

# Our Kindergarten Day



Activity	We are learning...
Morning Page/Journal & Jobs, Center Time, attendance, lunch count, folder check—parent notes and dismissal changes are addressed	Students are learning Independence with "Morning Jobs" (turn in folder, hang backpack, etc.). As the year progresses, Morning Work will include a variety of math and language arts activities, as well as journal writing.
Morning Meeting—Prayer time & Special Intentions, Group Greetings & Games, News, Share Time, Dance/Movement, Morning Message, Story Time  Shared Writing  Rhyme Time and Poetry	We build our oral language, phonics, and phonemic awareness in whole group, as well as speaking and listening skills. We practice kindness and build confidence! Beginning with Nursery Rhymes, our Rhyme Time helps us build fluency, rhyming skills, letter sounds, and concepts of print.
Handwriting  Phonics	Orton Gillingham is the foundation of our phonics instruction and handwriting. A new phonics concept is introduced each week and threads throughout our morning language arts activities daily.
Shared Reading/Big Book	This is an interactive reading activity where students join in or share the reading of a poem, book, or other text. Often, we perform the stories we read in class!
Literacy Stations	This is a chance for the teacher to pull individuals and small groups to provide instruction at each student's individual ability level. The students not meeting with the teacher are practicing previously taught literacy skills individually or with a partner.
Writers Workshop	The teacher provides writing lessons that will guide the students as they make meaning in their illustrations and writing composition. Often, students write on a topic of their own choice.
Lunch and Recess	Students eat lunch in the cafeteria. Recess is outside or in the classroom, depending on the weather.

Activity	We are learning...
Cool down/Rest and Reading Readers Workshop	The teacher provides reading lessons that guide the students as they make meaning of the books they listen to and the books they read on their own.
Calendar Activities Math Workshop	We learn math and language skills in the context of our calendar. The teacher will provide math lessons to the whole group. Students will then practice these particular skills with a partner and again individually. New skills are introduced during this time.
Math Stations	Students work individually or with a partner to complete hands-on math tasks. These tasks are generally review tasks. They are highly engaging, so the students LOVE THEM! The teacher provides individual instruction or small group instruction at this time.
Math Journals	Students solve math word problems in their math journals. These words problems are given spirally, so previously taught skills can be reinforced.
Religion	This is a time of prayer, Bible stories, projects, and studies of saints. This is also the time that we learn and practice Christian values. Our goal is to become more like Jesus every day! We attend mass once a week, typically on Fridays. Religion is weaved into our entire day!
Content Area Studies—Health, Science, Social Studies, Spanish	The students learn this subject matter in a variety of ways. The subject matter is reflected in the texts/activities selected throughout our language arts block. Our Scholastic "Let's Find Out " classroom magazine guides our themes. Students take turns being the "Mad Scientist of the Week!"
<u>Specials</u> Tues—Art Weds—P.E. and Library/Computer Lab Thurs.—Music, Spanish Fri—P.E. and Music	Students attend special classes at various times throughout the week (Library, Phys. Ed., Computer, Art, and Music)  *Students spend time in "Learning Labs" twice a week. They combine with 1st and 2nd graders in small groups for intervention and enrichment!



## Kindergarten Parent Information



### Arrival

- At 8:00, each class will line up with their teachers on the blacktop (or cafeteria depending on the weather). Our principal will lead us in prayer and make announcements before sending the students and teachers off to the classrooms to start the day promptly at 8:05! Parents are welcome to stay for prayer every day! It's a beautiful way to start the day!
- We ask that you please do not walk your child to the classroom. We understand it may be a difficult transition for your child to walk in without you on the first day but please insist that they come in with their teacher and their classmates only. It will make it easier on you, your child, and the class as a whole. It will also benefit your child to get adjusted to this routine early and gain some independence at school from the start. We appreciate your support on this!

### Dismissal

- Bus riders will be released at 2:30 from Entrance #1. A teacher will guide the Kindergartners to their buses.
- Car riders will be released at 2:35. Your child's teacher will walk the children out to the car line.
- If your child is attending our TCCP program after school, the TCCP leader(s) will come to the classroom to pick up those students.

