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Brentwood School TLC

To Think, To Value, To Know

Kindergarten Orientation

May 21, 2026

Calgary Board of Education

Introductions

Principal

Mr. Rudy Stein

Assistant Principal

Ms. Sandeep Sidhu

Learning Leaders

Mr. Adrien Dhanraj

Ms. Shauna Fulton

Ms. Ann Hu

Ms. Letitia Turner

Agenda

- **Traditional Learning Centre (TLC) Program**
  - Characteristics of the TLC
  - Uniform Guidelines
  - Student Expectations and Family Engagement

- **Getting Ready for Kindergarten**
  - Learning through PLAY
  - Enhanced supports in Kindergarten
  - Tips for parents

- **First Days of School**
  - Important dates & times
  - First day of kindergarten
  - Charter Transportation (yellow school bus)

Characteristics of the TLC Kindergarten Program

Curriculum

- We follow the Alberta curriculum

Character Education

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

Specialists

- Music
- Physical Education & Wellness
- French as a Second Language (begins in grade 1)

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" on Mondays (English & French)
- Mandatory school uniform
- Optional Kindergarten homework

Uniform Guidelines

Brentwood School Uniform Colour:

- Green (TLC Cardigan & Vest)
- All students wear the TLC tartan plaid

Formal uniform is required on:

- Mondays & Tuesdays
- Assembly Days
- Photo Day

Informal uniforms worn on other days of the week.

Casual clothing may be worn on Fun Lunch and Treat Days

Uniform Guidelines

Uniform pieces should be <u>clearly and permanently labelled</u>

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

On June 5, 2026 our Parent Council will also host an annual sale of gently worn uniforms.

Expectations for TLC Students

Attendance

- Regular and punctual attendance is important
- Late students report to the office
- When absent call or email the office at 403-777-6130 or Brentwood@cbe.ab.ca

- Students must stay home when they are sick
- A leave from school greater than two weeks requires an Extended Leave of Absence form. School work is 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 – September, November & March)

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
- The council plans many activities throughout the year (i.e. Pumpkinella, Staff Lunches, Treat Days)
- Links to join Zoom meetings are sent each month. All parents are welcome to attend meetings.

Learning Through PLAY

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

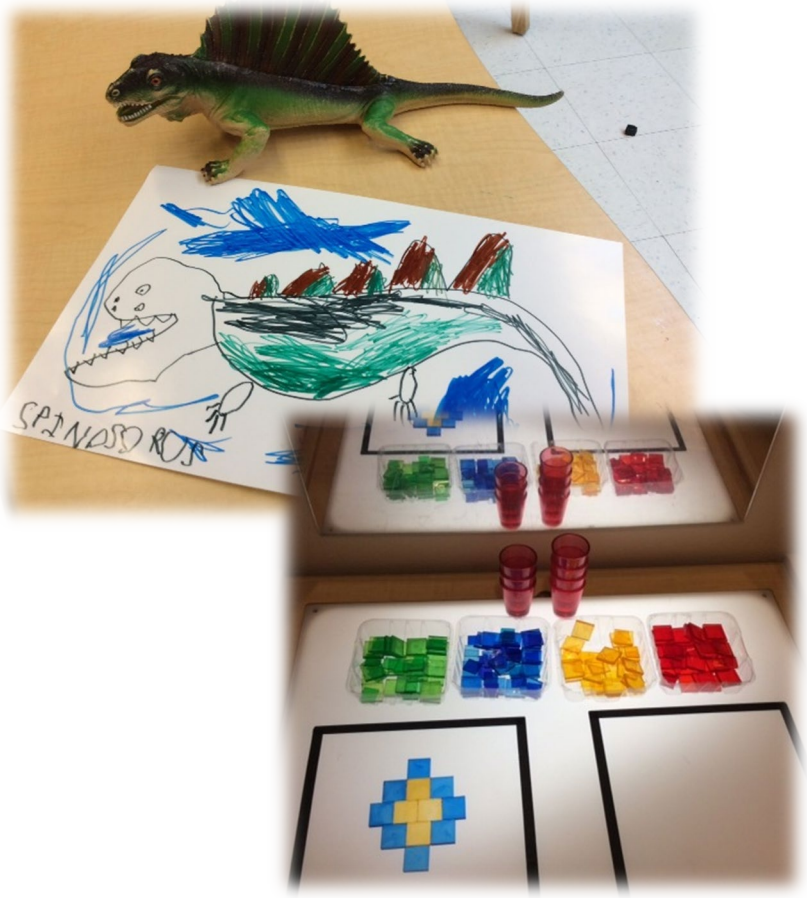
Learning Through PLAY

Learning Through PLAY

"Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, show more self-control and higher levels of thinking"

~Miller & Almon

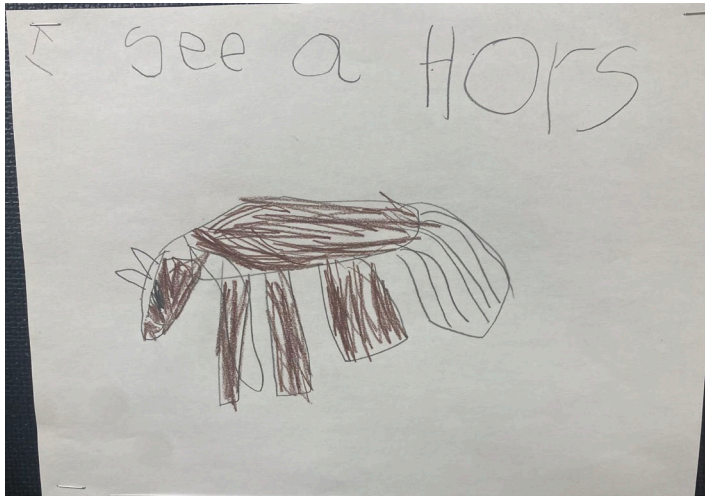
Early Literacy & Numeracy



English Language Arts and Literature

Journaling is an essential part of learning to write. We scribe, practice copying printing, use sentence starters, and eventually moving onto inventive spelling.

