



SCOTTS RIDGE

Kindergarten Handbook

2020 - 2021

This document addresses many of the FAQs we know families have as they enter kindergarten.



Table of Contents

TEACHERS	3
SCHOOL TIME	3
TRANSPORTATION	3-4
FOOD	4-5
LEARNING	5-6
HEALTH	6
STAGGERED ENTRY	7
SUPPLIES	7
BEHAVIOR	7
PARENT INVOLVEMENT	8
MISCELLANEOUS	8



WHO ARE THE KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS?

From left to right: Katie Endicott, Abby Jerome, Megan White, Rachel Leaberry, Holly Berk, Kayla Morgan, and Sue Hayes. We are so excited to get to know you this year!



WHAT TIME DOES SCHOOL START & END?

Our school day runs from 9:15am-3:45pm. Our "Ready to Learn" Bell rings at 9:10am and it is VERY important that your child is on time each day. Children can begin entering the classroom at 8:45am.

HOW CAN MY CHILD GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL?

We have many transportation options including: walking, carpool, buses, daycare vans, and Before/After School Care with the YMCA. We suggest choosing 1 method of transportation and using it as often as possible. This helps create routine and structure for your child.



HOW WILL MY CHILD GET OUT TO CARPOOL?

At Meet the Teacher, you can get a carpool number to hang in your car. When you arrive in the carpool line your number will be recorded, and your child will be called out to meet you at your vehicle in front of the school. Please help your child learn their carpool number.

HOW WILL MY CHILD KNOW WHICH BUS TO GET ON?

If you would like to utilize the bus, you will need to register for it before school starts. You will be assigned a bus number based on which route corresponds with your address. In the afternoon, the buses pull into our bus loop and are labelled with numbered cones. Please help your child learn their bus number.





HOW DO I MAKE A TRANSPORTATION CHANGE FOR MY CHILD?

If your child will be going home a different way than they usually do, please send a handwritten note in their daily folder noting this change. Teachers do not always have an opportunity to check email during the school day. If you were unable to send a handwritten note in your child's folder, please call the school before 3:15pm to let us know of the transportation change. If no note or phone call is received, we will send your child home in their usual way.

HOW WILL MY CHILD KNOW WHERE TO GO IN THE SCHOOL?

Kindergarten students are initially escorted everywhere they need to go by a staff member. This includes to their classrooms in the morning from the bus, carpool loop, etc. and to their assigned location at the end of the day for afternoon transportation. You will not need to walk your child to the classroom.

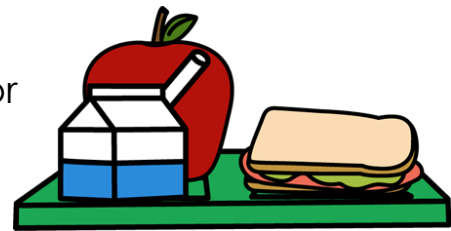


IS BREAKFAST SERVED AT SCHOOL?

Optional breakfast is served each morning in the cafeteria from 8:45am-9:10am. A breakfast meal costs \$1.25. If your child arrives late *on a bus* after 9:10am, they will still have the opportunity to eat breakfast.

IS LUNCH SERVED AT SCHOOL?

You have the option to pack a lunch for your child or allow them to purchase one from the cafeteria. A lunch meal costs \$2.75. Your child will be helped through the lunch line by an adult.



HOW DO I PAY FOR SCHOOL MEALS?

We strongly suggest using the online portal, MySchoolBucks, to load money into your child's lunch account. Their account is linked to their student ID number. You will get notifications when the account is running low. You can also set snack/treat restrictions through this portal. If you do not wish to use the online lunch accounts, you can send a check in your child's daily folder.



MAY I COME TO EAT WITH MY CHILD?

We would love for you to come visit your child during lunch! However, we ask that you wait to begin doing so until October. This allows our kindergarten students ample time to adjust to their lunch routines and expectations without interruption. When you come to eat, please meet your child down at the cafeteria, not at their classroom. There is a special section in our cafeteria for parents to enjoy lunch with their children.



WILL MY CHILD HAVE A SNACK DURING THE DAY?

Your child will have a daily snack time. You must provide a snack for your child to eat each day. They will not have the opportunity to purchase a snack at school.

HOW CAN MY CHILD DRINK WATER DURING THE DAY?

You are welcome to send a water bottle for your child that they may use at lunch, snack, recess, and during the school day. Each kindergarten classroom also has a water fountain inside the room for students to use.



WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS AN ALLERGY?

If your child has an allergy, please contact our school nurse to set up an allergy plan to ensure your child's safety.

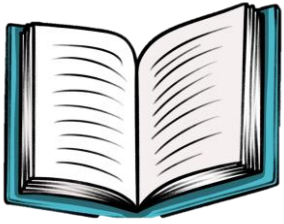
WHAT WILL MY CHILD DO EACH DAY?

