

# Kindergarte

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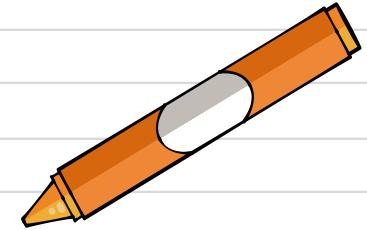
# Orientation

January 2026



# Kindergarten

# Philosophy



- Provide a safe and caring environment where learning flourishes
- Recognize that children are individuals with a broad range of needs, learning rates and styles, knowledge and experiences and interests
- Respect the development of the whole child recognizing that children learn through active involvement and play
- Establish a foundation for lifelong learning
- Value teachers and parents as partners in a child's learning



# Preparing for Kindergarten



## Bathroom Skills

Ability to wipe/flush independently

Shutting and locking a bathroom stall door

Undo/redo clothing (e.g. belt, buttons)

## Clothing

Ability to snap, buckle, zip and button clothing

Practice tying shoes (putting on socks and shoes)

Put on a jacket

## Eating/Drinking

Practice inserting straws into boxed drinks

Eating lunch independently

Cleaning up- knowing what to throw away and keep (e.g. metal spoon)

How to open a snack package/milk carton

## Other

Ability to wipe/blow nose

Respectfully answer an adult

Transition between activities

Saying "Goodbye" in the morning



# Kindergarten Day Schedule

- 8:20-9:00 Opening Circle
  - Calendar, schedule, read aloud, sharing
- 9:00-10:15 Specialists/Literacy/Math Block
  - Math activities
  - Phonics/Literacy center activities
  - Writer's Workshop
- 10:15-11:00 Snack and Recess
- 11:00-12:15 Science/Social Studies/SEL centers
  - Children rotate through 2 classrooms
- 12:15-1:00 Lunch and Recess
- 1:00-1:30 Reader's Workshop/Story time/Sharing
  - 1:30-2:15 Choice Time
  - 2:15-2:30 Cleanup and Jobs
  - \*2:30 Dismissal

\*Dismissal is at 1:00 pm the first 6 weeks of school.



# After School Options for Kindergarteners



## Workshop Education

Workshop Education after school program provides child care up until 6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. (Workshop teachers pick up students from their classrooms.)

## PTA Classes

The PTA creates a variety of after school class options for students to participate in. Examples: Hip Hop, Ukulele, Spanish, Legos and more! (seasonal classes based on availability)\*

\*PTA classes end at 3:10 pm and begin in late fall.

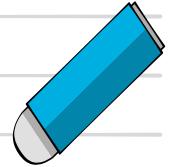
# Curriculum Overview

## Literacy

- Reader's Workshop
- Writer's Workshop
- Fundations Phonics curriculum
- Small group instruction (3-4 students with the teacher)
- Interactive Writing
- Shared Reading
- Read alouds

## Math

- Envision Program
- Number Talks
- Silicon Valley Math Initiative (SVMI)
- Small and whole group activities
- Hands-on manipulatives such as counters, tiles, 2D and 3D shapes



# Curriculum Overview (Cont.)

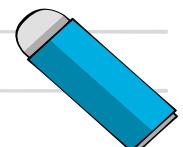
## Science

- Animals, trees, weather, materials and motion
- Environmental Science, The School Garden Curriculum
- Garden sessions year-round, outdoor kitchen
- Explore with our 5 senses, perform simple experiments in class and document our findings in a Science Journal



## Social Studies

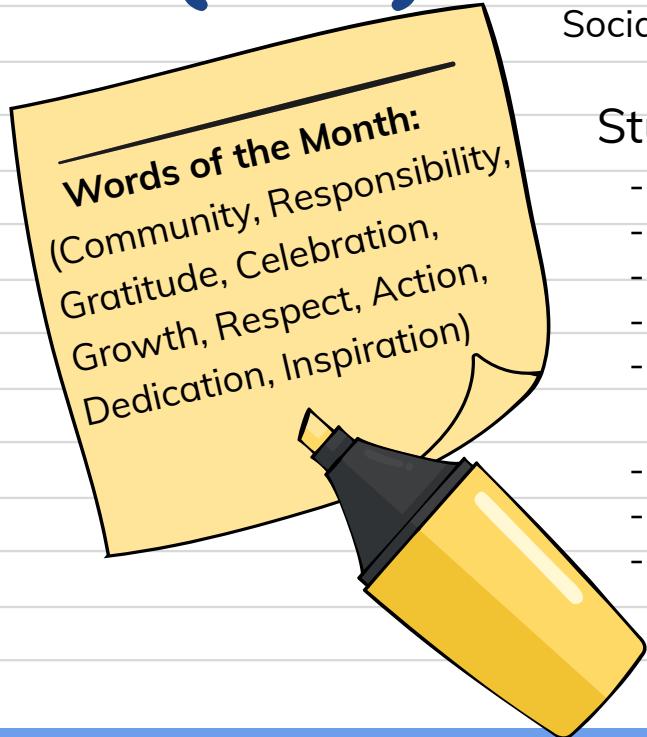
- Combination of textbook (TCI) curriculum and thematic units:
- Being a Good Citizen
- Community and Workers
- Holidays Around the World
- Famous People in History
- Geography, Signs and Symbols





# Social Emotional Learning

## (SEL)



Social Emotional Learning Program developed by Janice Toben.

### Students will learn:

- Being a good friend
- Solving conflicts
- The power of words
- Understand emotions
- SEL helps students become skilled communicators
- Cooperative team members
- Effective leaders
- Create caring and concerned members of a community



# Specialists



## P.E.

2x per week  
with Ms. Jones

## Music

2x per week  
With Ms. Sokolova

## Art

1x per week  
with Miss Harmon



## Library

1x per week  
with Ms. Lacrosse



# Kindergarten Events

## CELEBRATIONS

Halloween, Winter,  
100th Day,  
Valentine's Day

## BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Book  
Tradition

## SHARING

Practice  
speaking skills  
first trimester.

## FIELD TRIPS

Fire station,  
UC Elkus Ranch,  
Huddart Park,  
Nutcracker Ballet

## SURPRISE READER

Weekly  
Family/Guest  
Readers

## HOMEWORK

Projects  
and as  
needed

## STAR OF THE WEEK

One week for  
each student to  
shine!

## BUDDIES

3rd Grade  
Buddy  
program



The End

Got Questions?