



## A Day in Kindergarten

- Morning Meeting
  - Calendar
  - Weather
  - Number of days in school
  - Classroom Circle
- Word Work- Foundations
  - Uppercase and lowercase letter recognition
  - Practice the formation of letters
  - Sentence structure
  - Letter sound recognition
- Specials
  - Music, P.E, Computers, Library, Art, and Second Step
- Go Math
  - Number sense 0-20
  - Addition and subtraction
  - 2D and 3D shapes
  - Measurement
  - Sorting and classifying
- Lunch
  - All classes together in the cafeteria
- Recess
  - Outdoor recess unless it is below 28°F (factoring the wind chill)
- Brain Break
  - 30 minutes of quiet activities/ time for our brains to rest
- Snack

- Please remember to send an afternoon snack & drink in with your child each day
- Readers Workshop
  - Mini lesson of the day followed by independent/partner practice using book boxes
  - Building Stamina (independent reading for a set amount of time)
- Writers Workshop
  - Mini lesson of the day followed by writing time
  - Letter-sound recognition
  - Stretching out words and listening for the sounds we hear in words
  - Narrative, informational and persuasive writing
- Literacy Centers
  - Small group center work based on skills students are learning each week
- Dismissal
  - Packing up to go home!

### Homework Information



- Homework is an extension of the skills we are learning in the kindergarten classroom during the week.
- Homework is sent home on Monday in the blue Communication folder that is sent home daily.
- Please give your child a quiet place and assistance with homework when needed.
- Check to see if homework needs to be signed.
- Homework is due on or before Friday.
- Please contact your child's teacher by email or written message if you have any questions. We want your child to have a successful learning experience in kindergarten!
- At some point during the year, your child will have his/her own "Reading At Home Bag". This bag should stay in their blue folder each day and be returned on Friday's (with homework) for a new book to be sent home the following week.

### Word Rings

Word rings will be sent home within the first few weeks of school. The words are written on squares of oaktag paper with one hole punched. If your child has difficulty with these words try practicing only three to five words a week. The goal is for our child to know all 51 words by the end of the year to support reading success. We will routinely progress monitor students and send home "I practiced my sight words today, here are the highlighted ones to practice at home." Make sure you practice the sight words every night with your child!

### Homework Supplies

It is helpful to have materials at home readily available for your child to complete homework. It is a good idea to keep all of the items in one container. Some things your child may need are:

pencils  
pencil sharpener  
markers, crayons, or colored pencils  
erasers  
scissors  
glue sticks

### Kindergarten Snap Words

a	four	like	she
A	from	my	six
an	go	nine	ten
and	green	one	the
are	has	of	they
as	have	or	three
at	he	orange	to
black	here	play	two
blue	his	purple	was
brown	I	red	yellow

eight	in	said	you
five	is	see	zero
for	it	seven	

## Parent Common Core State Standards Resources

Parent Roadmap---Supporting your child in kindergarten English Language Arts

By Council of the Great City Schools

Parent Roadmap---Supporting your child in kindergarten Mathematics

By Council of the Great City Schools

What Parents Can Do to Help Their Children Learn

CT State Department of Education

## Helpful Hints



### Absences

If your child will be absent from school, please call the school office at 860.684.3181, and send a note the day they return. Please refer to the School Guide for more detailed information regarding the attendance policy.

### Back to School Basics

Your child will be given a folder for daily home/school communication. Please watch for newsletters which will inform you of our classroom themes, activities and special events.

### Things Your Child Needs

- A large backpack to hold the daily home/school folder, lunch box and other belongings. Please check your child's folder daily for important notices. Please try

to get a backpack with a zipper, not a drawstring, as the ones with a drawstring and snap are hard for the children to manage independently.

