

Dear Families!

Welcome to kindergarten! My name is Miss Jordan and this is my 6th year teaching kindergarten at Precious Blood. I am so excited to have your child in my classroom and I cannot wait to get this school year started!

Please read through this Kindergarten Orientation Packet before coming to orientation on Thursday, August 6th at 6pm. Since the first day of school has changed, so has kindergartens beginning of the school year schedule. Now, all kindergarten students will come to school on Thursday, August 13th and Friday, August 14th for a half day. They will need to be here by 7:55am and we will dismiss them on Barthold Street at 11:30am. We will eat lunch on both of those days as well. The following week, they will go to school all day, every day.

Please click the following links for forms to print, fill out, and bring to orientation. If you cannot print any at your house, I will have extra copies on Thursday.

1. [Student Information Survey](#)
2. [Snack Milk Form](#)
3. [Free and Reduced Lunch Information](#)
4. [Lunch Forms](#)

I cannot wait to meet all of you on Thursday. If you cannot attend, please email me and let me know. You may also email me any questions you may have or you can ask them on Thursday.

Thank you,
Miss Megan Jordan
mjordan@preciousblood.org

Most Precious Blood School Kindergarten Orientation

- Curriculum
- Procedures (dismissal, snack, etc.)
- Kindergarten Discipline Cycle
- Communication



Kindergarten Curriculum

Religion

Kindergarten attends Mass once a week. The child is taught Catholic prayers such as the Sign of the Cross, prayer before meals, Our Father, Hail Mary and the Guardian Angel prayer. Spontaneous prayer is also encouraged. Kindergarten participates in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The space used for this program is commonly referred to as "the atrium."

Language Arts

In Kindergarten, children learn from a balanced literacy program. Explicit reading instruction is given for phonological (phonemic) awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Speaking and listening skills are also developed. Students will be taught to spell phonetically, identify traits of good writing, and write for different purposes. Please be sure to read with your child EVERY night! There is no better way to improve reading skills!

Math

Students are taught to identify and write numbers 0-20. They are taught the relationships between sets of objects and numbers. They will explore patterns in numbers to 100. We will introduce how to record data, measure objects, and add and subtract within 10. Children are taught how to solve simple problems and justify their reasoning. Kindergarten uses daily calendar activities for basic skill practice.

Science

Kindergarteners learn science through inquiry and discovery. Hands-on units are used to investigate several science concepts while meeting the state standards.

Social Studies

Students will learn about the world and people around them, the importance of rules and communities, the jobs people do to be contributing citizens, special holidays and celebrations, symbols of America, and basic geography.

The Indiana State Standards are the academic guideline for language arts, math, science, and social studies.

Social/Emotional Development

Most Precious Blood School uses the Discipline With Purpose program to teach students the skills they need to be good, kind people who contribute to the community. Additional information on these skills is on the DWP website.

<https://www.selfdisciplinedwp.com/>

Technology

Students learn the basic concepts of computer use and care. They begin primary keyboarding and develop use of the computer mouse. They use the classroom Smart Board for whole group and small group activities. Each student will have their own Chromepad to use in the classroom as well.

Physical Development

Students will develop large and small muscle coordination through physical education activities designed for this purpose as well as outdoor free play.

Other Kinder Fun

Music and art are an integral part of the Kindergarten curriculum. Music is used throughout the program in many ways. Many areas of art media are explored. Celebrations are common for birthdays and holidays.

Kindergarten Procedures

Drop-Off

Kindergarten students may be dropped off to school at the 7:30 bell at the parking lot entrance or the front doors on Barthold Street. Staff members are assigned to the door each morning to welcome the children. Due to COVID-19, parents are not permitted to walk their child to the classroom. If your child has an older sibling, they will be able to walk them to the room. If your child does not have an older sibling, there will be staff members, including my assistant and myself, walking/guiding kindergarten students to the room.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is essential to your child's progress. Please make every effort to have your child here every day by 7:55 a.m. unless they are ill or there is an emergency. If your child is absent, please be sure to call the office to report all absences.

Snack and Milk

Milk may be purchased for daily snack time in the school office. Snack needs to be purchased for the whole year, it cannot be purchased daily or weekly. The students take turns bringing in napkins and a healthy snack for the class each day. I will send home a monthly snack list and I have it on my weekly newsletter. This year I am not able to send home a classroom snack bag. Due to COVID-19 all snacks need to come in a sealed container from the grocery store. Please do not send any homemade snacks, home packaged snacks, or any bakery items from the grocery store. Examples of appropriate snacks; granola bars, individual bags of crackers, boxes of cheez-its are allowed (I will wash my hands and put on gloves and shake out their share on a clean napkin on their desk.) We eat lunch at 10:30, therefore snack will be in the afternoon each day.

