

## Skills to Practise at Home

Parents always ask what their child needs to be able to do to be ready for kindergarten. Here are some skills you can practise at home to help your child get ready for school:

- Recognize their name in print
- Print their first name with an uppercase first letter and the rest in lowercase
- Count to 10
- Look for numbers and letters in the environment
- Dress for the outdoors independently, including zipping their zippers
- Use the toilet and wash hands independently
- Read and retell stories together



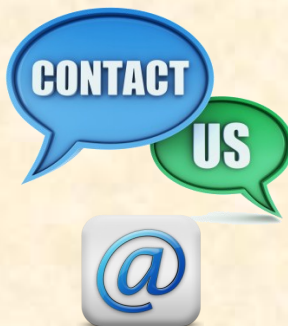
For all things Kindergarten, please visit our school website and under the “**Kindergarten**” tab, you will find all the information you need to make the transition to school and easy one for you and your child!

# WELCOME TO BELLMOORE SCHOOL

## Full Day Kindergarten Orientation



905-692-5435



[@PrincipalMoore](https://twitter.com/PrincipalMoore)

[hwdsb.on.ca/bellmoore](http://hwdsb.on.ca/bellmoore)



## Welcome to Kindergarten at Bellmoore School!

We hope the information included will answer some of the questions you may have about your child's school entry in September.

### Educators and Classroom Assignment

The kindergarten program at Bellmoore is Full Day Kindergarten (FDK), which means your child will come to school every day, all day. At this time, the staffing process is still on-going and room assignments have not been determined, therefore these details will be communicated to you on the postcard you receive in the summer.

The Kindergarten Team	
Teachers	Early Childhood Educators
Mrs. Brooks	Mrs. Blair
Mrs. DiCroce	Mrs. Callaghan
Mrs. Kitchen	Ms. Deane
Miss Kuczerepa	Mrs. Gear
Miss Minnett	Ms. Millen
Ms. Moulden	Mrs. Ruprai
Mr. Simpson	Mrs. Schneidersmann
Mrs. Zenone	Ms. Stinson

\*Staffing is not finalized and staff may change

### Start Dates

You will receive a postcard in July from your child's education team (Teacher and Early Childhood Educator) which will outline the date and time of your child's orientation meeting and what day he/she will be starting school. Please take note of the dates and times, as kindergarten children **do not** all start school on the first day.



### Routines

Developing routines at an early age helps form good habits for life. Setting a regular pick-up time to put away toys and games helps develop responsibility. Getting to bed at an early hour prepares your child for the next day. Keeping items such as coats, hats, backpacks, etc. in an accessible place can help to ease the morning rush and give your child a sense of responsibility for getting their own things ready for the day. By attending school regularly and being at school on time, your child develops an awareness that school is important. These are life skills that your child will use forever.

### What to Bring

The following is a list of supplies you will be asked to bring for your child:

- 1 box of Kleenex
- 1 package of Ziplock bags
- Complete change of clothing (appropriate for all seasons e.g., jeans/t-shirt) in a labeled Ziplock bag (please include socks and underwear)
- Indoor shoes (velcro or slip-on)

Additional information that is specific to your child's classroom routines will be given out when you meet your child's educators at the orientation in September.



## Nutrition Breaks

Our school operates on a balanced day schedule, which means that the children will eat in both the morning and afternoon during Nutrition Breaks. Each Nutrition Break is 40 minutes, which allows our slower eaters to finish without being rushed. Students who finish earlier will move on to another activity. Please pack enough healthy food choices to accommodate both breaks. Some parents choose to pack snacks/lunches in two Ziplock bags labeled #1 and #2 to help the children balance their choices between first break and second break.



We encourage the use of reusable containers to be environmentally friendly. Drinks are best in containers that can be re-closed, as they are often not completed in one sitting – milk or water are great choices. It is important that your child is able to open their lunch bag and containers independently. Assistance will be provided as required.