- A lunch box or bag to keep your child's meals organized.
- Name labels on all belongings - coat, hat, backpack, mittens, boots, etc.
- Children will not need to bring pencils or crayons

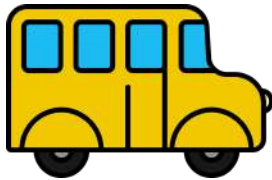
## Birthdays

We love to celebrate birthdays at school! We celebrate birthdays in kindergarten by singing Happy Birthday to your child and making him/her a birthday hat. Stafford Schools are committed to the federal standards of healthy foods, so birthday treats are not allowed to be brought into school. Thank you for understanding.

## Bus routines

Your child will receive a bus tag when he/she starts kindergarten. We will tie your child's bus tag to their backpack. Please be sure that your child's bus tag remains tied to their backpack for the first 2 - 3 weeks of school. This provides us with information to ensure that your child gets on the correct bus at dismissal time.

If there are any bus changes, or you are picking up your child from school, you must send a note or call the school. Bus changes require a 48 hour notice, otherwise your child will be sent home on the bus to their usual stop.



## It's Time to Eat!

Lunch will be served at school. Students may bring lunch or purchase it from the cafeteria. In addition, there will be a 10 - 15 minute snack time during the day. Please make sure your child is aware of what they are to eat for lunch and what they should eat at snack. We ask that you not put money in your child's lunch box because it may

be missed. Instead, place money in a labeled envelope and put it in their folder. Milk and lunch may be paid for daily or on a weekly basis.



Lunch is \$2.65/day or \$13.25/week

Milk is \$0.60/day or \$3.00/week

### .How will I know how my child is doing?

Formal parent-teacher conferences will be held in December and March. Written report cards will accompany these conferences, and an additional report card will be send home in June. Informal notes, newsletters, phone calls, and e-mails will be ongoing throughout the year. You may contact school staff members by note, e-mail, or telephone during the day (you may leave a message and if your child's teacher is unavailable your call will be returned as soon as possible).

Remember:

When asking about your child's day, ask specific questions:

- What book did you read today?
- Did you do an art project?
- What centers (Block center, dramatic play, writing center, library, etc.) did you work at today?

You will find that you get a better response than if you just ask: What did you do today?



What if my child becomes upset about attending school?

It is natural for children to experience a variety of emotions when placed in a new situation away from their caregivers. Discussing what school is like, visiting the school, and reassuring your child that he/she will come home each day may help alleviate some stress. Some children may require more help and time making the transition to school. Individual situations should be discussed as soon as possible with your child's teacher if a problem is occurring.

What will my child learn at school?

Our curriculum is designed to meet the Common Core State Standards for kindergarten. These standards guide our instruction and learning expectations. Please refer to this link, [corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org), for more information on the Common Core State Standards.

However, each child is a unique person with their own pattern and time of growth, as well as, individual personality, learning style, and background. Our kindergarten curriculum and personal interactions with each child are responsive to these individual differences. All areas of your child's development are addressed through activities that are concrete, real, and relevant to the lives of young children.

Learning for young children is the result of exchanges between a child's own ideas and interactions with classroom materials, other children, and adults. Our classroom environment is prepared for children to learn in their own way, with many opportunities for interaction, play, and discussion. Our program activities are designed to develop your child's self-esteem, positive feeling towards learning, self-monitoring behaviors, and their own learning style. Therefore, opportunities for growth and exploration are offered in many different ways; the children make choices based on their interests, background, and motivation.

# Parent Information

Getting Your Child Ready for Kindergarten  
Ct State Department of Education

Place Your Scholastic Book Orders Online

Reading Tips for Parents of Kindergarteners  
from Reading Rockets

Scholastic Parents

Tips on Children's Reading, Learning, School Success, Family Life, and Activities

# Educational games

ABC Ya

games and activities designed to support children's learning.

Highlights Kids

Read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments!

PBS Kids

Hang out with your favorite characters all while learning!

Starfall

A great website to develop reading skills

Storyline Online

Have some of your favorite stories read to you by movie stars!