Drawing pictures helps students to explain their ideas.



Mathematics

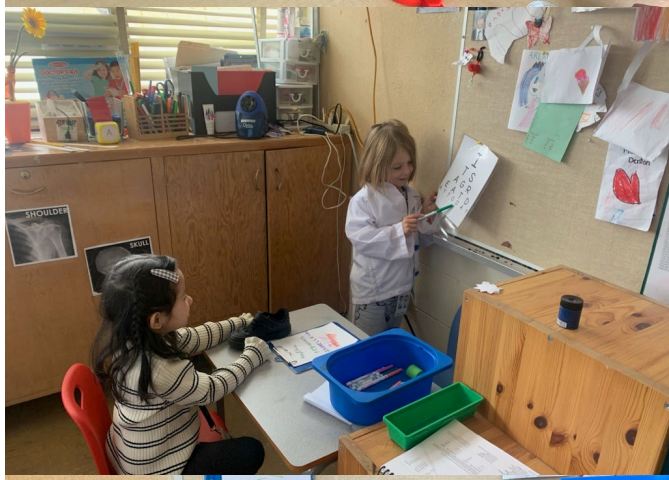
We provide opportunities for students to play, count, estimate, and explore with patterns by using cubes, links, blocks, and beads.

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

Centres

Centres 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, writing, drawing, dramatic play, and painting.



Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:

- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Read to your child every day:

•read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills

•enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry

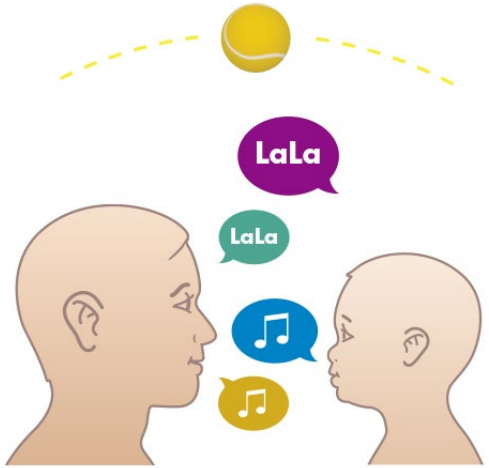
•encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together

•visit your community library (when possible)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:

- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing and play in *your first language* every day
- praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes



Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Before starting...

- **Label EVERYTHING**. In a school of more than 820 students who are all wearing uniforms and black shoes, labelling everything ensures that your items have a better chance of making their way back to you.

- **Visit public restrooms** to practice locking and unlocking stalls, and to normalize sounds like loud flushing.

- **Talk to your child about behaviour expectations at school.** Kindergarten is a time of immense social emotional learning and growth. Encourage kindness and cooperation with others.

What You Need

- **Change of Clothes –** Accidents happen! Yogurt spills, bleeding noses, and all the things in between. Please send a COMPLETE change of clothes even if you are confident in your child's ability to use the washroom.
- **Outdoor Clothing –** Please ensure that your child is dressed for the weather every day. Items should be clearly labelled and your child should be able to dress themselves independently in snow suits. We go outside every day unless the temperature is colder than –20 (including windchill)

Important Times & Dates

- ✓ On May 29, you will receive an email confirming your child's days of attendance (M/W or Tues/Th). You will also receive a Friday schedule.
- ✓ Your child's teacher will send you an email on Friday, August 28.
- ✓ The email will include an introduction letter and instructions for the first day of school
- ✓ The first two days of school (August 31 + September 1) will be staggered entry.

First Days of School

Monday, August 31
(Monday/Wednesday classes)
Surnames A-L (attend in the morning)
Surnames M-Z (attend in the afternoon)

Tuesday, September 1
(Tuesday/Thursday classes)
Surnames A-L (attend in the morning)
Surnames M-Z (attend in the afternoon)

Charter Transportation (Yellow Bus)

We currently have **13 yellow school buses** (Buses A-M)

During the first week of school, all teachers and support staff greet students in the morning when they arrive, and at dismissal time

We have well-established processes to support students with coming off the bus in the morning, and getting on the correct bus in the afternoon

Parents may track their child's bus route using the MyBusStop app

BRENTWOOD SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL

TODAY'S LEARNING, TOMORROW'S SUCCESS

WE NEED YOU!

We highly encourage to begin your police clearance so you can start volunteering on behalf of the school!

BRENTWOOD SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

TODAY'S LEARNING, TOMORROW'S SUCCESS

Konstella

Platform & App

- School and Event Calendar
- Volunteer Sign Up
- Fundraiser Links
- Classroom Groups
- Reminders and Announcements

...and

BRENTWOOD SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

TODAY'S LEARNING, TOMORROW'S SUCCESS

Join us on the first day of school for Kindergarten Tea!

BRENTWOOD SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

TODAY'S LEARNING, TOMORROW'S SUCCESS

TLC

Annual Used Uniform Sale

Thursday, June 11

4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Thank you!

Thank you for attending. We look forward to welcoming your child in September.

We are available to answer individual questions.