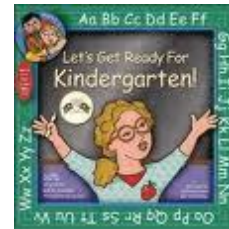


# Victoria Public School

## JK/SK Handbook 2014-2015



Dear Parents,

We are very excited to teach your child this year! The kindergarten years are important years where your child will develop socially and academically. We look forward to being a part of your child's learning!

Listed below you will find some important information for parents of kindergarten students. You can also find this handbook and monthly calendars posted on the school website. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please feel free to contact us at school (905) 354-1321.



Sincerely, Mrs. S. Piazza and Miss D. Lake

### What our classroom may look like...

Busy! The children will be given lots of time to learn through playing and exploring in our classroom. Children learn best through playing, creating, exploring and sharing their learning with others. They will not be completing a lot of worksheets, so don't worry if your child is not bringing "work" home...they are definitely learning at school! Students will write frequently in their writing books. We look forward to sharing these books with you at parent conference time.

Art Studio The children will be encouraged to create things independently from their own imaginations (usually not pre-cut crafts). You may find some interesting creations in your child's backpack...ask him/her about how it was made. Our program stresses process over product.

Photographs We love to take pictures! You'll notice this around the classroom as the year progresses...photographs are a great way to document our learning! **Please follow our class on Twitter. Search S. Piazza or (@\_PiazzaS). We will be posting pictures regularly that capture the learning that takes place in our classroom.**



#### **Entry and Dismissal:**

Class begins at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 3:20 p.m. We will greet the students at the side door next to the parking lot. Please remain with your child until the door has been opened and he/she has entered the classroom. Students will be dismissed through the same door at 3:20 p.m. and will only be dismissed if the designated caregiver is present. **If someone else will be picking up your child, please send a note with your child or contact the school office.**

## Late for School?

If you arrive after 8:45 a.m., please take your child to check in at the office and have your child enter through the inside classroom door. After 8:45 a.m. the exterior kindergarten door will not be answered.

## Communication:

Your child will receive monthly newsletters and calendars. Any notes that are to be sent home will be placed in a plastic folder in your child's classroom mail slot. At the end of each day, your child will place his/her "mail" into his/her backpack. Please check your child's backpack daily. If you need to contact us for any reason, please place a note in your child's plastic mail folder and send it to school with your child. You may also contact us by calling the school office.



**Please send the mailbag every day.** Remember that you can also check out our classroom calendar on the school website and follow us on Twitter @\_PiazzaS.



## Reminders:

Please take a moment to sign up for Remind, a free messaging service that will allow us to send classroom reminders to you as texts or emails. By using Remind you are not giving us access to your personal information. We will only be able to send you messages (e.g., last minute reminders). To join, please download the free Remind app and enter @3541321 or Send a text to (289) 271-1163 with the message @3541321 or email [3541321@mail.remind.com](mailto:3541321@mail.remind.com). You can leave the subject box and message blank. If you have any questions, please come and see us.

## Clothing:

Children who are busy learning sometimes get messy. In case of an accident, please have your child bring along a change of clothes (a shirt, pants, socks and underwear) to leave in his/her cubby.

We will be spending a lot of time outside. Please dress your child for the weather.

**Please make sure that ALL of your child's belongings are clearly marked with his/her name.** This includes shoes, jackets, winter clothing, snack bag and backpacks.

## Shoes:

Please send a pair of clean "indoor" running shoes (no Crocs please) that can be worn in the classroom and in the gym. This pair of shoes should be labelled with your child's name and will be kept at school by your child's hook. The children will be encouraged to dress independently at school, so please make sure that your child is able to fasten his/her shoes by him/herself (e.g. velcro closing).





### **Snack:**

Nutritious foods will give your child the energy needed to learn all day! Please send a lunch that includes healthy snacks (No candy please). Some suggestions of snacks include fruits and vegetables, cheese, yogurt and dry cereal. We have a water fountain in our class, but you may wish to send refillable water bottle with your child. Juice boxes and Koolaid Jammers are discouraged. Nut free snacks only please!

### **Scholastic Book Orders:**

Each month your child will receive a Scholastic book order form. This club offers quality books at reasonable prices. To place an order, please complete the form and include a cheque or cash (exact change please) in a sealed envelope. Make sure your child's name is clearly marked on the order form. Please note non-book items are taxed differently. Look in the Ontario column to find each item's price.



### **Library:**

Your child will be visiting the school library and starting in October will be able to sign out one book. Please note the library days on the calendar and have your child return his/her book on or before that day.



### **Home Reading:**

Your child will be learning to read simple pattern books. These books are appropriate for beginning readers and are meant to foster a love of reading and to practice the reading strategies we are learning in class. Your child will choose a book and bring it home to read with you. When you are finished reading the book, return the book to school and your child will choose a new book to bring home. This program will begin later this fall. More information will be sent home at that time.

### **Jolly Phonics:**

As part of our literacy program, students will be learning about letters and the corresponding sounds through the Jolly Phonics program. As we learn new letters and sounds each week, your child will be bringing home an activity for each letter. Please review the letters, sounds and actions often with your child. Learning letter names and sounds is an important first step in becoming a reader!

