

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten Sessions: Who can attend, what programs are offered, and when are classes scheduled?

By state law, children who are 5 years of age by September 1 can attend half-day or full-day Kindergarten:

- Half-day students attend every day Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 11:15 a.m.
- Full-day students attend every day Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
- Half-day students may add on days as the year progresses, but may not reduce their days in session once the change is made.

Half-day Kindergarten: What is taught to half-day students, or what is taught mornings?

Students are engaged in a developmentally appropriate, Christ-centered curriculum that includes:

- Daily calendar, Jesus Time and prayer
- Balanced approach to reading instruction through Houghton-Mifflin's curriculum:
 - ◊ Phonics taught within the lessons
 - ◊ Big books, emergent readers, chart poetry
 - ◊ Picture books, reading and writing centers
 - ◊ Large group instruction, partner learning
- Intensive Phonics series taught in addition to reading series
- Hands-on Saxon math
- D'Nealian handwriting (manuscript)
- Daily physical activity, including PE class
- Art
- Field trips, theme days

Full-day Kindergarten: What else do full-day students receive, or what is taught afternoons?

Students enrolled full days receive the half-day program plus:

- Hot lunch (available for purchase, or students may bring their own lunch)
- Recess each day
- SMART program activities which stimulate readiness for learning (see our online video on our website)
- Rest time (may nap if needed)
- Science, and social studies curricula
- Music and Spanish classes
- Computer/library time
- Teacher-guided and/or learning center instruction:
 - ◊ Reading and writing enrichment activities
 - ◊ Math, science, and social studies enrichment activities

Is bus transportation available?

- Bus transportation is available for students who reside within the Wayzata School district
- Partial transportation reimbursement is provided to parents who transport children from other school districts. After the school year ends, each district sends us money to distribute to our families.