

Welcome to Kindergarten!





Thorncliffe School



Kindergarten Orientation 2025-26



Calgary Board
of Education

Agenda



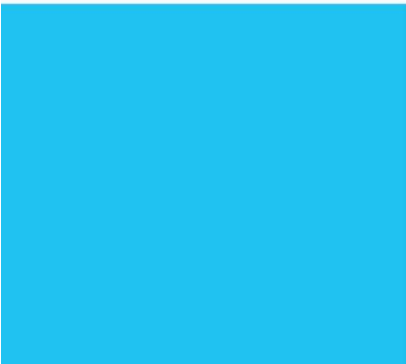
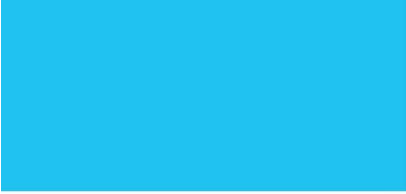
- Learning through *PLAY*
- TLC and Community Kindergarten
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- 2025-26 Calendar
- Important dates & times
- Transportation
- First day of kindergarten

The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.



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, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

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)

Learning Through PLAY



Learning Through Play/Centres



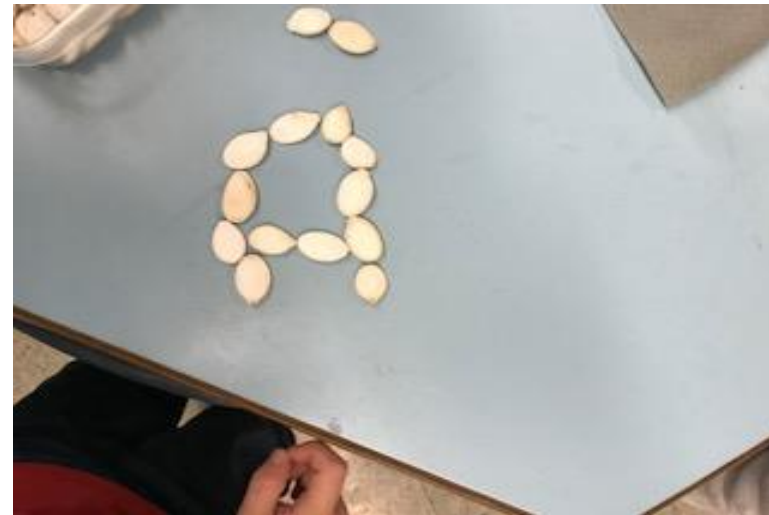
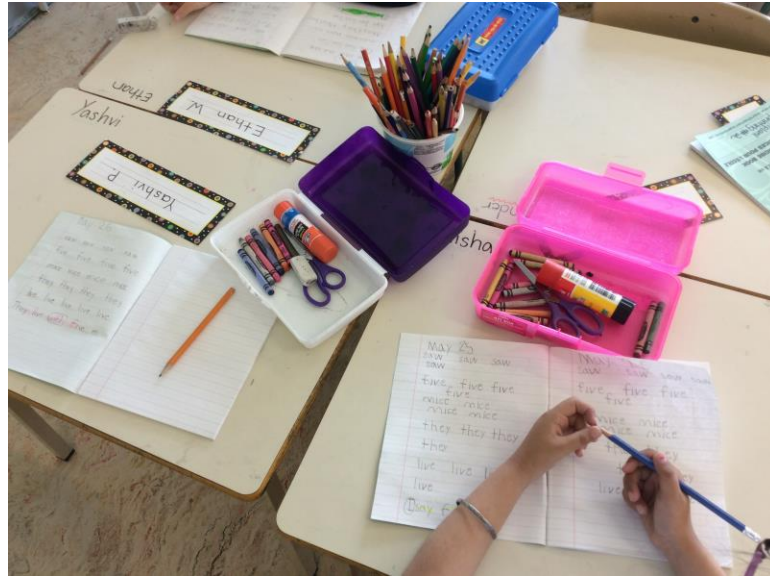
Learning Through Dramatic Play



