

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Everything I need to know about life, I learned in Kindergarten...

KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

Language Arts

Beginning to Read, Write and Listen

Macmillan/McGraw-Hill

Examples of skills taught in this area are:

- Letter and sound recognition
- Handwriting practice
- Development of listening skills and following directions
- Beginning steps of reading

A letter of the week book is worked in and when completed, can be kept at home. In the back of each book is a reference for parents.

Signatures Literature Series

Harcourt Brace

Examples of themes that we will focus on in this series are:

- All about me
- At home
- Pretending
- One earth

Zoo-Phonics: a kinesthetic program for teaching phonics, spelling, reading and writing, using 26 animal characters.

Step Up to Writing: a school-wide writing program that teaches effective, multisensory writing strategies.

Reading

Students will demonstrate reading readiness by:

- Hearing and using rhyming patterns
- Recognizing letter and sound relationships
- Recognizing the printed word
- Reading basic sight words
- Recognizing the left to right directionality of print
- Retelling stories aloud
- Recognizing the beginning, middle and end of a story
- Using picture/context clues

Writing

Listed below are examples of what we will be focusing on in writing this year:

- Tracing words and letters to develop fine motor skills
- Printing letters and words on lined paper
- Writing first and last name using upper and lower case letters on lined paper
- Writing the appropriate letter for initial and ending sounds
- Completing writing journals and ABC journals that record thoughts and ideas using recognizable letters and words
- Using creative spelling

Listening

Listed below are examples of what we will be focusing on with listening skills this year:

- Listening without interrupting
- Following one and two step directions
- Listening respectfully to the ideas and opinions of others
- Listening attentively during instructions and activities

Speaking

Listed below are examples of what we will be focusing on with speaking skills this year:

- Participating in class discussions
- Reciting prayers, poems and songs
- Speaking clearly
- Sharing ideas with the class and responding to questions
- Using polite words when speaking

Math

California Mathematics

Scott Foresman

Examples of skills taught in this area are:

Use of numbers

- Using vocabulary to explain locations of objects such as: near, between, top, bottom, over, under, less, more, first, last, etc.
- Counting, writing, representing, grouping, ordering, and identifying numbers to 30
- Beginning addition and subtraction and forming math sentences

Geometry, Measurement and Classification

- Recognizing and classifying plane and geometric shapes
- Sorting, identifying, comparing and classifying objects by attributes
- Developing beginning money awareness
- Developing beginning time and calendar awareness

Patterns

- Recognizing simple patterns
- Predicting pattern extensions
- Developing new patterns

Statistics and Probability

- Making simple bar graphs
- Collecting, organizing, describing and displaying data

Religion

Blest Are We

Silver Burdett Ginn

Examples of themes that we will focus on in this series are:

- Learning to pray and talk to God
- Learning to make the sign of the cross
- Learning to say the Our Father, the Hail Mary, the St. Gregory School Prayer and Grace before meals
- Learning Christian attitudes of sharing, loving, thankfulness, and celebrating the life of Jesus
- Learning about character, compassion, and values

Science

California Science

Scott Foresman

Examples of themes that we will focus on in this series are:

- Physical Sciences
 - Objects all around
 - Water
- Life Sciences
 - Learning about plants and animals
 - Plant and animal parts
- Earth Sciences
 - Our land, air, and water
 - Weather
 - Earth's resources

Social Studies

Learn and Work

Scott Foresman

Examples of themes that we will focus on in this series are:

- Getting Along
- Symbols
- Work
- Where We Are
- Calendars
- Times Past

Classroom Policies and Information

The classroom:

Please respect that the classroom is a school environment for the students. Interruptions can be distracting to the entire class. If lunches or homework are forgotten, please leave them at the front office. If your child is leaving early from school, please send a note into school. When you arrive to pick up your child early, please check in with the office, and the school secretary will call the classroom to dismiss your child.