Show and Tell

Students may bring something special from home for "show and tell" on their snack day. The item should not be precious or valuable and should be able to fit in the backpack. We use this time to practice our speaking and listening skills.

Quiet Time

Quiet time will be observed in the classroom each day following the lunch recess. Students bring a beach towel or rest mat from Preschool for the first couple months of school, as many of them have not out-grown naps. I will send them home Fridays to be washed. Starting in October, we have a shorter quiet time with no rest mats, but continue to use soft music and silence to help us meet the afternoon with a peaceful mind, body and heart.

Dismissal

Dismissal process starts at 2:30 and we hope to be done by 2:50. Kindergartners and siblings may be picked up in the parking lot or on Barthold Street. Oldest and only students must be picked up on Barthold Street. All kindergarten parents/family members/babysitters who come to pick up the students must present a dismissal number (you will be given this number on the first day of school). In the event that you must send someone to pick up your child who does not have a number, you must notify the teacher or call the office. Please make arrangements with me if an older sibling is walking your child to the parking lot for dismissal. The older sibling must pick up your child from the classroom. Please inform me which days your child attends the after-care program if you are registered.

Family Folder

Family Folder goes home every Thursday to the oldest or only child. Please remove all papers and return the envelope to school the next day.

Recess

Our kindergarten students go outside for play at least 60 minutes each day. We do not allow students to stay inside without a note from your physician. Please help us by making sure that your child is dressed for the weather. When it is snowy, we have sleds and shovels for the children, but they must wear boots, snow pants, gloves or mittens, and a coat to be able to play in the snow.

Money

Please enclose all of your child's money in an envelope or baggie labeled with his/her name, the amount, and what it is to be used for. Then place it in the front binder black pocket. Students should never carry money in their pockets.

Birthdays

Birthdays are important to young children. We will recognize each child's birthday in the classroom by singing Happy Birthday and they get to have our classroom Birthday Bear with them throughout the day. If you would like to celebrate further, please either send cupcakes or cookies the morning of their birthday.

Homework

An information packet regarding homework will be sent home when it is time to begin completing homework each week.

ZZZZ's

Your child should get plenty of sleep each night. We have a very full day at school, and therefore Kindergartners need at least 10 hours of sleep each night. Please set an early bedtime and be consistent.

Kindergarten Discipline Cycle

This year in kindergarten, we will be using a colored “clip chart” to monitor our behavior and our choices. Your child will have a clip that they will physically move up or down the chart, depending on their choices. The chart below explains how the clip chart works.

Purple Outstanding	Outstanding means they went above and beyond making great choices throughout the day.
Blue Good Day	Making a good choice will help them move their clip up to blue.
Green Ready to Learn	Each day they start on “Ready to Learn”. They will move their clip up or down depending on their choices each day. Please keep in mind that they may not move every single day.
Yellow Think About It	Students will be given a chance to self-correct their behavior. If the behavior continues, they will move their clip down to help them remember to think about their choices.
Orange Teacher’s Choice	If they continue to make poor choices, they will move to orange. Teacher’s Choice options could be the following - lose 5 minutes of recess, draw a picture of the correct behavior, write an apology, etc.
Red Parent Contact	If students still choose to make poor choices, they will move down to “Parent Contact”. This will be a time I call mom or dad to talk about the problem behavior. Student may even have a talk with Mr. Liponoga.

The calendar will stay in their take home folders throughout the month. This will be a chance for you to see how they are doing in class and talk to them about the choices they are making throughout the day. Below I have listed the colors and the way they will be recorded on their calendars. Once a student gets 10 stickers, they will be able to pick a prize from my treasure box.

- Purple – Two stickers
- Blue – One Sticker
- Green – One Sticker
- Yellow – Yellow dot, no sticker
- Orange – Orange dot, no sticker, and a note on the poor choices made
- Red – Red dot, no sticker, and a note for minor behaviors (not following directions, etc.) or phone call home for more serious behaviors (aggression, bullying, etc.)

Communication

I have always felt very strongly that the key to good parent-teacher partnerships is good communication. There are many ways we will be able to work together this year to ensure your child receives the best education possible. Your support and involvement will help to make your child and our class journey to amazing places. Please come to me with your questions and concerns no matter how small you think they may be. Your thoughts are important to me and so is your son or your daughter!

Here's what I'll do:

- Send home a newsletter Fridays with classroom news.
- Send home a folder daily so that you know about your child's behavior for the day, as well as your child's work.
- Check my email and voicemail frequently.

Here's what you can do:

- Send me notes in the daily folder.
- Email me at mjordan@preciousblood.org.
- Call me at 260-424-4832 x106
- Check the daily folder and our family folder from the office (these come home Thursdays).