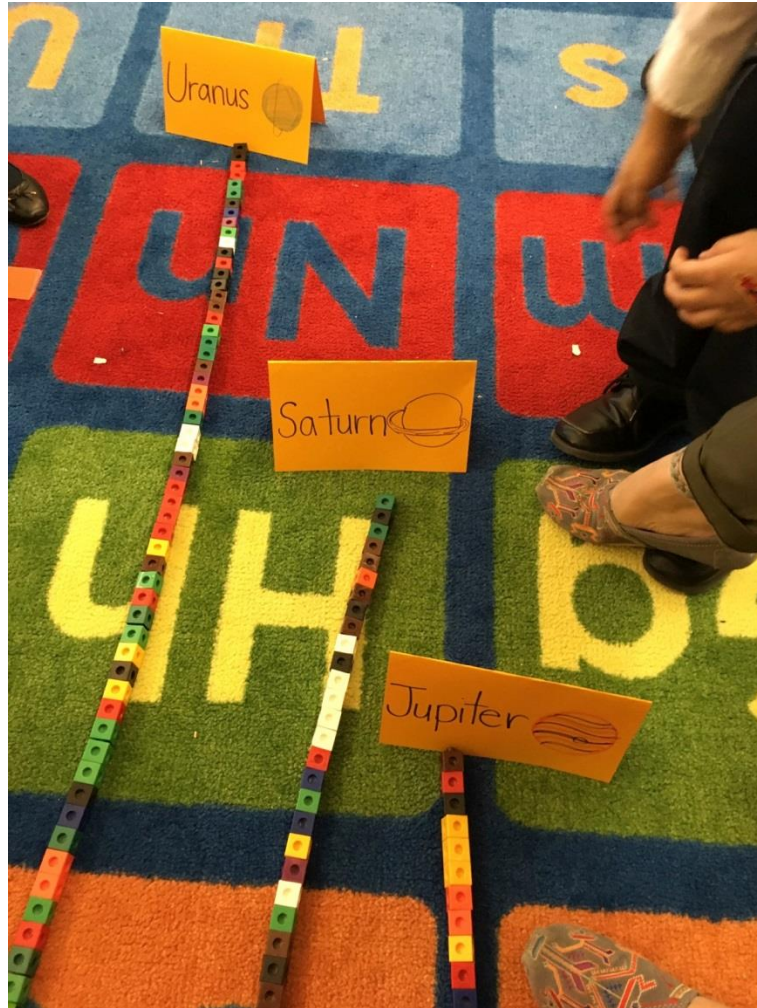
Art, Creative Expression, Music



Early Literacy



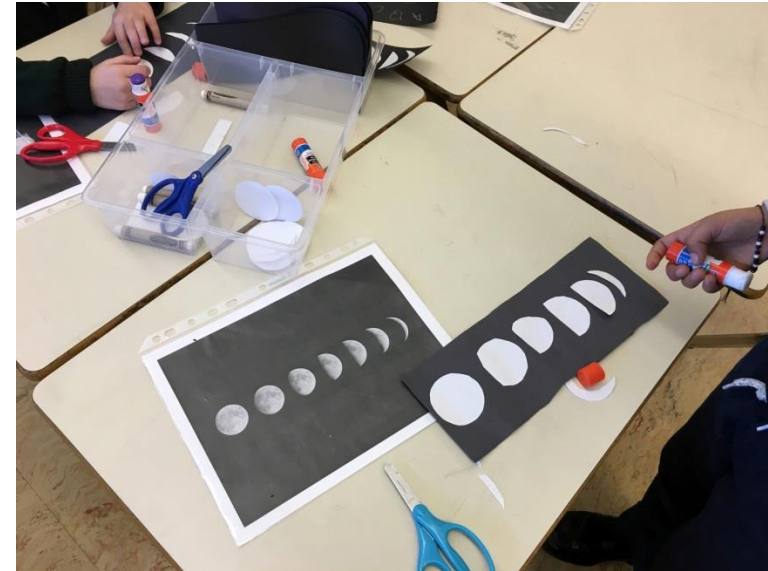
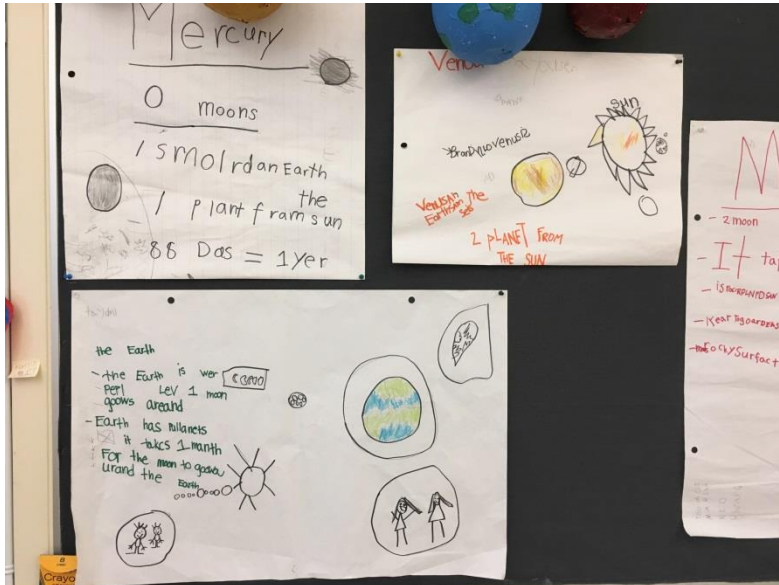
Numeracy



