



Welcome! The world of the kindergartner is one of exploration and discovery. Our kindergarten program strives to nurture this natural inclination by providing a joyful, stimulating and reassuring atmosphere.

This year of full-time kindergarten will create a firm academic foundation, which will be built upon during the remainder of your child's elementary experience.

We look forward to a year of joy and accomplishments as your child explores self, world, and God.

Sincerely,

Kristen Mikilas  
Teacher

Debbie McIlveen  
Instructional Assistant

## **Volunteering**

As a volunteer in our classroom, we ask you to purposely interact with all the children and to follow the atmosphere of the classroom in the task you are given. As you enter the room, please come in quietly and ask teacher (if not actively instructing) or instructional assistant how you can help. If you wish to visit with another parent, please step outside the classroom for your conversation. Volunteering in the classroom will not start until October. Information will be sent home regarding how to sign-up in a newsletter.

## **Toys**

Please emphasize that all toys must stay home. Each child will have multiply opportunities to bring items for home for sharing time. This is the opportunity for your child to look for something to share that might tell us about his or her interests and family. The children can also look for something that will reinforce what we are learning. (Example: a rock during "Rr" week)

## **Money**

Any money sent into the school should be placed in a sealed envelope that is clearly marked with the child's name and the intended purpose.

## **Snack**

We will eat our main lunch at 11:30 a.m. The children are generally hungry mid-morning so we are asking you to send a small healthy snack from home on a daily basis to tide them over. Please make sure that the snack is something your child will like and that it can be easily opened by your child without assistance. Please NO RED drinks. Occasionally we have students with food allergies. We may need to make accommodations to ensure the health and safety for all students.

## **Special Friend of the Week**

Each week a drawing will determine the next special friend of the week. A note will go home in the Voyager to let you know that the following week is your child's Special Friend week.

Please send approximately 8-12 photos of varying sizes to exhibit on the Special Friend of the week board. We like to see baby years, family pictures, drawings, awards, and something highlighting his/her cultural heritage, etc. Remember to label everything, send in a bag or envelope. We will return your items home via the next week's Monday Folder. Please do not send expensive or breakable things to school.

## **Choice Time**

Our day is designed so that resources for academic and emotional growth are available for all levels of learning. We start the day with Choice Time. The children choose an activity that is out on a table in the classroom. These activities will be changed often, to allow exploration of different themes throughout the year.

## **Birthdays**

Each child will have a special day to celebrate his/her birthday. Treats are not necessary. However if you wish to provide a treat for the class we would like to suggest that cookies or donut holes would make an easy but special treat instead of cupcakes. Please do not send birthday invitations to school for a private party for a selected few. Doing so can lead to hurt feelings and tears.

## **Contacting the Teacher**

We can be reached at school from 8:00 to 4:00. If you need us please call and leave a message and we will return your call. You may leave us a voice mail at anytime at 344-1401 X 108 or email me at [kmikilas@saintpaul-school.org](mailto:kmikilas@saintpaul-school.org).

## Monday Folders

Each Monday a folder will go home with your child that will have his/her work from the previous week. It may also contain a classroom newsletters or other important information such as fieldtrip information and permission slips. It is very important to review the information in that folder as soon as possible and then return the folder to the classroom the next school day.

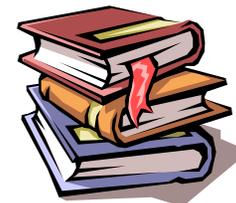
## Card System

Each child will have their own set of cards. They will have a purple, green, yellow, blue, and red card located in a pocket on the class chart. Each day is a new day and a fresh start, therefore each child will start the day on green. If there is an issue such as breaking a classroom rule the child will be asked to flip a card. After flipping the card the child will be asked why they had to flip the card. In order to reward good behavior the children can earn back cards. For example, if a student is on yellow and they get caught being good they will be asked to flip back to green. We also have a Warm Fuzzy Jar that will be filled with pompoms and a Treasure Box filled with prizes like pencils, stickers, and other small items to reward good behavior. When the Warm Fuzzy Jar is full the class earns a reward such as extra recess time. The Treasure box items will be sent home that day and they need to stay at home. The different colored cards have either a consequence or a reward assigned with them. The reward colors

are green and purple. The yellow, blue, and red cards have a consequence. The order of colors is as follows:

- Purple- The highest a child can get. If the card is purple at the end of the day the child gets to put a pompom in the Warm Fuzzy Jar and a dip in the Treasure Box.
- Green- If green at the end of the day a child gets to put a pompom in the Warm Fuzzy Jar.
- Yellow- This is the warning card. The child will have a talk with a teacher about the situation.
- Blue- This is the time out card. The child will be asked to sit in the Thinking Center for 3 minutes and a talk with the teacher.
- Red- This is as low as a child can go. Depending on the problem there will be a phone call home and the child will explain why they are on red. If the problem is extreme they will be asked to go to the principal's office.

Our goal is for everyone to be successful and end the day on purple or green. In the event that this happens there will be extra recess the next day. We want all students to be successful in our classroom. With your support this will be an attainable goal.



# St. Paul Parish School

Kindergarten Handbook

2016-2017



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