



St. John Fisher Parish School

Kindergarten Handbook

Mission Statement

In partnership with parents, St. John Fisher Parish Elementary School is dedicated to teaching the Catholic faith, promoting academic excellence, and producing caring, contributing, cooperating community builders.

Our daily emphasis is: “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and one another.”

Kindergarten Philosophy

To create a positive and developmentally appropriate environment that will support and encourage students to become life-long learners.





Dear Parents,

Kindergarten is your child's introduction to formal education. This introduction is an important and integral part of the total school program because it prepares children for success in school by providing many skills necessary to build a solid foundation for learning.

At St. John Fisher School, students are exposed to a developmentally appropriate curriculum. Under the guidance of experienced teachers, students are introduced to challenging materials, exercises, and experiences to meet their needs in intellectual, physical, and social/emotional development.

This handbook is designed to be a useful resource for you and to give a greater understanding of the objectives and goals for our Kindergarten students.

Sincerely,

Ms. Henderson

Kindergarten Teacher

Things Parents Should Know . . .



ATTENDANCE

School begins at 7:50AM and ends at 3:00PM. Half day schedules are 7:50AM to 12:05PM. (see calendar for dates) No lunch is served on half days. Students are not to be pulled out of school early for extra-curricular activities such as dance lessons, music lessons, or sports practices. Every effort should be made to make medical appointments for before or after school.

MORNING ASSEMBLY

This takes place at 7:55AM each morning. Students stand in front of their classroom as Student Council makes announcements and leads the school in prayer.

LATE ARRIVAL

It is important that your child arrives on time. Punctuality is essential so that no instruction is missed. If your child is tardy, parents must go to the school office and receive a tardy pass. Parents must then walk their child to class. Students are allowed no more than 10 tardies for the year. After ten tardies, a conference will be held with the parents and student.

AFTER SCHOOL PROCEDURES

All students will remain in the classrooms with their teachers at 3:00 p.m. and will be picked up by their parents from the classroom. After 3:15 p.m., students who are not in an approved supervised activity will be automatically signed into daycare and charged at the appropriate rate.

BACKPACKS

Please send a backpack with your child every day to carry the daily folder and other needed items for school. Please do not purchase the rolling type, as they do not fit in the classroom cubbies.



BEHAVIOR/DISCIPLINE POLICY

Grades K-2 use a behavior chart system. In Kindergarten, positive behavior is rewarded by weekly punch cards and drawings in the treasure chest.

BIRTHDAYS



Birthdays are special, and as the St. John Fisher school family, we love to celebrate them together. Daily birthdays will be announced each morning at assembly. Students celebrating birthdays will receive a card and a pin from Student Council. We ask that you not bring cakes, cookies etc. to school, as all children cannot celebrate at school with special goodies from their parents. **PLEASE RESERVE TREATS FOR YOUR HOME PARTIES.**

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Be sure the teacher and office have phone numbers where you may be reached during the day in case of an emergency. You will be given an emergency card to complete at the beginning of the year. If any of this information (cell phones, home numbers, work numbers) should change throughout the year, please notify the teacher and office immediately! Each child should also learn his/her full name, address, and phone number with area code in case of an emergency!!

IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS

All students' belongings such as sweaters, sweatshirts, lunch boxes, back packs, etc... should be labeled.

ILLNESS AT HOME/ABSENCE

Your child must be kept home if he/she has fever, diarrhea, vomiting, or other illness. Students must be **clear of symptoms without medication for 24 hours** before returning to school. Please call and notify the school the morning of your child's absence. You must send a written note when your child returns to school.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

The parent on Health Room duty or the classroom teacher will contact you if your child gets sick at school. Please make sure all emergency phone numbers are kept current with the school office and your child's teacher. Should your number(s) change during the school year, please remember to notify us so that we will know how to reach you.

MEDICATION

All medication must be turned into the teacher or school office. Medication will only be dispensed by the parent on health room duty, or the classroom teacher. Medications must be in the original container with accompanying instructions. Non-prescription medicines must also be kept in the health room. See Parent/Student Handbook for more details.



MONEY

Money being sent to school should be placed in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, grade, and the purpose on the front.

OUTDOOR RECESS/P.E.

Your child will be going outside for recess every day, weather permitting. They will also be attending P.E. twice a week. Please keep this in mind when helping your child dress for the day. It is recommended that girls wear shorts under their uniforms. Tennis shoes or rubber-soled shoes are essential.



PUPIL SERVICES

Kindergarten students will be included in pupil services such as hearing and visual screening, resource teaching, and health care.

REPORTING PERIODS

There are three reporting periods during the school year (trimesters), and report cards are prepared and available on *School Speak*. There is also one scheduled Parent/Teacher Conference in November. Progress reports are sent out periodically during the school year. We keep an open line of communication with regard to your child's progress, and the teacher is available before or after school for conferences.

RESTROOM BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to practice good hygiene. They are to flush the toilet, wash their hands, and throw paper towels in the trash.

REST TIME

A rest time for Kindergarten is built into the daily schedule after lunch.

SNACK AND LUNCH

Each child needs to bring a snack from home for each day. Students should be able to open any snack packages (go-gurt, fruit cups, fruit snacks, etc...) and drinks (Capri-Sun, juice boxes, water bottles, etc...) however, the teacher's assistant and parents on yard duty will assist students. Lunch may be purchased in advance through our hot lunch program (Choice Lunch) available Mondays - full day Fridays. Otherwise, each student shall provide his/her own lunch.



UNIFORM

Boys and/or Girls may wear the following:

- Long or short sleeve hunter green shirt with SJF logo
- Khaki colored uniform pants or walking shorts
- Solid white, black, or hunter green socks
- Athletic shoes or closed toe casual shoes.

Girls may also wear the following:

- Khaki skorts/pants with the long or short sleeve hunter green shirt with SJF logo
- Plaid jumper and white blouse with collar
- White, black, or green tights may be worn under the jumper.

Other:

- Students may also wear the SJF uniform cardigan, fleece jacket, green crew neck sweatshirt, or green hooded sweatshirt.
- P.E. uniform (sweatpants, sweat shorts, gray SJF t-shirt) may only be worn on days when your child has P.E.



CURRICULUM



Language Arts

- Letter/Sound Recognition
- Rhyming Words
- Phonics
- Phonemic Awareness (song charts)
- Grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, singular & plural)
- Capitalization & Punctuation
- Reading (concepts of print, predicting, cause and effect, main idea, details, etc.)
- Word Recognition (high-frequency words)
- Decoding Skills
- Vocabulary
- Writing Skills (complete sentences, letter formation)

Religion

- Friendship
- Bible Stories
- Liturgical Seasons
- Love
- Forgiveness
- God
- Holy Days & Special Celebrations
- Prayers

Math

- Sorting/Comparing
- Patterns
- Positions
- Number Sense
- Tables/Graphs
- Addition and Subtraction
- Measurement
- Shapes

Computers

- Understand Basic Computer Technology

Physical Education

- Large Motor Skills
- Bouncing, Catching, Throwing
- Stamina

Art

- Cutting, pasting, coloring
- Imaginative
- Explore Art Mediums

Science

- Day and Night Sky
- Internal & External Body Parts
- Five Senses
- Matter
- Living vs. Non-Living

Social Studies

- Citizenship
- USA Symbols
- Needs and Wants
- Buying and Selling
- Goods and Services
- Maps-land/water forms
- Weather/Seasons
- Natural Resources
- Culture -life then and now

Music

- Enthusiasm for Music
- Singing
- Advent and Spring Music Program