Daily Phys-Ed



Science/Social Studies

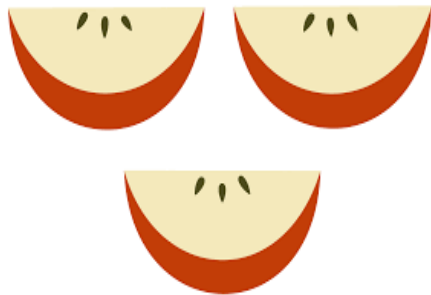


Library



Snack Time!

- 10 minutes each day
- **Small** snack- one food item from two food groups, for example, three slices of apples and a cheese string
- Uneaten food is sent home.
- **Just water please!**
- Snack must be **nut-free**
- **Aim for healthy snacks**
- **Fridays – lunch**



Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Speech or Language Concerns

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JSMeNP0b3c>

Organization of Students

- Currently, we are planning for:
 - 75 TLC kindergarten students divided into three classes (2 PM & 1 AM Class)
 - 1 community Kindergarten class (AM)

Our Calendar



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CBE schools are closed on the days shaded grey.

August 26, 27, 28	Non-instruction days
August 29	First day of school
September 2	Labour Day
September 27	Non-instruction day
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October 14	Thanksgiving Day
October 25	Non-instruction day
November 7	Last day of classes
November 8	System Indigenous Education Professional Learning Non-instruction day
November 11 - 13	Fall Break
November 14	Classes resume
November 29	Non-instruction day Parent Teacher Conferences
December 20	Last day of classes
Dec 23 - Jan 3	Winter Break
January 6	Classes resume
January 31	Non-instruction day
February 13, 14	Teachers' Convention
February 17	Family Day
February 28	Non-instruction day
March 20	Last day of classes Parent Teacher Conferences
March 21	Non-instruction day
March 24 - 28	Spring Break
March 31	Classes resume
April 18	Good Friday
April 21	System Professional Learning Non-instruction day
May 16	Non-instruction day
May 19	Victoria Day
June 26	Last day of school Early Dismissal
June 27	Non-instruction day

Thorncliffe School 2024 – 2025 INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR

August 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
November 2024	December 2024	January 2025
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May 2025	June 2025	July 2025
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
<p>Sept. 19th Meet the Teacher 5:30-7:30pm Nov. 20th P.T.C. 4:30-7:30pm Nov. 29th P.T.C. 8:00am-1:00pm Jan. 27th Last Day Semester 1 in PowerSchool March 28th P.T.C. 4:30-7:30pm March 29th P.T.C. 8:30am-1:30pm June 29th Grade 6 Farewell June 29th Semester 2 ends, Report Cards released</p>		<p>Gr. 1-6: Monday-Thursday 9:07 am-3:43 pm Lunch: 11:57-12:40 pm Friday 9:07 am-1:10 pm (Lunch: 11:31am- 11:56 am) Kindergarten: AM 9:02 am- 12:05 pm (183 min.) PM 12:40 pm- 3:43 pm (183 min.) December 12th Celebration of Learning March 6th Family Inline Skating 4:30-7:30 May 15th Welcome to Kindergarten May 22nd Volunteer Appreciation 12:15-1:00pm April 18th Fine Arts Production 6:00-7:30pm</p>

learning | as unique | as every student



Thornccliffe School Bell Times:

AM Classes:

Mon-Thurs 9:02 am -12:05 PM

PM Classes:

