



Welcome
to
St. Stan's
Kindergarten

Teacher: Mrs. Vitale

Welcome to St. Stanislaus Kostka School! We are so excited to have your child as part of our Kindergarten class. Kindergarten is an important year of social and intellectual growth and we are happy to serve as your child's guide along their journey. We have prepared this guide for you to outline what to expect in the upcoming year. If you have any further questions, I can be reached over the summer through email at bvitale@sskschool.org. Additionally, the school office is open from 9-1 during the summer.

Communication: Parental involvement in a child's education is essential to school success. I look forward to working with you and your child to help your child rise to their fullest potential. Please let me know of any issues which are affecting your child's school performance. I, in turn, will let you know of any problems I am seeing in school. I can be reached on the above email, by a phone call to the school office, or by writing me a note and placing it in your child's folder. Your child's class work, homework, and important notices from me are sent home daily in your child's homework folder. Any school forms, or notes to me should be sent to me in this folder as well. Every Friday I will send home a letter which outlines the skills we are working on in class, upcoming tests, school events, etc. This letter will also be posted on the school website under the Kindergarten section of Teacher Web. The office sends home important notices every month in a "white envelope." Please empty this envelope and return it the next day. Additionally, every week the office will email a weekly white envelope with important notice. Additional information is available on the school website such as the school calendar, the lunch menu, etc

Discipline: All children deserve to learn in a cooperative, productive environment. Children are encouraged to follow the classroom routine for the benefit of all. Positive reinforcement is the primary form of discipline. Children are praised for doing the right thing, staying on task, and being kind to others. A treasure box is used to reward children who consistently perform well.

Gentle reminders are the first intervention when children fail to follow classroom rules. A behavior chart is used to serve as a stronger reminder to children who continue to have difficulty following the rules. When we are unable to resolve problems within the classroom, you will be contacted to assist us in keeping your child on task.

Curriculum: Your child will learn language arts, math, science, social studies, religion, Spanish, music, art, gym, library skills, and computers. It is my goal that all children enter first grade as proficient readers. Your support at home is essential in meeting this goal. If you do not already have a reading routine with your child, please consider how you can work this into your daily schedule. The investment in time will be well spent. Math is everywhere! We will help them to see numbers in daily life, learn to count with accuracy, and develop a strong number sense. Science will be hands on whenever possible. Social studies will deal

with families, communities, holidays, etc. In religion, the children learn formal prayers, learn about saints and holy days. They will attend mass on the first Friday of the month and on holy days with the rest of the school. The class schedule and report cards will be discussed on Back-to-School Night in September.

Homework: Homework will be given from Monday through Thursday every week beginning with the second week of school. Children will be given a homework notebook where they will practice letters, numbers and words assigned for the day. Please remind them to write neatly within the lines. They will also receive worksheets to reinforce skills taught in class. Please have your child complete the assignment on the night it is assigned. Worksheets and the homework notebook should be returned the next day in your child's folder. If your child is absent they will be given one day to make up work for every day that they are absent. Please try to avoid unnecessary absences from school since they can miss so much when they are absent. It is best to plan vacations during school holidays and schedule routine doctor/dentist visits after school hours.

Dress Code: Kindergarteners are required to wear the school uniform which can be purchased from Flynn and O'Hara. Please see the school handbook and the attached handout for information on the dress code. Since all uniforms are the same, it is very important to label them with your child's name. Be sure to label EVERYTHING that comes to school (jackets, hats, backpack, lunchbox, homework, etc).

Transportation: This packet contains a transportation form to fill out and return on the first day of school. This is very important to fill out and return the first day! This way we will know how your child is getting home on the first day as well as the rest of the school year. Any changes in dismissal should be communicated to me by placing a note in your child's folder DAILY. For instance, if your transportation form lists your child as a bus rider and one day you plan to pick them up from school, you must send me a note. DO NOT send an email to change dismissal since I am unable to check email frequently during the day. In an emergency, dismissal can be changed by calling the school office.

Lunch: Hot or cold lunch can be purchased from the cafeteria or children may bring their lunch from home. Lunch order forms are due monthly and they will not be accepted after the due date. Milk, juice, water, or snacks can be purchased on a daily basis. If your child will be purchasing these items they should bring money in a change purse or baggie labeled with their name. Please place the baggie/change purse in your child's lunch box or folder if they are buying lunch. Please note that lunches/snacks brought from home should not include candy, glass, or carbonated beverages.

Snack: Please pack ONE nutritious snack and a drink for your child daily in a bag which is separate from their lunch bag. Be sure the bag is labeled with your child's name.

Birthdays: On your child's birthday, he or she may wear their own clothes to school. Please follow the out-of-uniform code in the school handbook. You may send in a treat for your child to share with the class such as cookies, cupcakes, donuts, etc. All treats must be store bought with ingredient label attached showing that they are nut free. You do not need to send in drinks because we will pass out the treats during lunch time. Please do not send in goody bags. Not every child celebrating a birthday will bring them and we want to avoid hurt feelings. If your child has a summer birthday, they may celebrate it in May or June. Birthdays which fall on the weekend may be celebrated during the week. Children may not dress down on the first Friday of the month since we attend mass that day.

