

Kindergarten

Parent Orientation Newsletter

Welcome to the Roswell First Baptist Kindergarten program. This program has been successful for over forty years. The reading program uses weekly letter books. These books are phonics-based and including writing, reading comprehension, rhyming, and many other skills. In the back of each book you will find the goals that were taught on each page. Reinforcement will be provided using materials from www.starfall.com. We also reinforce beginning reading skills by tapping into each child's individual learning styles and delivering instruction based on each child's needs. The math program is taught using manipulatives and a math workbook. With our help and support, we hope to make your child's experience successful.

Kindergarten is not pre-school. There are standards and goals that are evaluated several times a year. Attendance is very important, as well as, being on time. We do keep track of both. The records will be seen on that part of your child's report card. We use several methods to evaluate each child's progress: As we evaluate each child's progress we are able to change our instruction methods to meet their specific academic needs. Along with the workbook and teacher evaluations, we use the Georgia Kindergarten Assessment Programs (GKAP) and the Metropolitan Readiness Test (MRT). The GKAP is given three times a year; this test is used in the public schools. The MRT is given in January and a parent conference will be held soon thereafter.

Reading

We will study letter recognition and sounds; introduction of blending sounds for beginning reading; color words, number words and directional words as sight words; reading comprehension and story sequencing. These concepts are taught using a reading workbook that is sent home weekly and www.starfall.com material that will be used during the second half of the year. Due to our small class size and student-to-teacher ratio, we are able to cater to each child's individual needs. If a child is not making adequate progress, we are able to identify and reinforce skills. If a child is in need of greater challenges, we offer enrichment.

Math

Your child will work on recognizing numbers 1- 100; writing and counting to 100; counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's; one-to-one correspondence; ordinals; days of the week and the month of the year; time on the hour and the half hour; basic shapes; measurement; money (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters); graphing and basic fractions. These concepts are taught using a hands-on approach and worksheets are only used as reinforcement.

Writing

Your child will learn to write their name (first and last), upper and lower case letters, and to copy from the board. Writing words and developing sentences will emphasize capitalization and punctuation. Daily journal writing reinforces sight word knowledge and the ability to apply beginning reading skills to writing.

Art, Science, Social Studies

As related to the letter book, the Scholastic “Let’s Find Out” series, holidays and seasons of the year or current events. Most of this emphasis will be during lunch bunch time (see Procedure 8).

Computers, Spanish

Both subjects are taught one day a week by a specialized teacher. These activities begin at 9:00 am, so it is important to be on time.

Procedures

1. Please have your child wear his/her name tag for the first week of school.
2. Questions and concerns can be directed to the school office at any time during school hours: 8:30 am. to 12:00 noon. Your child’s teacher will respond as soon as possible
3. Conferences will be held in October with your child’s teacher and another conference will be held in January after testing to discuss the results. A final conference will be held in April if necessary.
4. Report cards will go home around the end of November, February and May. You do not need to sign and return the report card. Our grading system:

S+ = Excellent
S = Satisfactory
N = Needs Improvement
U = Unsatisfactory
5. We hope to have a least one field trip each month. Field trips are taken to enrich activities done in the classroom. Permission slips must be signed in order for your child to attend. Your child’s safety is our number one priority. All children must be in a car seat or booster seat. There will be no exceptions!
6. Please put your child’s name on all personal items (sweaters, jackets, lunch boxes, backpacks).
7. Children will receive the Scholastic “Let’s Find Out” series and will have the opportunity to be involved in the Book-It Program. Children will also have the opportunity to order books from Scholastic Book Clubs.
8. The Lunch Bunch program will be held Monday through Thursday. This program is optional, but we strongly encourage your child’s participation. Each day after the children have eaten lunch (you must provide the lunch) there will be additional activities. Writing reinforcement on Mondays and Thursdays, social studies on Tuesdays, science and/or health on Wednesdays.
9. We will send home a snack schedule. Please provide enough snack for the entire class each day during the week(s) you are assigned.

10. Monthly calendars are sent home the first of each month. Please post this in your home so you can keep up with all activities. A homework assignment sheet will also be sent home the first of each month. Your child will be given a homework folder and we ask that homework be returned in the folder first thing each morning. Homework is optional, but it is beneficial.
11. Show-n-tell will be every Friday unless otherwise noted. Please have your child bring in some thing that begins with the letter of the week or whatever subject is listed on the calendar.
12. We will have a Star Student every week until all the children have had a chance to participate. When it is your child's turn, you will be asked to send in a poster decorated with pictures of your child and his/her family, hobbies, pets, vacations, etc. Please send this in on Monday of the assigned week and it will be returned to you on Friday. Feel free to come in to the class to read a story. This will also be one of the weeks you are responsible for snacks.
13. All children will come through carpool. Be here at 8:45 so your child will be in the room by 9:00. Afternoon carpool will begin for Kindergarten at 12:00 noon or at the end of Lunch Bunch (1: 15 pm) Monday through Thursday and 12:00 noon for all students on Friday.
14. Extra reading books are sent home to help with reading. These books are on loan and a \$10 charge will be collected for any lost books (these books are part of sets and cannot be replaced individually).
15. Daily Schedule:

8:45 until 9:00	Morning Work
9:00 until 9:15	Pledge and Devotional
9: 15 until 10:00	Math or Reading
10:00 until 10:15	Snack/Restroom Break/Story Time
10:15 until 11:00	Math or Reading
11:00 until 11:30	Music
11:30 until 12:00	Playground
12:00	Carpool

There are two music programs held during the year. One will be at Christmas and the other is at the end of the year.

We are looking forward to working with you and your child. We hope to make this year a positive experience for your child. Thank you for all of your cooperation.