Mon-Thurs 12:40 pm - 3:43 pm

*AM Kindergarten will attend 6 Fridays (January 10, January 24, February 21, April 4, April 25, May 9)

**PM classes will attend 6 Fridays (January 17, February 7, March 7, April 11, May 2, May 23)

Fridays: 9:02 am -1:10 pm (Bussing both ways on Fridays)

Check school website for Calendar

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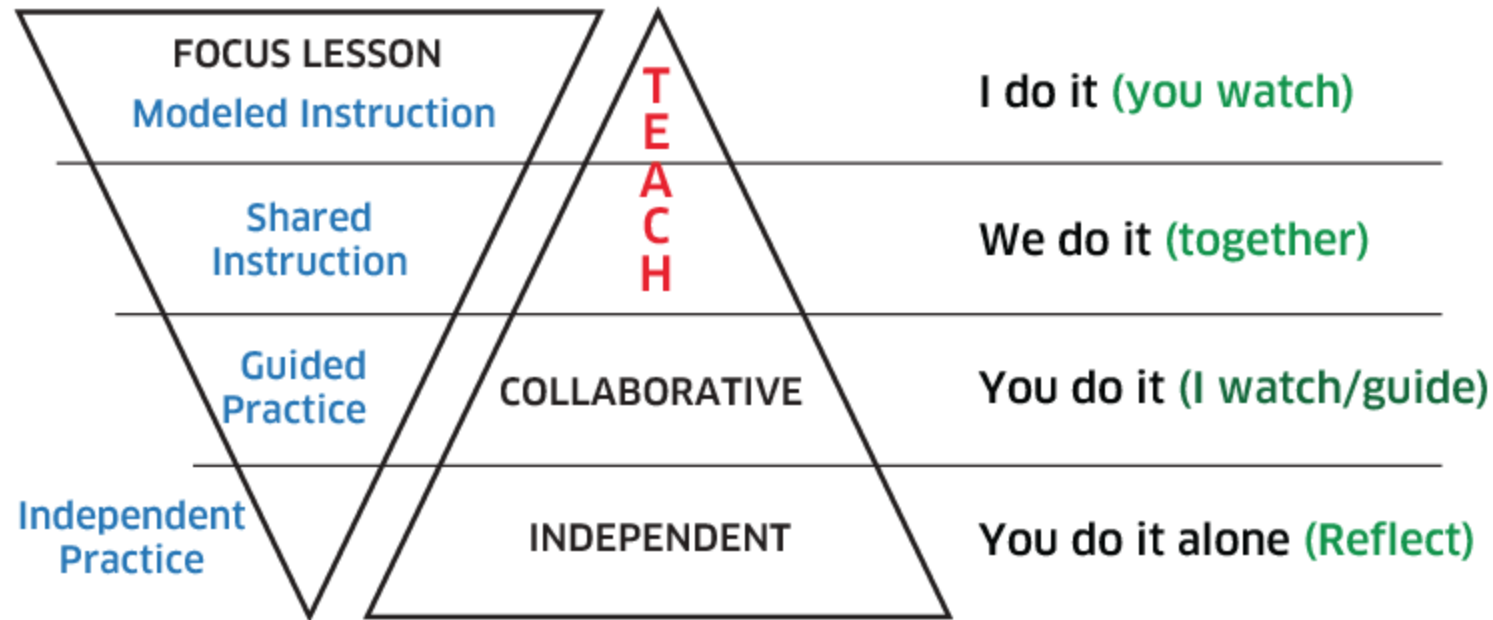


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“I Do, We Do, You Do” or Gradual Release Model

The Gradual Release Model

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITY



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Figure 1: The Gradual Release Model

Homework

- Alberta Education guidelines do not support formal homework assignments for TLC or Regular Program kindergarten students.
- Further ways to extend classroom learning at home found on your child's Google Classroom

Uniforms for TLC only

- Any items with TLC crest are purchased through McCarthy's
- Other items can be purchased elsewhere
- Students need to buy any **black runners** with non-marking soles and we strongly recommend **Velcro** straps
- **No dress shoes in kindergarten please**
- Please pack extra pants and undergarments in your child's backpack in case of emergency
- Students do not need to wear the uniform if they are participating in School Spirit "dress up" days. (i.e. Dress like your favorite book character day.)



