

Welcome to Kindergarten at Roland Park K-8

An Authorized IB World School

We are glad you have chosen Roland Park and know your child will enjoy his or her upcoming school year. We are excited to begin this journey with you!

Please see information below based on common FAQ:

Communication:

A binder will be used for daily communication. This binder should be taken to and from school daily. This binder will be used for flyers, completed classwork, homework, and other pertinent information for you to see. Please check this binder each evening and return it with your child each morning.

On Fridays we will send out an email blast (weekly newsletter) explaining an overview of what your child has learned throughout the week and updates/reminders for the following week as well as upcoming events.

You can also contact your child's teacher via email.

Homework:

A homework packet will be sent home monthly. In addition to reading every night, we would like your child to practice words off of their individual sight word list. Please follow the directions on the homework menu. Please initial and date when your child completes the assigned work. Then you will turn in homework the last Friday of the month. Homework will begin in the September.

Snack:

Each month you will receive a snack calendar. Each child will be responsible for providing enough healthy food snacks (can be in bulk or individual packets) for each child in the classroom. A different student will be assigned each day. On the first snack calendar specific allergies and the number of students in your child's class will be provided.

Behavior System:

Kindergarten uses Class Dojo which is a classroom management tool that incorporates technology and provides parents access to their child's behavior through a personalized account. A code will be provided at the beginning of the school year that will allow you to create an

account to access your child's information. Students earn points for positive behaviors in the classroom. As a class, we will come up with a variety of positive behaviors that we believe are needed to help our class learn better and be a positive environment. Every time a positive behavior is recognized, a point will be rewarded through Class Dojo. Students see their points as they are added. Rewards are given per amount of points gained. There will be more details to come on how points can be earned and the specific rewards.

Our Day at a Glance:

Language arts, math, science, and social studies standards are taught daily throughout the transdisciplinary themes (listed below), IB Learner Profile, and IB Attitudes. Students also receive one hour of related arts per day these include: physical education, art, music, strings (violin), and world language (Spanish).

There is a thirty minute lunch block as well as a 20 minute snack break in the afternoon.

Students receive 30 minutes of teacher directed P.E. on non-physical education days. Students have the opportunity to check out one library book a week after they go through a media center welcome/orientation. Please note that kindergarten students do not take naps.

Dismissal Procedures:

- **Car line-** Each child will be assigned a car number that correlates with a car tag. The car tag must be displayed in the car in order to have your child picked up. We encourage you to help your child memorize this number to make our carline efficient.
- **H.O.S.T-** Is a before and after school program that your child can attend. For more information and to sign-up, please go to the district website and click on the families tab. There will be a section for the H.O.S.T. program.
- **Bus Riders-** Kindergarteners are unable to ride the bus unless they are accompanied by an older sibling.

Lunch:

Students can bring their own lunch or receive a school lunch. Students will each receive a lunch number (student number). We recommend your child memorize his/her student number because they will use this at multiple times during the day. At the beginning of the year, each student has a lunch clip with their number on it to help them practice in the lunch line. You can add money, set up an account, and look at lunch menus on the following link: www.MyPaymentsPlus.com

Breakfast:

Students are allowed on campus at 8:10 a.m. The front gate of the school will open to allow students inside. All students receive a free breakfast. Classroom doors are open at 8:10 for students.

Walking to Class:

You can walk your child into the classroom the first week of school (if Covid restrictions are lifted). Please park in the visitor lot or Jefferson High school and sign in at front office. If your child is dropped off in the carline, administration/teachers will be around to guide your child in the right direction. After the first week, you are still allowed to come in and have breakfast with your child; however, we ask that you walk them to the classroom door and let them independently get their day started.

Transition Camp:

Also at Roland Park, we have a special transition camp. At the end of Summer there will be a fee based, four-day transition camp for incoming Kinder students. Information will be provided tonight, in the front office, as well as on the Roland Park website. This is optional and available for your child to enter Kindergarten feeling comfortable and confident. Seats may be limited so please be prompt in signing up.

A Peek into our Units of Inquiry:

How the World Works: This unit focuses on the introduction of the learner profile and exploring with our senses.

How We Organize Ourselves: This unit focuses on community workers and their responsibilities as well as places in the community.

Who We Are: This unit focuses on celebrations and traditions from different countries around the world.

Where We Are in Place and Time: This unit focuses on biographies, patterns, and personal histories.

How We Express Ourselves: This unit focuses on different cultures and variations of fairy tales.

Sharing the Planet: This unit focuses on plant and animal resources and our responsibility in preserving them.

We look forward to a successful year!

Your Kindergarten Team