



*Welcome*  
*to*  
**KINDERGARTEN**  
**ORIENTATION**

## Roles in a school community

- Parent/caregiver
- Teachers and Early Childhood Educators
- Educational Assistants
- Learning Resource Teachers (LRT)
- Principal
- Community Partners
- Speech-Language Pathologists



**Each regular-sized classroom will have 2 educators: A teacher and a DECE (Designated Early Childhood Educator). Classrooms with 15 or less students will have only one (a teacher). We work together to plan and deliver programming based on observing and documenting our students.**

## Our Kindergarten Team:



**Mrs. Mioc**



**Mrs. Evelyn**



**Mrs. Kish**



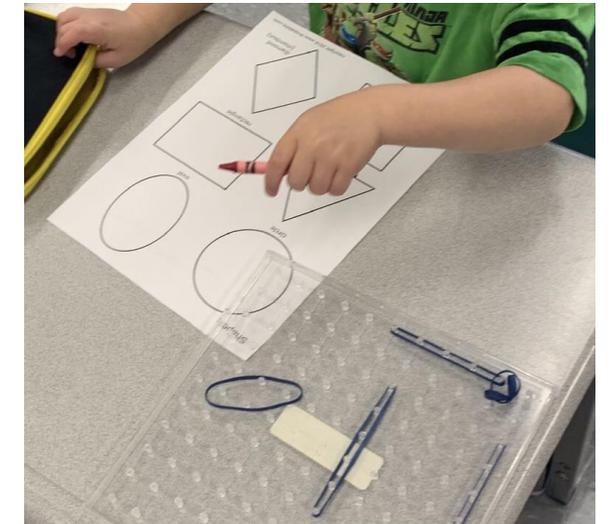
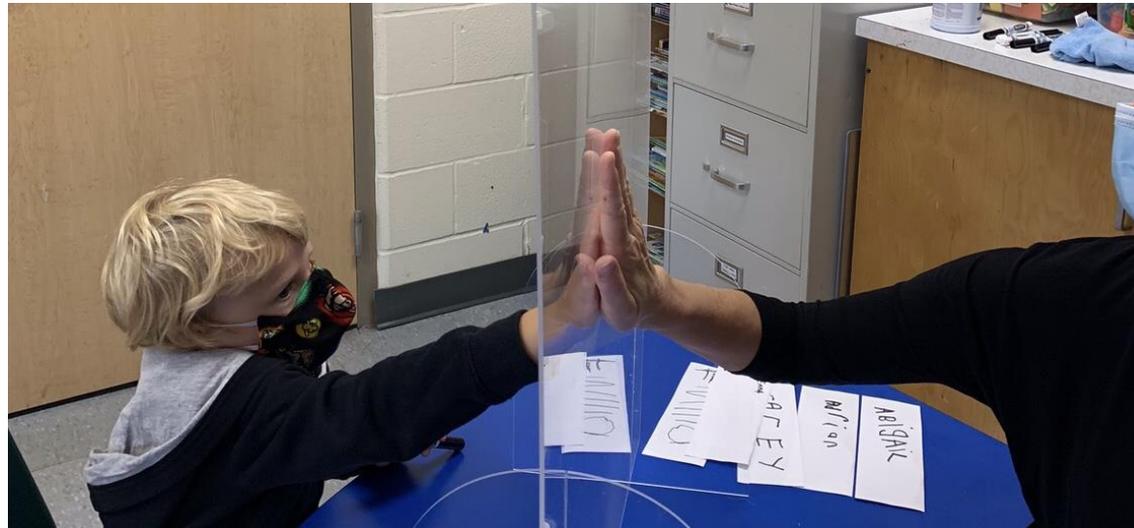
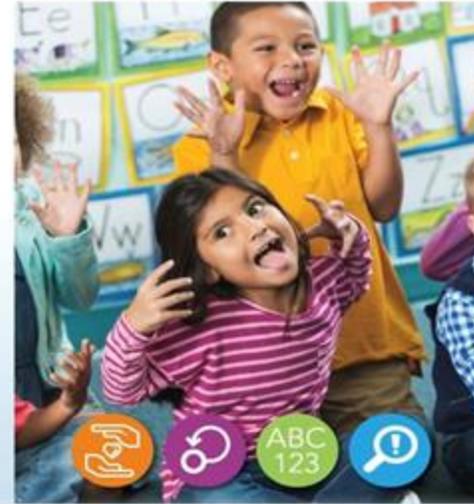
**Ms. Stainton**