Formal Uniforms - TLC

TLC students must wear formal uniforms on Mondays, assembly days, and when we go on field trips. You can check out the uniform page [here](#).

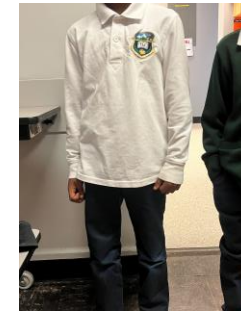


Formal:

- TLC Crested Cardigan
Elementary - green
Middle/Junior – navy
- Plain White Long or Short Sleeve Collared Dress Shirt (tucked into kilt or pants or under tunic)
- TLC Plaid Tunic (elementary) or TLC Plaid Kilt (middle/junior high) or Navy Twill Pants (elementary or middle/junior high school)
- Navy Tights, Knee Socks or Socks
- Non Scuffing Black Shoes/Dress Shoes
- Bicycle Shorts when wearing the Tunic or Kilt
- TLC Plaid Tie when wearing the Navy Twill Pants
- TLC Plaid Headband (optional)

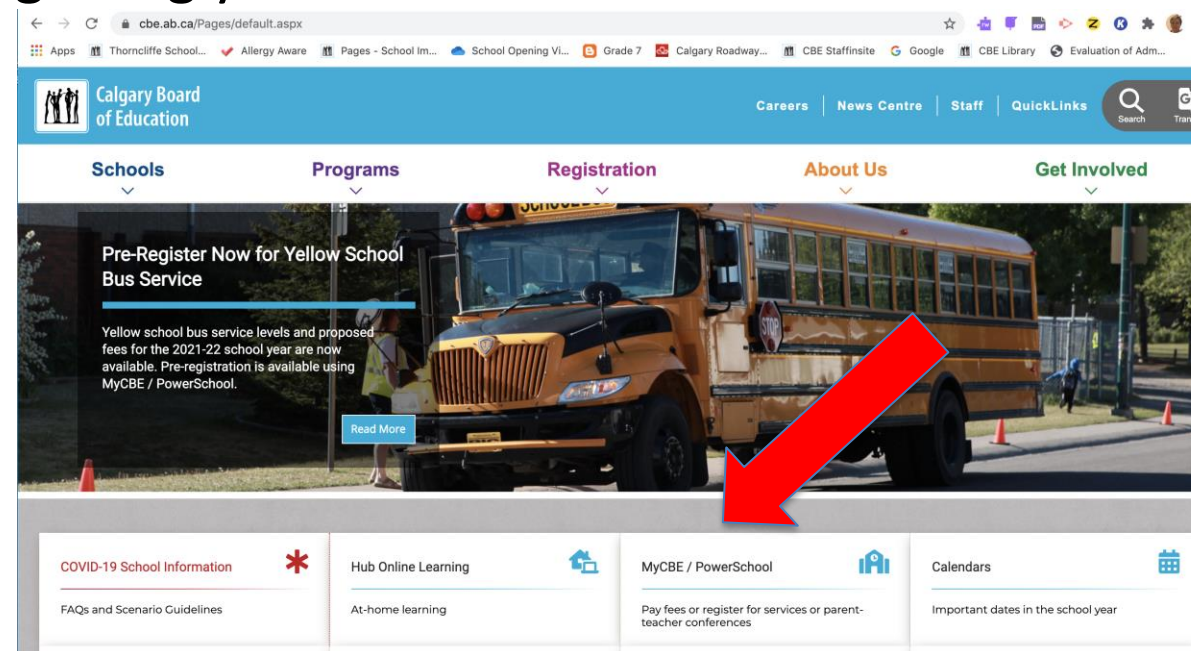
Informal:

- TLC Crested Cardigan or TLC Crested Vest (Elementary - green Middle/Junior – navy) with Plain White Long or Short Sleeve Collared Dress Shirt
OR
TLC Crested Golf/Polo Long or Short Sleeve Shirt (navy or white)
- TLC Plaid Tunic (elementary) or TLC Plaid Kilt (middle/junior high) or Navy Twill Pants or Navy Walking Short/Skort (elementary or middle/junior high school)
- Navy Tights, Knee Socks or Socks
- Non Scuffing Black Shoes/Dress Shoes
- Bicycle Shorts when wearing the Tunic or Kilt
- TLC Plaid Tie (optional)
- TLC Plaid Headband (optional)



Transportation | Bussing

If your child will be taking the bus, you will need to register for bussing using your MYCBE account.



