



Brentwood School TLC

Kindergarten Orientation

May 23, 2024



learning | as unique | as every student



**Calgary Board
of Education**



Introductions

Principal

Mr. Rudy Stein

Assistant Principal

Ms. Sandeep Sidhu

Learning Leader - Kindergarten

Mr. Adrien Dhanraj

Kindergarten Teachers

Ms. Brown

Ms. Denton

Ms. Groves



Agenda

- ☐ Characteristics of the TLC Kindergarten Program
- ☐ Uniform Guidelines
- ☐ Student Expectations and Family Engagement

- ☐ Getting Ready for Kindergarten
 - ☐ What students learn
 - ☐ Weekly review works
 - ☐ Communication
 - ☐ Lunches & Snacks
 - ☐ Additional Tips

- ☐ First Days of School



Characteristics of the TLC Kindergarten Program

Curriculum

- We follow the Alberta curriculum

Character education

- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Respect for environment

Specialists

- Physical Education & Wellness
- Music





Characteristics of the TLC Kindergarten Program

- Gradual Release of Responsibility model
- Students come for **full days** either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday with alternating Fridays
- Whole group instruction
- Singing of "O Canada" daily (English & French)
- Mandatory school uniform
- Optional Kindergarten homework



Uniform Guidelines

Brentwood School uniform colour:

Green (TLC cardigan & Vest)

Blue Vest

-All students wear the TLC tartan plaid

Formal uniform is required on:

-Mondays and Tuesdays

-Assemblies

Informal uniforms worn on other days. Casual clothing may be worn on Fun Lunch and Treat Days





Uniform Guidelines

Uniform pieces should be clearly and permanently labelled

We encourage families to purchase these pieces early as there are only certain times of the year to place orders:

McCarthy Uniforms

5911 3 St SE

403-252-9342

www.mccarthyuniforms.ca



Expectations for TLC Students

Attendance

- Regular attendance is important
- Late Students: report to the office
- When absent call or email the office brentwood@cbe.ab.ca.
- Students need to stay home when they are sick.
- A leave from school greater than two weeks requires an Extended Leave of Absence form. School work will not be provided for extended leaves.



Family Engagement

- ‘The Week Ahead’ emails from Mr. Stein
- Communication from the teacher (email)
- Google Classroom
- Communication folder will come home daily
- School Conferences (3 times annually)





Family Engagement

Volunteering



Step 1: Obtain a volunteering letter from the office.
Photo ID is required.

Step 2: Submit the letter to the CPS to obtain volunteer clearance (ePIC)

- This step can take between 2- 5 weeks.

- Once cleared as a volunteer with CBE, it is valid for 5 years and can transfer between CBE schools.



Family Engagement

Parent Council / Fundraising Society

-Brentwood School has a very active Parent Council and Fundraising Society and are always looking for new members! **Our AGM is on Monday, June 10 at 7 pm.**

-The council plans many activities throughout the year (i.e., Carnival, Pumpkinella, Treat Days)

-Links to join meetings are sent each month. All parents are welcome at these meetings





Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Getting Your Child Ready for Kindergarten

To support your child entering Kindergarten they should be familiar with:

- Recognizing and starting to write their own name
- Using scissors and glue sticks
- Using the stairs with alternating feet

Encourage independence by:

- Preparing your child to tend to him/herself in the bathroom
- Dressing independently from head to toe





Learning in Kindergarten: What and how do students learn?

English Language Arts and Literature

Program: Heggerty Phonemic Awareness

Letter names, sounds and proper printing techniques

High Frequency Words: words that we see often

Reading is integrated into their daily routine:

calendar, morning message, story time, book

exploration, songs and poetry

Students will explore letter names and sounds through direct instruction and *play*