Each day of kindergarten is full of fun and learning. Your child will spend time learning reading, writing, phonics, math, and science/social studies each day. Kindergarten learning happens through whole-class, small-group, and center learning. Your child will also attend a special each day, as well as have snack, lunch, and recess. Our kindergarten day follows a scheduled routine to support consistency and balance in your child's day.



WHAT ARE SPECIALS?

Specials classes are a great opportunity for your child to explore other academic areas. At SRE, we offer PE, Art, Music, Technology, Drama, and Friends & Feelings.



WILL MY CHILD GET TO CHECK OUT LIBRARY BOOKS?

Each kindergarten class will have a weekly opportunity to visit the media center and check out a book to bring home. Your book must be returned before a new one can be checked out. Families are responsible for damaged or lost books.

HOW WILL I SEE MY CHILD'S WORK?

Work completed during the week will be sent home with your child in their Friday Folder. You will keep the work and send the empty folder back to school on Monday. Your child will also share work with you via a learning app, Seesaw.



WHAT WILL MY CHILD BE LEARNING IN KINDERGARTEN?

We follow the curriculum provided by North Carolina. We will host a Parent Academic Night after the start of the school year to provide detailed information about how you can support your child's learning at home.

WHAT HEALTH SYMPTOMS WILL REQUIRE MY CHILD TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL?

Students should be fever free for 24 hrs before returning to school. You should also keep your child home if they are experiencing vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, an undiagnosed rash, red/watery eyes with yellow drainage, or severe headache. Please help keep our school environment as germ-free as possible! If you keep your child home, please notify the school.



WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS MEDICAL CONCERNS OR MEDICATIONS?

If your child has a health condition or medication, please contact our school nurse to set up a health plan and complete the required documentation. Medications must be brought to school by a parent/guardian. Required forms can be found at www.wcpss.net.



WHAT IS STAGGERED ENTRY?

Staggered Entry is a transition activity aimed at helping to ease the transition into kindergarten for students (and parents). Smaller groups of students allow the staff to offer individual attention and support as children try new things. Activities and assessments are integrated into the day through play activities to determine each student's strengths and needs. Balanced classes will be created based on this information.



WHEN IS STAGGERED ENTRY?

Each kindergarten student will come to school for 1 full day during the first week of school (August 17-20). On Friday August 21, 2020, you and your child are invited to attend Meet the Teacher at 12pm to find out who your child's kindergarten teacher will be, meet them, and explore your new classroom.



WHAT SUPPLIES ARE NEEDED FOR KINDERGARTEN?

You can find the kindergarten supply list on the SRE website. Please do not bring these supplies to staggered entry. You can bring them on Friday August 21 to meet the teacher. We thank you in advance for supplying items that your child will need for their learning!

WHAT ARE THE BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS?

At SRE, students are expected to SAIL during their school day. These four rules are consistent in all classrooms and throughout the building and playground. The SAIL rules are S- Safety First, A- Act Respectfully, I- Include Everyone, and L- Listen Carefully.



HOW IS BEHAVIOR MANAGED AT SCHOOL?

We use positive behavior management at SRE. Classes have opportunities to earn SAILS for following school rules. When a class earns 25 SAILS, they may choose a celebration. Individual students also have the opportunity to earn Smooth Sailor Tickets for maintaining good behavior. On Fridays, teachers pull tickets out of a jar and award students whose tickets are pulled out. Most kindergarten classrooms have additional positive behavior systems in place to motivate students to SAIL at school.



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED AT SRE?

Our amazing PTA is always looking for parents to get involved. There are also many opportunities throughout the year to volunteer in the classroom for field trips, classroom events, and even regular academic support. While we would love to see you as a volunteer, please be sure that you arrange your volunteering with your classroom teacher. We ask that you do not show up to the classroom unannounced during the school day as this causes a disruption from learning. To volunteer, you will need to visit the school and fill out the volunteer registration and become an approved volunteer before you will be allowed to volunteer. We suggest all parents complete the process at the beginning of each school year.



HOW CAN I COMMUNICATE WITH MY CHILD'S TEACHER?

Email is the best method of communication for our teachers. Please allow 48hrs for teachers to respond to emails. You can also send notes and other communication through your child's daily folder. We will host parent-teacher conferences in the Fall and Spring. You are also welcome to request a face-to-face or phone conference anytime!



HOW WILL MY CHILD CELEBRATE THEIR BIRTHDAY AT SCHOOL?

We love birthdays! At SRE, we do not celebrate birthdays with parties or treats. Your child will have their name announced on our Morning WAVE, receive a birthday pencil from the office, and will be celebrated in their classroom.



WILL MY CHILD HAVE HOMEWORK?

Kindergartners do not have required homework. We recognize that our little sailors are expected to participate in rigorous academic learning all day at school and may benefit from some down-time in the evenings. However, we absolutely support parent involvement and support in student learning and strongly encourage you to engage with your child in learning activities at home. Reading with your child daily is encouraged, as well as practicing sight words.