## Backpacks

Your child will need a backpack that is large enough to hold their lunch bag and an Important Bag (a courier-sized nylon bag). It is important that your child is able to open and close his/her backpack independently. Please do not purchase backpacks with wheels as they take up a large amount of space in our cubby areas and they will not sit on top of our shelves, which creates a trip hazard on the floor.



## Entry and Dismissal

School Bell Times	
8:15 am	Playground Opens for Supervision
8:30 am	School starts
10:10-10:50 am	Nutrition Break #1
12:40-1:20 pm	Nutrition Break #2
2:50 pm	Dismissal

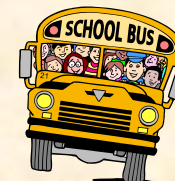
If your child arrives to school on the bus, he/she will be brought to the designated playground area by Bus Helpers where the supervising staff will be waiting. If you drop your child off at school, we ask that you walk him/her to the kindergarten play area and say good-bye outside the fence. Due to the large number of kindergarten students, we have to ask that parents **DO NOT** enter the fenced area. Your child will line up and enter the school at the 8:30 entry bell.



If your child takes the bus home they will line up inside the school and will be brought to their bus by the Bus Helpers. It is important that your child has a bus tag attached to his/her backpack so we can easily identify which bus they are to take. If your child is being picked up, we must receive notice that the routine has changed (written note or phone call). Children who are being picked up will be dismissed from the kindergarten area. Teachers will only release your child to an authorized person (parent or other individual with written consent to pick up your child).

Over the summer, the Transportation Department will contact you with your bus information and a Bus Tag. If this information is not correct, please call Transportation right away. Send your child to school with the Bus Tag attached to his/her backpack **WITH** the route number clearly printed. This will ensure that your child gets on the correct bus at night.

Contact the Transportation Department at 905-523-2318 or [www.hwdsb.on.ca/transportation](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/transportation)



## Kindergarten Program Components

Full Day Kindergarten is a play based program, recognizing that children learn best through play and discovery. The purpose of the program is to establish a strong foundation for learning in the early years, and to do so in a safe and caring play-based environment.

The Kindergarten Program components, as outlined by the Ontario Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program are:

- Personal and Social Development
- Language (oral communication, reading and writing experiences)
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Health and Physical Activity
- The Arts (Music, Drama and Visual Arts)



## Nut/Scent-Free School

Bellmoore is a NUT and SCENT-Safe school. Please ensure that you check the ingredients of all food items that are sent to school. Students have severe allergies to peanuts, tree nuts and seeds and we must be diligent about their safety.

As well, please refrain from wearing perfume or other scented products when coming into the school. Our environment needs to be safe for everyone!

While we encourage families to walk to school where possible, no dogs are allowed on school property during school hours for safety reasons.

Scent Free  
**ZONE**



## Clothing and Labels

In kindergarten, we work very hard at playing and we **often get messy**. Please make sure to dress your child in comfortable, washable play clothes. We also have an extended outdoor play time **every day** so it is important that your child is dressed for the weather (sunhats, snowpants, mittens, rainboots, etc.). In addition, we ask that each child have a pair of indoor shoes that can be kept at school. This keeps our classroom clean and dry.



As tying shoes is a skill that most kindergarten children have not yet mastered, we ask for all shoes to be **velcro or slip on**. This will allow your child to perform this task independently. Finally, please make sure that **ALL clothing, shoes, backpacks, containers, etc. are CLEARLY LABELLED with your child's name**.

Bellmoore School Council is running a **Mabel's Labels** fundraiser. The school will receive proceeds from all labels purchased under our school name. Go to [bellmoore.mabelslabels.com](http://bellmoore.mabelslabels.com) for more information!



## Checklist for September

To ensure a smooth start to school we have compiled a list of important things to do before your child comes to school in September. Please keep the following list handy as you get your child ready for their first year at school.

- Eyes checked by an optometrist
- Ears checked by a physician
- Immunizations are up-to-date
- Visit an Early Years Centre or involve your child in activities that allow him/her to socialize with other children
- If you are concerned about your child's speech or language, call [Early Words](tel:905-381-2828) at 905-381-2828