**Mrs. Hucal**

## Getting to know your child is our priority

- Educators observe each child to find their interests, their strengths and their learning needs
- Observation and assessment shape the play-based learning program
- Educators plan programming to meet each child's needs based on skills and strategies demonstrated
- Educators communicate with parents in many ways



# Purposeful Play

**Observing** and **Documenting** are at the core of our programming.

When we call Full Day Kindergarten a “play-based” or “inquiry-based” program, it is based on the fact that we watch and listen as our students play and as they communicate with each other. Then we turn that “purposeful play” and social interaction into meaningful learning.



# Child- Centred Programming

There are specific skills and specific expectations to cover in the kindergarten program, but we approach these **based on each child's unique interests, developmental levels and learning styles.**

We encourage our students to explore and to engage themselves in things that trigger their interests and their curiosity.

Sometimes these become individual learning opportunities, and sometimes they become inquiries that the whole class can focus on!



# Communication of Learning

- Fall - Initial Observations report
- Winter and Spring - Communication of Learning reports

Full day Kindergarten: Understanding Your Child's Reports <http://bit.ly/2V7xqxC>

Ontario Ministry of Education Kindergarten Communication of Learning Initial Observations Board Logo

Student:		DEN:	Date:
Year 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Year 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Teacher:	Days Absent:
Early Childhood Educator:		Times Late:	Total Days Absent:
Board:		Early Childhood Educator:	
Address:		School:	
Principal:		Telephone:	

**Key Learning / Growth in Learning / Next Steps in Learning**  ESL  IEP

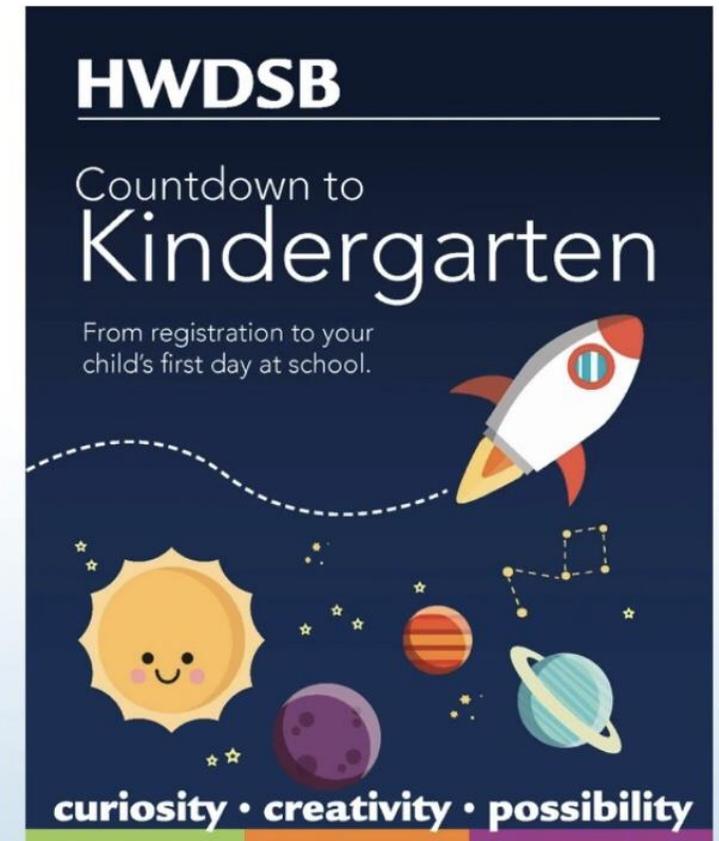
[Comments about student learning should be entered in a font size that is clear and legible.]

