








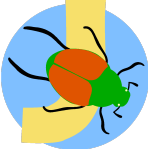
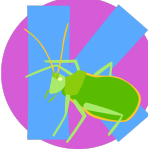


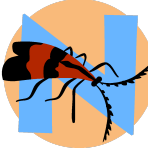



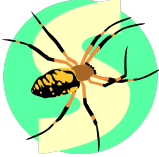
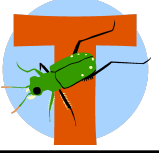
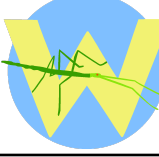




Kindergarten ABC's 2021

	<p>Arrival Bell time is 9:30am. Outdoor supervision begins on the playground at 9:15am. Students will be greeted by the DECE's as they get off the bus and taken to their play area.</p> <p>Attendance— consistent attendance is important for your child's social and academic progress. HWDSB has an automated attendance procedure. To report your child's absence, you can use the SchoolMessenger app. This can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play Store. Please see the letter in your Welcome Bag for more information.</p> <p>Allergies— There are some allergies in our school that are very serious. We are a NUT SAFE SCHOOL. Please refrain from sending snacks/foods with NUT ingredients.</p>
	<p>'Brave Wave'- Beginning on the first day of school, students line up at their door and will give a 'Brave Wave' to say goodbye to the family/caregivers at the fence. Please encourage their independence by returning a big 'Brave Wave' as they enter the school.</p> <p>Backpacks - A regular size backpack is necessary to hold a lunch bag, sweater, library book, Important Bag, artwork (kiddy size is too small). If the bag is larger it makes it easier for children to pack it themselves and help check it daily for notes or books from school.</p> <p>Bus- For children travelling home by bus, they will be walked to the bus by a Kindergarten Educator before the older students. This ensures that all students are placed safely at the front of the correct bus. You will receive a bus tag in the mail. Please be sure this tag remains attached to your child's bag. All K students must be met at the bus stop by an adult. If you have any questions about transportation, please contact Transportation Services at (905) 523-2318 or 1-800-691-6402.</p> <p>Balanced Day- The day is divided into 3 instructional blocks with 2 nutritional breaks.</p> <p>Blogs- Your class may have a blog on the HUB to keep you up to date on classroom activities. Your child's teacher will provide more information in September.</p>
	<p>Clothing- We have a very active program, so please choose clothing that is durable and comfortable for physical education, outdoor play, sitting on the floor, or painting. Try to choose clothing that your child can manage on their own (ie. belts are tricky for little hands).</p> <p>Conferences- Kindergarten families will be invited in to come in for a conference during Interview time in Fall. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, feel free to contact your child's teacher, through the agenda or email.</p> <p>Communication Folder- Your child will come home each evening with a communication folder or Important Bag (teachers will provide more information on this in September) Please check this folder nightly for important communication.</p>
	<p>Dismissal- Please make sure we have an up-to-date dismissal plan for your child and put any changes in writing to the teacher. Dismissal time is 3:50 and we are ready for safe dismissal to an adult after 3:40PM. Please be at your bus stop at least 10 minutes before the expected drop off time.</p>

	<p>Emergency Information- Emergencies for Medical Concerns such as severe allergies or other medical conditions, please arrange a meeting with Mrs McVittie and pick up medical forms as soon as possible. If your home or work phone number changes, please inform both the office and Kindergarten Educator, so you can be located quickly if an emergency occurs. The telephone number at Spring Valley is 905-627-7822.</p> <p>Eye Exam- Our school board encourages all Junior Kindergarten students to have a comprehensive eye exam this year through Eye See...Eye Learn program– a FREE childhood health awareness program. JK students can receive free eyeglasses with an OHIP covered eye exam. For more information on the program or children’s vision, please visit the website http://www.eyeseeeyelearn.ca/www.EyeSeeEyeLearn.ca or call toll free (855) 424-ESEL (3735).</p> <p>Early Words- Early Words accepts referrals and provides speech and language services to young children, prior to entering school. Referrals are accepted from parents/legal guardians, and from community professionals with parent/legal guardian consent. The referral must be done prior to Aug 31 and can be completed online or by phone. https://ascy.ca/early-words-referral-form/</p>
	<p>Friendships- Your child will make many new friends over the coming year. Help him/her develop positive social skills with others by arranging play-dates or activities with other children of the same age.</p> <p>Field trips- We hope to go on some field trips this year, and hope you can join us. Field trips are both fun and educational for the children. Volunteers MUST have a police check and participate in the Volunteer Workshop.</p>
	<p>Gym- Yes, we do go to the gym for physical education. There is no time to change clothes so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately, including running shoes. We also have extended time outside every day so please check the weather in the morning to ensure your child is dressed appropriately for being outside. We play outside in all weather conditions (rain, snow, sun) unless there is an extreme cold warning.</p>
	<p>Helping hands makes for a happy day! We love to help each other with doing up zippers, packing backpacks and sharing toys. Please encourage your child to be a helping hand in the classroom.</p>
	<p>Independence is an important theme in kindergarten. Based on program guidelines, we will expect your child to solve age-appropriate problems. Staff will encourage self-regulation of the children’s choices and behaviours.</p> <p>Illness- The question of when to keep your child home from school is often a difficult one, especially when decisions must be made first thing in the morning. It is important to keep your child home if they are ill, or not themselves. This helps to make them more comfortable and prevents others from becoming ill. Children function more effectively in the classroom when they are healthy.</p> <p>Indoor Shoes- Your child needs a pair of running shoes at school. These shoes remain at the school to be used as inside shoes. Please make sure your child is able to do up their own shoes, either Velcro or slip-ons if they are unable to tie laces. It is recommended that you label them with their name. These shoes will be used for all of our ‘active’ indoors time so please ensure that they are appropriate (ie. ‘pretty shoes’ are nice, but not great for running around in the gym).</p>