Work Envelopes:

Work envelopes will be sent home every Monday. Inside you will find your child's class work, a newsletter, homework and other important information. Please look over the contents of the envelope, sign and return it to school on Tuesday. Also, if you need to send anything out to the entire class, all the boys or all the girls (birthday invitations, thank you cards, mom's night out flyers, etc.) we are more than happy to include it in the envelope. Please have it to us by the Friday before you want it to go home. This envelope helps to keep communication lines open so feel free to drop us a note anytime to address any questions or concerns.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned on a weekly basis. Some of our homework assignments will be family based projects. Please complete all homework during the week and return by Friday- unless otherwise stated. Please make sure your child writes their name on all of their work. We cannot give them credit for their hard work if we don't know who's it is! **Beginning in April, daily homework assignments will be assigned and returned to school by the next day.*

If your child is absent from school and you would like homework sent home, please notify us in advance. Also, if your child is missing school due to a vacation, some homework can be assigned if we are notified in advance but some class work may have to wait until you return. **If you are going on vacation with your family, a written request must be given to the principal in advance.*

There is a folder placed in your child's backpack that permanently stays inside the backpack. This will guarantee the safety of papers and notes that are sent home.

Behavior Management:

Students are being taught the importance of the 3 Be's: Be Kind, Be Safe, and Be Responsible. The 3 Be's represent the behavioral expectations of Kindergarten students. We have incorporated these expectations into our curriculum, and the students will be practicing the 3 Be's on a daily basis. The goal is that students learn to make positive choices and become responsible for their own behavior through the guidance of their parents and teachers.

Special Star Fish of the Week:

Each child will have the opportunity to be the class Special Star Fish of the Week. Hold onto the information packet and the questionnaire that was sent home to you and mark your calendar as to when your child is Special Star Fish of the Week. Please contact us the week before so we can make arrangements for your child's special week. We especially need to know what you want to do for their special guest and snack.

Birthday Policy:

- Have treats to school by 8:00 am
- Provide treats that are ready to serve
- Please no cakes, ice cream, pizza or any other treat that needs plates or utensils
- Please no Safeway or Costco cupcakes, they have way too much frosting and it gets everywhere! Other cupcakes are fine.
- Please provide treats that are the appropriate size for the students (no large muffins, large doughnuts, or large cookies please – they cause upset stomachs and get thrown away.)
- Please provide napkins
- Please send in all of the same kind of treat, it makes it much easier if they are the same flavor too!
- Summer birthdays will be celebrated in June before we get out of school.
- Weekend birthdays can be celebrated on Friday or Monday- just let us know in advance.

Lunch Policy:

- Faculty members will not warm up food in the microwave for students
- Hot lunch is offered Tuesday- Friday, please order from www.choicelunch.com by 9am the day before
- A healthy snack is needed everyday, even if your child is having hot lunch
- No candy, gum, or soda is allowed
- If your child is staying for day care on the day's Kindergarten gets out at noon please make sure they have a lunch
- When there is a 1:05 dismissal, please provide a lunch

Uniforms:

Please make sure your child's name is written in their sweatshirt and on anything they bring to school. Also remember to check their sweatshirts because sometimes they go home with the wrong owner. The children have been told to keep their sweatshirts inside their backpacks when they are not wearing them to prevent confusion. Since there is constant movement in Kindergarten, we highly recommend that girls wear shorts under their jumpers. It is also smart to provide extra clothing in their backpack in case of bathroom accidents. Other rules and regulations of the uniform can be found in the parent/student handbook.

Day Care:

Day care is provided every morning before school at 7:00 am and everyday after school until 6:00 pm. It is important that you sign your child in when dropping them off in the morning or out in the afternoon. *During the first few months, it is helpful to send us a note to tell us your child will be attending day care.

Parent Involvement:

Parent involvement is a wonderful and major part of Kindergarten. From helping out in the classroom, parties, or field trips or from take home opportunities such as journal makers, paper cutters, book makers, etc., there is always a way for parents to be involved and work off parent hours. There will be volunteer opportunities each quarter. If your schedule is too busy now, don't worry- you can volunteer during another quarter.

Miscellaneous:

Throughout the year, your child will bring home mini pattern books. These are assembled books that your child can read and add to their library at home. We recommend using a shoebox or some other container to keep these mini pattern books at home for your child to practice reading. We may need help assembling these from time to time, so if you have access to a copy machine and paper cutter and you need some hours, please let us know.

If you have any questions or concerns please let us know. You can always send a note to school with your child, leave a message with the office or you can email us at kinder@stgregs-sanmateo.org Please note that our email address is not our names. *The best way to contact us is by email. * We will also be emailing you periodically with important information or if something changes that you should be aware of.

We would be happy to set up an appointment with you before or after school if needed. Thank you!

Mrs. Michelle Garibaldi & Mrs. Courtney Stone