

Kindergarten / Grade 1 2021-2022

I am so excited for this new school year and to be able to have a normal year as possible. So far, we have 17 Kindergarten and 9 Grade 1 students in our class, so it will be a fun and different year for our classroom structure. Here are just a few things for your information.

- Kindergarten and grade 1 will be in the same classroom. Since we have such a large class this year, I am going to have the grade one students as serve as mentors to the kindergarten. This will give the grade one students some leadership experiences while re-enforcing what they are learning. We learn the best when we teach someone else.
- We will be doing active learning activities and recesses outside as the weather permits. Please dress your child for the weather.
- Children need to have shoes on at all times. This is required because of fire drills and safety purposes. We also have PE every day except Friday's so your child will need to wear running shoes. You are also welcome to send an extra pair of running shoes to keep at the school so that they will have them for gym as well as for days when they wear boots or sandals to school.
- Because of the COVID-19 situation we ask that if your child is ill that you keep them home. At school I will be having the students wash their hands frequently and I will be teaching and encouraging the students to practice good germ control and hygiene. We will also be disinfecting high touch surfaces frequently in order to keep your child safe.
- Please send a water bottle with your child. We will empty them daily and wash them regularly.
- We will have snack time before gym in the morning and before recess in the afternoon. Please send a small quick snack. Some suggestions would be fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers etc.
- Once we get settled into the school year, I will be sending home book bags, with reading and other activities. It is so important that you read with your children daily and have them read to you. Kindergarten will also have a sound packet they you can use at home to practice the sounds that we learn at school.
- We will have library on Tuesday for Kindergarten and Thursday for grade 1. Your Child will be able to check out books to bring home. Please send the books back each Tuesday or Thursday so they can exchange them for new ones.
- I will be sending an email at the end of each week to let you know what is happening in our class and what we are going to be learning or doing during the upcoming week. If

you would rather have another form of communication or a paper copy, please let me know.

- If possible, please send their school supplies on the first day. We will be doing activities with our supplies as we organize the classroom, and prepare the grade 1 class to have a mentorship experience with the kindergarten on Tuesday.

- Some important Date to be aware of

Monday, August 30th 8:00 – There will be a back-to-school breakfast outside for students and their families. At around 8:45 students (and parents if you would like to come see our classroom) will come into the school. Then there will be an opening assembly at 9:00 in the gym. School will end at 2:35.

Tuesday, August 31st – First Day of Kindergarten. Kindergarten will begin on Fridays, February 4th and the last day of kindergarten will be Friday, June 17th. Please send school supplies this day so that the grade 1 students can practice and learn how to be a mentor.

Thursday, September 2nd – It is a kindergarten day and the entire school is going hiking in Waterton. Please dress your child for the weather and wear good shoes. You will need to probably pack a good lunch and extra snacks but try not to make backpack too heavy. We could also use some parents to come and help with the hike. I think that we are going to hike Crandell. It will also be a new experience for me to as I have not spent a lot of time in Waterton.

Monday, September 6th – Labour Day – There will be no school

Thursday, September 9th – The entire school is going to the Magrath Campground. I will send more information about this day and I know more. Extra parent help on this day would be appreciated.

I am looking forward to a great year. Please feel free to contact me anytime by text, email, or phone call. I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Kathy Thomas

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