Absence and Health: Please call/email the school in the morning if your child will be absent for any reason. It is also important to notify us if your child is absent due to a communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, chicken pox, etc.). When a child returns to school after an absence, a note is required. A doctor's note is required after 3 days absence due to illness.

Please do not send any child to school:

- *who has had a fever of 100 degrees or above within the past 24 hours

- *who has vomited in the past 24 hours

- * who has any sort of communicable disease

Parents will be called if a child becomes ill at school. Emergency forms must include current home, work and cell numbers of parents and also designate additional people who are permitted to pick up your child if you cannot be reached. In the interest of health, children who soil themselves (feces accident) and are unable to sufficiently clean themselves will necessitate a call to parents for pick-up/cleaning.

State law states that medication CANNOT be dispensed without a note from both the doctor and the parent. Medication must be brought to school by parents in original containers and must be given to the school office or the nurse.

Arrival: If your child arrives by car, they are to be dropped off in the school lobby to come to the cafeteria. Parents should not enter the building without reporting to the school office as a school security issue. Children are expected to be present in the cafeteria for morning exercises at 7:50am. Please note that the school handbook states that 5 or more late days on the report card will negatively impact their religion grade. We start learning as soon as the day begins. Chronic lateness will be detrimental to your child's education.

I look forward to working with you and your child this year to help them reach their fullest potential. I firmly believe that early childhood education works best when there is a partnership between teacher and parent. Working together we can help your child achieve great things!

St. Stan's is a great community and I encourage you to get involved with the Home School Association and school/parish events. The first Home School Association meeting is on Back to School night in September. I will give you more information about what we are doing in Kindergarten at that time. Have a great summer!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mrs. Vitale". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Mrs." and "Vitale" being capitalized and prominent.

Mrs. Vitale

Our School Website

is

sskschool.org

My e-mail is:

bvitale@sskschool.org

**I will be checking my email periodically throughout
the summer.**

**Please check the school website and my page on
that site for important information beginning in
August. The summer homework package, supply list,
and kindergarten orientation information are on my
webpage now.**

Uniform Guidelines

Please read the handbook carefully for the guidelines concerning proper uniform

Here are some important reminders regarding the school uniform.

1. Loop or hanging earrings are not permitted. Girls are only allowed to wear stud earrings. 1 in each ear.
2. Jewelry such as bracelets and rings are not permitted. Children can only wear a crucifix necklace worn inside the shirt. Wash off tattoos and nail polishes are also not permitted. Hair bows, head bands, and pony tail holders should be small and conservative.
3. Children can wear the spring uniform from the beginning of school until October 1st and then again from May 1 until the end of the school year. The spring uniform consists of St. Stan's polo shirt and shorts (or skort for the girls). Children must wear a black or white belt with the shorts and white socks which go up to mid-calf and sneakers. Please practice with your child buckling and unbuckling the belt. Braided belts are the easiest to use.
4. The regular school uniform must be worn from October 1st until May 1st. For the boys, it consists of the white button down shirt (long or short sleeve), school pants, black belt and tie. Black dress shoes must be worn as well. For the girls, the uniform is the white button down shirt with a peter pan collar, the jumper dress, grey school socks or tights, and black school shoes. Girls can also wear the peter pan shirt with grey girl's school pants, black or white belt, school socks, and black school shoes. Be advised that school shoes should be comfortable and sturdy enough for your child to walk in easily and play with on the playground.
5. Children may also wear the school sweater or vest with their uniform
6. The gym uniform should be worn on gym day. It consists of the red St. Stan's sweatshirt and pants and grey St. Stan's tee shirt. The spring gym uniform consists of the same grey shirt and red St. Stan's shorts. With all gym uniforms, children should wear white socks which go up to mid-calf and sneakers.

Donations

We would like to ask for donations for classroom rewards. We like to reward good behavior in the class with small “prizes.” We are looking for items such as fun erasers, bouncy balls, happy meal toys, small animal toys, etc. Any donations would be greatly appreciated and go a long way into improving student motivation to do the right thing. Thank you!!

Transportation Form

Please fill out and return on the first day of school. It is very important to have this form filled out and sent in so we know how your child is getting home. Please check off one of the following:

_____ My child will always go home by car unless otherwise noted.

_____ My child will always go home by bus unless otherwise noted.

_____ My child will always go to aftercare unless otherwise note.

Please list below any exceptions: (For example: On Mon. and Wed. my child will go by car, and Tues., Thurs., and Fri. he or she will go by bus. Another example is: My child will go home by car for the first day of school then he or she will take the bus. Etc)

Getting to know your Kindergartener

Child's name _____ Likes to be called _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phones _____

Child's Date of Birth _____ Siblings _____

E-mail address _____

5 words that describe your child's personality:

What do you see as your child's strengths/special abilities?

What do you see as your child's weaknesses/fears?

What comforts your child when he/she is upset?

Please describe any allergies/medical issues/special needs:

What are your goals for your child this year?

Anything else I should know?

Please return on or before the first day of school. All answers will be kept confidential.