### Dress Code

- Kindergarten students wear the P.E. uniform as their daily uniform. Just a reminder Kindergartners must wear the new royal blue shirts with the Trinity Logo and Kindergartners should be in uniform on the first day of school and thereafter. Shorts/pants do not need to have the Trinity School Logo but they do need to be SOLID dark/navy blue athletic shorts/pants (elastic waist, no buttons, no zips, etc.). Please read over the complete uniform policy and email us with any questions.
- Please have an extra uniform in your child's backpack in case of accidents, spills, etc.

### Home Folder

- Your child will receive his/her own "Home Folder" on the first day of school. Please be sure that your child brings his/her folder back to school every day! This is an easy and effective way for us to communicate and write important notes, questions, etc. Your child will turn in his/her folder every morning and they will be checked by the teacher first thing. Anything you want us to know or receive that day should be written on the correspondence sheet attached to your child's folder. For example, pick-up changes, office paperwork, field trip forms, book orders, etc. Your child will use his/her folder to collect papers, projects, and assessments that they do in class. It would be wonderful if your child could empty their folder and share their papers with you every day! Although much of our learning will be done using manipulatives and hands-on/interactive activities, the papers that you will

see coming home should give you a glimpse of what your child has been working on in class...and can be great conversation starters to help your child reflect on their day at school!

- Lunch and milk money should also be in your child's folder. ALL lunch money, forms, etc should be placed in a plastic baggy or envelope and marked with your child's first AND last name and "K". You will also have the option of ordering and paying for lunch/milk online through FACTS.

#### **Birthdays**

- We love birthdays! On your child's birthday, he/she may bring a small snack for the class to share at lunch time. Please do not send drinks, napkins, plates, balloons, etc. Also, there is very little prep time during the day so please send cupcakes vs. a cake, ice cream cups vs. a gallon of ice cream, etc. Thank you! Parents are welcome to join their child for lunch on their birthday...or any day for that matter ☺! We will make it a very special day!

#### **Questions/Concerns**

- If you ever have a question or concern that you wish to speak with me about, please email me, text me on Dojo, or write a note and I will get back with you quickly. Before and after school are often too hectic to give your concerns the attention they deserve. I look forward to working with you to make this a magical and successful year for your child!

*Sincerely,*  
*Your Partner In Education ☺*  
Mrs. Murnane

## Kindergarten Resource Map

There are many programs that we utilize in Kindergarten at Trinity Catholic, so I have mapped out their uses for you! I hope this information is helpful!

**Dojo:** I will use Dojo's Classroom Newsfeed Page to share pictures and videos of what is going on in our classroom. Individual student portfolios of students' work will also be built using Classroom Dojo. Please feel free to like and comment on pictures/videos on Dojo to help build our classroom community! I just ask that you do not post pictures of other children on other social media sites. Thank you! Please feel free to message me on Dojo at any time, although I may not be able to respond until after school hours. Dojo will be our main hub for communication, so it may be helpful to turn on notifications through the app to help keep up with classroom happenings! Dojo may eventually be used for managing and communicating behavior as needed. It will assist me in tracking behavior habits consistently, which I can then use to communicate with you and support your child's needs. Positive behavior is consistently reinforced and rewarded in a number of ways throughout the school day!

**ESGI:** ESGI is used for progress monitoring. Frequently, parent reports and flashcards will be printed out and sent home in your child's folder following ongoing assessments in several subjects. These assessments occur one on one with your child and me at any given time throughout the week, month. These mini meetings and evaluations help me differentiate instruction for all students individually!

**FACTS-** Our FACTS system will be used for quarterly report cards, attendance, lunch, and school-wide information.

**Lexia-** Lexia is an online program that will be utilized at school only. It is an individualized program that will help build your child's literacy, phonological awareness, and phonics skills. We LOVE Lexia!