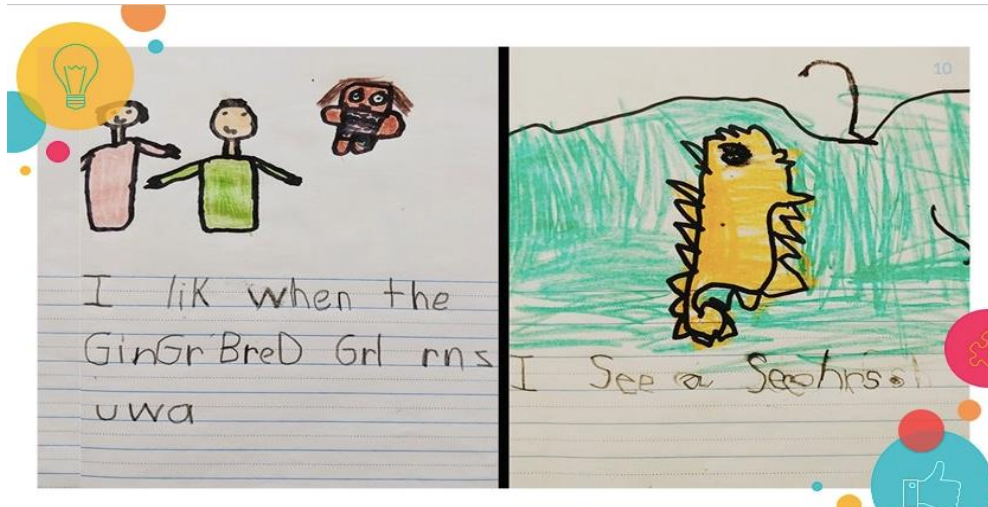




English Language Arts and Literature

Journaling is an essential part of learning to write
We scaffold by **scribing**, using sentence starters,
and eventually moving onto inventive spelling to
encourage students to start writing on their own

- Drawing pictures help students explain their ideas





In Kindergarten, students learn by **seeing** and doing

We provide opportunities for students to play, count, estimate, and explore with patterns by using manipulatives (math materials like cubes, links, blocks, beads and pom poms)

We participate in math-themed centers so students get a chance to explore and play with math concepts





Centers

Centers are primary learning opportunities for students
They are learning activities based on a variety of subject areas

With **connections to curriculum**, activities include:
building with blocks, counting with manipulatives,
drama, drawing, painting, play kitchen, sentence
writing, science themed centers, and sorting objects

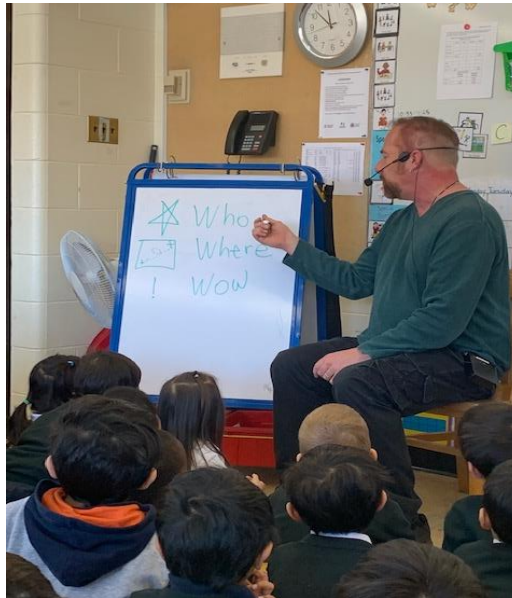
They reinforce concepts and ideas in a play-based manner
Students learn to work independently and in small-groups





Artists-in-Residence

Another way students engage with learning is through residencies. Each year students have rich opportunities to participate in learning with artists, storytellers and drummers.





Explorations in Science

Students are introduced to the natural world through pumpkin explorations, noticing the signs of seasonal changes, observing the life cycles of the butterfly and looking more closely at the animal world through stories, poems, songs and literature.





Weekly Review Work



- Each classroom teacher will have a [Google Classroom](#) where the weekly review work will be posted each Monday
- Our weekly review work typically begins in the middle of October
- Your child's login information will be sent out to you just before the review work begins
- Review work in Kindergarten is optional** but, will become mandatory once your child reaches Grade 1
- Homework should take approximately 10 mins a night to complete



Communication Between School and Home

Students begin the year with daily communication logs or agendas

Your child will bring home their communication logs each day, and bring them back when they return to school

There is a space for you to write any important messages about upcoming appointments, or early pick ups

For important and time sensitive information please call the school or email your child's teacher directly



Lunches and Snacks

Please pack enough healthy food for your child to have 2 healthy snacks and a lunch each day.

Little bodies needs lots of healthy fuel.



Please Include

A non-spill water bottle that will come to school each day





Additional Tips for Kindergarten

- Ensure that your child has a **large** backpack
- Label **everything including sweaters, ties, shoes, lunch containers, water bottles**
- Provide one pair of black running shoes with no laces as 'indoor shoes'
- A change of clothes is necessary all year long
- Non-spill water bottles for hydration breaks throughout the day





Additional tips

- Please send enough food for a full lunch and 2 daily snacks
- Please send a full lunch and 1 snack on Fridays
- Talk to your child about what taking the school bus or being in a classroom might look like – read books, watch videos and discuss!
- Please leave toys and special items at home – we do not want them to get lost at school





First Day of School

Your child's teacher will send you an email on [August 27](#). The email will include an introduction letter and instructions for the first day of school

The first two days of school ([August 29 & 30](#)) will be [staggered entry](#), meaning only half of the class will attend in the morning, and the other half in the afternoon





First Day of School

Thursday, August 29 (Tuesday/Thursday classes)

Surnames A-L (attend in the morning)

Surnames M-Z (attend in the afternoon)

Friday, August 30 (Monday/Wednesday classes)

Surnames A-L (attend in the morning)

Surnames M-Z (attend in the afternoon)



We look forward to seeing you in August!

Questions?