	<p>Join- Please consider joining the Spring Valley School Council ☺ You will receive information in the September School newsletter. School Council is a group of parents, staff and community representatives who act in an advisory role with the principal.</p>
	<p>Kindergarten Program- is a two-year program comprising a wide variety of skills and expectations. You may view the program at the Ministry of Education website: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kindergarten.html</p>
	<p>Late- please arrive on time, however if your child is late for any reason they must sign in with the office. Labels- label everything! If you want it back, put a name on it. The children do not always recognize all of their belongings and we often have several of the same item. Spring Valley has a fundraising program that is ongoing with Mabel's Labels. This is a company that creates custom labels and is a local business. If you are looking to purchase labels, you can visit https://mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser/ and search "Spring Valley" for more information.</p>
	<p>Monthly newsletters and calendars will be prepared by your child's teacher. It's a great way to keep in touch. The school newsletter is posted to the school website monthly. Medication- If your child requires any long term medication while at school, you will need to get the appropriate form from the office signed by a physician, to indicate its use as well as your child's condition. The school does not administer short term medications. All medications require the original bottle with a prescription label. Money- Payments for school activities are made through School Cash Online. More information can be found here: https://hwdsb.schoolcashionline.com/</p>
	<p>Names- Please help your child learn to print his or her name. If they are ready and interested, encourage them to print their name with an upper case letter only for the first letter and lower case letters for the remainder of their name. Nutrition Breaks- There are 2 nutritional breaks during the day. Students will need snacks for the 2 breaks but only 1 lunch bag is necessary. (1st break will be from 11:10-11:50am, 2nd break will be from 1:50-2:30pm). Many small snacks are often better than 3 or 4 larger options.</p>
	<p>Office- All visitors (including familiar faces) are required to check in at the school office each time they enter the school. Please ring the doorbell and you will be buzzed in.</p>
	<p>Parental involvement- Makes such a difference to your child and the school as a whole. There are a wide variety of opportunities for you to be involved at Spring Valley! Police Check- All volunteers are required to complete a Vulnerable Sector Screening. For more information please visit http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/get-involved/volunteers-in-schools/</p>

	<p>Questions? Don't be shy! We would much rather talk about something when it's a little concern rather than wait until it becomes a big problem.</p>
	<p>Reading to your child every day- We know you want your child to be a reader. The best way to ensure this occurs is to read to him/her every day. Daily reading is encouraged as part of our school/home activities. Report Cards are provided in February and June for all Kindergarten students. You will also receive an Initial Observations Report in the fall.</p>
	<p>Snacks- There are two nutrition breaks each day. Please pack nutritious food that your child enjoys including a drink. Please do not pack any nut products. An extra water bottle in your child's backpack is encouraged.</p>
	<p>Toys- We have great toys at school, so please have your child keep theirs at home except for special activities. Children often get upset if things get lost or broken so they are best left at home!</p>
	<p>Unique- We would love you to share your culture or other aspects of your life. A cooking project, reading a story, showing an article of clothing, or other artifact, would really enrich our program. Contact your child's teacher directly about setting something up.</p>
	<p>Website- The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board has a website with a wide variety of useful information. www.hwdsb.on.ca Our school website can be accessed from the "schools" tab or by visiting https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/springvalley/</p>
	<p>eXtra set of clothing- Please pack an EXTRA set of clothing in a labelled Ziploc bag at the bottom of your child's bag ("just in case clothes"); this will help us if there are any accidents (ie. washroom, mud puddles, juice spills etc.)</p>
	<p>You are your child's most important teacher! You've done a great job, and we're counting on you to partner with us beginning in Kindergarten and throughout their school career.</p>
	<p>ZZZ's are important. Most pediatricians recommend 10-12 hours per night for this age group. We do not have naptime at school, so please make sure your child is rested enough to enjoy all activities.</p>

Suggested Kindergarten Supply List

1. **A Backpack:** It is important that this backpack is large enough to hold a hardcover library book and our school agenda, lunchbox and extra clothes. The little backpacks are cute, but they are difficult for children to pack independently at the end of the day.
2. **Indoor Shoes:** These will remain at school so that your child always has a clean pair of shoes to change into when they get to school. VELCRO running shoes are best, so that they can also be used as safe gym shoes.
3. **Spare Clothes in a zip bag:** Please keep a bag of spare underwear, pants, shirt & socks in your child's backpack ('just in case clothes'). These are often needed in the case of bathroom accidents, drink spills, snowpants leaking, socks getting wet, etc.
4. **Lunch Bag:** Something that your child can open and close independently. There are many bags on the market that offer two separate sides labeled with 1 and 2 for the two nutrition breaks. Many families find this is helpful for their children to ration the food that is sent. Please practice opening and closing containers before September. Although Tupperware is great, it can be a little tricky to open!

****A friendly reminder to please LABEL EVERYTHING that you send to school. You would be surprised by the number of coats, shirts, mittens, lunch containers, etc that are lost daily, simply because they are not labeled.****

Donations of the following items are always welcome but completely voluntary:

- Ziploc bags (large and small)
- Kleenex
- Craft Materials (Stickers, feathers, wrapping paper, pipe cleaners, beads, paper towel rolls, googly eyes, etc.), fronts of greeting cards
- Loose parts (nuts and bolts, stones, magnets, interesting small objects, etc.)
- PVC pipes, large plastic gutter hosing, etc (i.e. for outdoor play ramps)