**IXL-** IXL is a great school and home resource for practicing skills in language arts and math. This tool also helps me provide individualized practice based on each child's need for extra support and/or enrichment.

**RAZ-** RAZ is a leveled-reading program that will be utilized at home and at school as soon as students' reading levels are determined.



# Kindergarten Rules

1. Be a whole body listener.
2. Raise your hand to speak or stand.
3. Use walking feet inside.
4. Follow directions quickly.
5. Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
6. Be safe. Be kind. Be honest.



# Routines List

## Classroom Basics

- ☐ How to enter the classroom
- ☐ What to do when you enter the classroom each morning
- ☐ How to hang up coat and backpack
- ☐ How to order lunch
- ☐ Where to put lunch if bringing from home
- ☐ Where to put lunch money
- ☐ Where to put folder
- ☐ What to do with notes from home
- ☐ What the morning work/tasks are
- ☐ How to sit at a table/desk
- ☐ How to push in your chair
- ☐ How to join the class at the rug
- ☐ Where to sit at the rug
- ☐ How to sit at the rug
- ☐ How to listen to someone talking - Stop, Look, Think
- ☐ How to respond to/ask a question and wait to be called on
- ☐ What the teacher signals for quiet/attention are
- ☐ What to do if adults are talking and you want to talk to them
- ☐ What are the walking routes/How to move around the room
- ☐ What to do if you are feeling sick
- ☐ What to do when a school announcement is made
- ☐ What to do in a fire drill
- ☐ Where to get tissues/how to use and dispose
- ☐ Saying "Please", "Thank You" and "May I"
- ☐ How to pack up in the afternoon

# Routines List

## Working Procedures

- ☐ How to work in a group
- ☐ How to use each of the table materials
- ☐ How to share materials with others
- ☐ How to change center activities
- ☐ What to do when you are finished with an activity
- ☐ What the signal is to clean up
- ☐ How to clean up materials
- ☐ What to do if you did not finish an activity and it is time to clean up
- ☐ What the different noise levels are for group and independent work
- ☐ How to handle a book
- ☐ What the classroom jobs are
- ☐ How to perform each job

## Hallway Procedures

- ☐ How to line up
- ☐ How to stand in line
- ☐ How to walk in a straight line
- ☐ How to walk in the hall
- ☐ Where to stop when you walk in the hallway
- ☐ Ways to get to important places (nurse, office, etc.)

# Routines List

## Lunch/Cafeteria/Snack

- ☐ Where to sit at lunch
- ☐ How to clean up after yourself
- ☐ Where to throw garbage away
- ☐ How to buy a lunch/snack
- ☐ What to do if you forget your lunch money
- ☐ What to do if you have to go to the bathroom during lunch
- ☐ How snacks are served and when to eat
- ☐ How to open a snack pouch
- ☐ How to open a juice box

## Bathroom/Restroom

- ☐ What to do if you have to go to the bathroom/signal
- ☐ How to check if someone is in the restroom
- ☐ How to use soap dispenser/how much soap to use
- ☐ How to wash hands/how long
- ☐ How many paper towels are appropriate
- ☐ How to flush the toilet
- ☐ What to do if you need a drink of water

# Routines List

## Recess/Free Play

- ☐ How to use each piece of playground equipment
- ☐ What kind of play is acceptable
- ☐ How to use games/materials
- ☐ How to clean up properly
- ☐ Signal for end of recess/free play
- ☐ Where to line up after recess
- ☐ How to count off to make sure everyone is accounted for

## Dismissal/Bus Behavior

- ☐ What the signal is for dismissal/clean up
- ☐ Where and how to wait for your turn to get ready to go home
- ☐ How to pack up for dismissal
- ☐ How to put on coat
- ☐ How to zip coat
- ☐ How to turn sleeves inside out
- ☐ How to change into/out of boots
- ☐ Where boots/umbrella go if it is rainy or snowy
- ☐ How to wait in bus line
- ☐ How to get on/off bus
- ☐ How to sit on the bus/acceptable bus behavior