ESL - English as a Second Language  
IEP - Individual Education Plan

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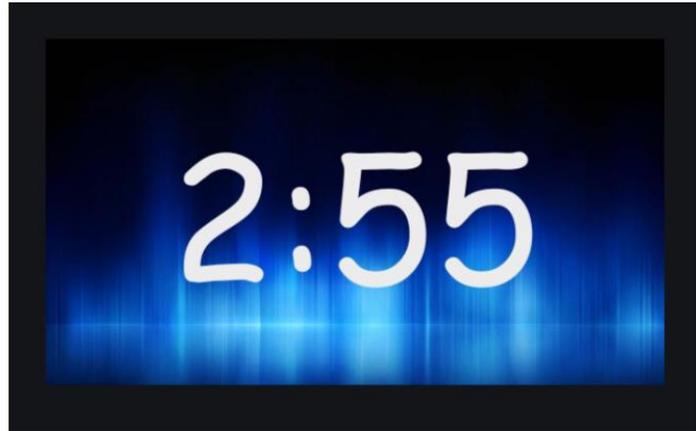
# Your child's day

- Full day, every day
- Nutritious snack program
- Outdoor exploration
- Variety of activity levels
- Arrival and departure
- Transportation
- Before and after-school programs (child care)



**Our school day begins at 8:35.**

**Students can be dropped off as early as 8:20 and will be supervised, but for everyone's safety, caregivers are not encouraged to stay once their child has been dropped off and are also not permitted inside the fenced-in kindergarten area.**



**Our school day ends at 2:55. Once again, parents are expected to arrive on time and to wait outside of the kindergarten area. If you have older children to meet as well, always pick up your kindergarten child first. If you are early we will do our very best to have your child ready for dismissal, as parents are not allowed past the gate and are also not encouraged to stay in the sidewalk “kiss and ride” area any longer than necessary.**

**There are two 40 minute nutrition breaks each day. These breaks are divided in half — 20 minutes for eating and 20 minutes for outdoor play.**



#39012362

***Students will need to bring enough healthy, filling snacks to last for both breaks and to give them enough energy for a full day of learning and playing!***

***Students will also need to dress appropriately for different weather conditions, and to always have a change of clothes in their backpacks (just in case) as well as some comfortable "indoor shoes".***

***(PLEASE practise independence with zippers, buttons and Velcro... This will save a lot of tears and frustration during inside/outside transitions)!***



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# Some Hints From Our Team...

- *Practise using a lunch bag during some regular family meals. Make sure your child can independently open it, remove containers and packages, and open each container or package with as much independence as possible. Students should also practise packing everything back into their lunch bags neatly, disposing of garbage and cleaning up after themselves.*
- *Talk to your child about the importance of making responsible choices in terms of healthy snacks vs. “treats” (for the first few weeks of school, you may wish to number items according to which break they are for or what order they should be eaten in).*
- *Practise filling and drinking from a reusable water bottle over the summer.*
- **LABEL EVERYTHING!**

# More Hints From Our Team...

***\*When purchasing a backpack, remember that it MUST be big enough to fit lunch bags, water bottles, indoor shoes, extra clothing, AND reading books, artwork, activities and other handouts.***

***\*Once you have your backpack, have your child PRACTISE with it. Try loading it and unloading it so that everything fits, practise opening and closing zippers and clips, and practise putting it on and carrying it independently.***



***(too small)***



## How can you get involved?



- Attend our school events
- Volunteer
- School Council
- Attend parent/caregiver/educator conferences
- Join an HWDSB advisory committee

**As a result of Covid-19 safety precautions, volunteer opportunities and in-person conferences and events have been put on hold until further notice. However, we STRONGLY encourage parents and guardians to get involved with *Parent Council*. This is a fantastic opportunity to keep up to date with what's happening in and around the school, as well as to participate and have a voice in many school-related topics and issues!**

**If you are interested in joining and/or would like further details, please email our Parent Council Chairperson, Amanda Duncan.**

**[aragis@hotmail.com](mailto:aragis@hotmail.com)**



## The **COUNTDOWN** to the **first day** of school!

- Visit your family doctor – immunizations
- Get a vision test – free eyeglasses in JK year - <http://bit.ly/2NidKEy>
- Address speech concerns – Early Words (*Referrals only possible up to August 31 of a child's first year in kindergarten*) <https://ascy.ca/families/preschool-speech-language/>



- Attend a Check It Out Clinic – <http://bit.ly/2V8w8Ct>
- Review the FREE LookSee Developmental Screen -  
<https://lookseechecklist.com/Default>
- Summer – play groups, sleep routines, independent skills
- Find resources on the HWDSB  
website [www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/)

**We look forward to meeting you and your child!**