To create an account you will need your child's student id#. You will need to call the school for this number.



Transportation | Bussing



CBE sent an email to all families sometime soon informing you that bussing registration is now open.



Route maps will be available in your MYCBE account and available the middle/end of August.



Parents of students taking the bus **MUST** inform the school the letter of their bus route. The school will NOT know which bus your child takes home unless you inform us.

When your child's teacher connects with you in August please inform them if your child will be taking the bus and which route they are on.



<https://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/busing-and-transportation/Pages/default.aspx>

Transportation

- Route maps will be available online, not at school. CBE transportation will send an email when route maps are available. You need to check your MyCBE account for the route letter, location and time.
- Register for bussing when you receive the email for CBE. Bussing registration is done through your MyCBE account. If you need your child's student id# please call the school and ask Ms. Christine.
- Parents of students attending **afternoon class** must inform the school which bus your child takes home from school BEFORE the first day of school. The school will NOT know which bus your child takes home unless you inform us. Teachers will NOT put students on a bus unless they have been informed by email which bus letter your child is on.
- Please email your child's teacher with the letter of the bus your PM child is leaving on BEFORE the first day of school
- <https://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/busing-and-transportation/Pages/default.aspx>

Transportation

Please visit the CBE transportation website to register.



Arrival

- All Kindergarten students enter & exit the doors at the south end of the building.
- Busses arrive at the school around 9:05 am. An adult from the school will meet the busses and supervise bus students.
- Transportation is one way only in Kindergarten. Morning classes can take the bus to school but will not have transportation home. Afternoon students need a way to get to school, but can take the bus home.
- **Kindergarten students must be supervised by an adult until they enter the building. Kindergarten is hand to hand they enter the building at 9:15 AM or 12:38 PM**

Dismissal Routine

Bus Students

Teachers walk bus students to their busses (**PM Kindergarten Only**).
There is no dismissal busses for AM Kindergarten.

Parents need to be on-time at bus stops. Students are returned to the school if parents are late, to ensure student safety.

If your child usually goes on the bus, and you are picking them up instead - please come on-time and inform the teacher or office.
Otherwise, your child will be on the bus.

Parent Pick Up Students

Teachers will release students to you when they see you at the south doors. Please be on time.



First Days of Kindergarten



- **August 29, 2024 is the first day of school**
- **On August 27 or 28, the classroom teacher will contact you by email or phone**
- **let the teacher know any allergies/medical concerns and your child's bus letter**
- **Inform the teacher who will be picking your child up or if they will be taking the bus**

First Days of Kindergarten



- **Ensure that your child's backpack is labelled**
- **Label backpack with your child's bus letter. We are providing a tag for you to attach to your child's backpack if they will be taking the bus.**
- **Ensure all belongings are labelled (this is really important as TLC sweaters all look the same)**

First Days of Kindergarten

- Backpack (big enough for a library book, but small enough that they can comfortably carry it)



- Velcro indoor shoes



- Water bottle



First Days of Kindergarten



Snack

- Healthy snack the student can open independently. On Fridays, a lunch can be packed
- No nut products



First Day of Kindergarten



- We are in the process of creating a staggered entry plan for the first day. Only half the students in each class will be in attendance at your assigned plan.
 - You will get an email with your assigned time to attend on September 29
 - 9:02-10:02 Morning Last Name A-L
 - 10:30-11:30 Morning Last Name M-Z
 - 12:40-1:40 Afternoon Last Name A-L
 - 2:00-3:00 Afternoon Last Name M-Z
- Teachers will meet students outside and welcome them inside
- As students get into their class line, we ask that parents wave good-bye then move back to the grassy area

First Day of Kindergarten



- Teachers will meet students outside and welcome them inside
- As students get into their class line, we ask that parents wave good-bye then move back to the grassy area
- Parents will not accompany students into the school
- If your child is reluctant to say goodbye, that's OK. Add them to the end of the line when they are ready to join. Extra staff will be there to support your child.
- We ask that adults step away from the line to allow teachers to organize students for the entry

Communication

The school website is your first stop for information. Please email teachers if you have any specific questions.

Website

- School Messenger
- Google Classroom
- School Website
- School Calendar
- Trustee Updates
- School Council Updates
– Please join us!
- My CBE Account (fees,
conference bookings)

Questions

