knopp teaching in the mornings and Mrs. Ball teaching in the afternoons. The morning curriculum will include reading, math, writing, language arts, and religion. The afternoon curriculum will consist of reinforcement of concepts learned in the morning, as well as handwriting, PE, music, and science. You will receive periodic notes throughout the year regarding specific skills we are working on in these areas. We work hard to ensure we are consistent with management and discipline as well as curriculum.

Please be aware that based on your child's needs, he may do different activities or work than another student with different needs.

CLASS SCHEDULE

8:10 First bell rings - All students K-5 are required to go outside (unless we are having inside recess due to cold weather, or, if they have been ill or you have a reason you would like them to stay in you will need to let one of us know or send a note with your child)

8:25 Tardy bell rings

9:45-10:00 Recess

11:20-12:00 Lunch/recess

1:20-1:35 Recess

3:00 Parent pick up

3:00-5:30 Aftercare - if your child has not been picked up by 3:00, they will go to aftercare until you arrive.

BEFORE SCHOOL

Backpacks need to be placed outside the classroom door when your child arrives at school, and then he or she will need to go outside to play until the bell rings. Students who do not ride a bus will be counted tardy if they are not in the classroom by 8:25. When we come in from morning recess, we will say the pledge, say a prayer, and sing a Christian song together as a whole school in the hall.

SUPPLIES

We have purchased the supplies not listed on the supply list (crayons, pencils, etc.) Please send the other supplies on the list with your child if you haven't already.

St. Nicholas Website

Please check our class page on the St. Nicholas website daily for updates and homework assignments. You may also contact us by email with any questions or concerns regarding your child. Our contact information is on our classroom page. Mrs. Knopp's email is: mknopp@stnicholasrupert.org . Mrs. Ball's is kball@stnicholasrupert.org .

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Kindergarten is a huge transition when children need to practice self-discipline and control. We will work hard on social skills such as taking turns, staying seated when necessary, raising hands, etc. In order to keep behavior in check, we have a "Chit-Chat Chart." Each child begins the day with three

blue squares. When bad manners, inappropriate behavior, etc. occurs a square will be moved. If all three squares are moved, a consequence is chosen by the teacher (usually time on the wall for a few minutes of recess.) If a major or recurring issue arises, we will contact you either by phone or via a Parent Notification Slip. If a Parent Notification Slip is sent home, please discuss it with your child, sign, and return it the next day. The slip will usually include a Bible verse that coordinates with the behavior that is intended to be discussed with your child at home. In addition to the Chit-Chat Chart, every morning a secret kid will be chosen. At lunchtime, the secret kid will be revealed and if he hasn't moved a square, he will receive a reward.

TOYS

Please do not send toys unless we have specified a day for show and tell.

REST TIME

Each afternoon after lunch recess, we will have a rest period while the students are allowed to use the restroom and get drinks. This helps get them settled down and back into a learning mode.

HOMEWORK

We will begin sending homework home in the near future. The work will be tailored to your child's needs and is intended to be extra reinforcement for your child. Please be aware that your child's homework may not be the same as his or her classmate's! Homework will be sent home on Mondays in a folder and will need to be returned in the same folder by Friday in order for your child to earn credit. There will be a prize awarded to all students who return homework every week.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important that your child be in school unless illness or emergencies prevent him or her from coming. There is so much they are required to learn in kindergarten that it is very hard to make up for lost time if they are gone for extended periods of time. We will follow school policy regarding attendance. Please let us know if you know your child will be gone for a few days. We will give you the work your child will miss so they won't be behind when they return. In the event that your child is ill, we will send home missed work. Please keep your child home if he or she is not feeling well.

BIRTHDAYS

We would love to celebrate your child's birthday with them! However, it is school policy that birthday celebrations are limited to a snack and a short class game in order to keep our schedule on track. Please do not send whole cakes or drinks. Also, treats must be store bought. On the first Monday of the month of your child's birthday, he or she will get to sit at the birthday table during lunch. If your child's birthday is in June they will sit with the May birthday students and if it is in July with the August birthdays.

SNACKS

We will have snacks in the morning. We rely on donations throughout the year for our snack tub. If you are able, please bring a variety of small, individually wrapped, pre-packaged snacks at your earliest convenience. This is on a volunteer basis and when we start to run low we will put a notice on our classroom page. All donations of snacks can be deducted from the volunteer hours you are required to complete for the school. Every \$10 spent equals 1 hour of time. Things like granola bars, fruit snacks, cracker packs, etc. are ideal.

PIZZA HUT BOOK-IT PROGRAM

The Book-it program is a great reading incentive program that we love to participate in. If you are not familiar with the program, we will be

sending home information shortly. You or someone in your family will need to read 10 stories to/with your child each month if you wish to participate. We will send home a paper with your child at the beginning of each month that you will need to fill out and return in order to get the free pizza coupon.

BOOK ORDERS

Book orders will be sent home occasionally and are completely voluntary. If you choose to order books, you will need to make out a check to the book company - please no cash or checks made out to us. You can also order online.

VOLUNTEER WORK

As all of you know, each family is asked to complete 15 volunteer hours each school year. We realize many of you are very busy and may not have time to complete those hours in the classroom or during school hours. Therefore, we will have various things throughout the year that you can help us with that can be done at home on your own time. Examples are cutting out laminated items, coloring pictures for file folder games, etc. There will also be opportunities to help with class parties, and if you send in treats for a party, it counts as one volunteer party even if you do not come. If you are interested in helping with "after hours" projects, please let one of us know.

CLOTHING ITEMS

Please mark your child's name on coats, sweaters, gloves, backpacks, etc. If something comes up missing you are welcome to check our lost and found.

DRESS CODE

Please review the dress code in your school handbook and online feel free to ask any questions. Mass dress code is red tops, no capris or shorts, and only pants or skirts for bottoms.

BATHROOMS and DRINKS

We allow students to use the bathroom and get drinks before and after all recesses, and if they need to at snack time. As emergencies or specific situations arise, we will allow them to use it during class time.. If your child has a health issue that restroom use, please let us know.

PTC (Parent-Teacher Club)

Please support the PTC! They will periodically be looking for volunteers throughout the year to help with various events.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Each month, one or two students from each grade will be honored as Student of the Month for significant progress, exemplary behavior, etc.

GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS, CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS AND CAPRI SUN POUCHES

This is always a fun contest at St. Nicholas! Please save all your box tops and send them in with your child periodically. The box tops from each class are totaled at the end of each month, and at the end of the year the class with the most wins a pizza party! We also collect soup labels and capri sun pouches (minus the straws) which don't count toward a contest but still help our school!

CLASS PETS

We have three "class pets" that we will send home with three students each Friday along with a journal. If your child brings one home, please jot down a few things your family did in the journal and return it with the pet the following Monday. Feel free to include a picture!

POPSICLE DAYS

Each Wednesday there will be popsicles for sale for 50 cents in the lunchroom after lunch. If you wish, you may send 50 cents each week, but you may also pay ahead of time and we will keep a punch card for your child. If you wish to pay ahead of time, please send the money in an envelope with your child or catch us at school, you may also pay the school secretary.

MATH CLUBS

Near the beginning of the school year, we will have your child count as high as he or she can. We have a 25, 50, 75, and 100 club. Depending on how high your child counts, he or she will join a club. When they make it into the 100 club, they will receive a candy bar and certificate. Your child should be able to count to 100 by the end of the school year.

MRS. KNOPP
679-5736 (H)
260-0434 (C)

MRS. BALL
312-1774