

Kindergarten Program

Our full day Junior and Senior Kindergarten classes offer a well-rounded educational experience in a friendly and supportive environment. Our program is very stimulating and diverse. In addition to daily lessons in language, mathematics and theme studies, the children participate in French, Physical Education and Computer classes where they are instructed by specialist teachers. Our goal is to build self confidence and promote a love of learning while developing the fundamental skills that will enable students to achieve success as they transition into the Primary Division.

Junior Kindergarten Program

LANGUAGE

Reading

The Jolly Phonics program, The Gage Canadian Phonics Program and a variety of leveled phonetic readers are used to build the children's phonics skills and basic sight word recognition skills. Students progress at their own levels, and the majority of students in our JK program are able to read short story books featuring CVC words and basic sight words before progressing to SK where they continue to develop their reading skills.

Writing

Students are instructed about the proper formation of lower case letters as their sounds are introduced in the Jolly Phonics program. Daily teacher guided tracing and printing practice helps develop fine motor skills. Upper case letter formation is introduced in the Gage Canadian Phonics Kindergarten program. Students trace and print their own names using correct letter formation. Following the Kid Writing program, students are introduced to basic journal writing, as they create simple sentences to accompany pictures they draw.

Oral Visual Communication

During circle times, students participate in teacher guided conversations. They learn to listen to the ideas of others, and to share their ideas with others. During story times, students are encouraged to make predictions and ask questions about the story. Students learn to communicate in various social situations within the classroom, to express their needs and feelings in words, and to be considerate of the feelings of others.

MATHEMATICS

Selected units from Nelson Mathematics- Kindergarten Level introduce the students to age appropriate activities relating to the five strands of mathematics: Number Sense and Numeration, Data Management and Probability, Measurement, Geometry and Spatial Sense and Patterning. A very hands on, interactive approach is used emphasizing the development of inquiry and problem solving skills.

SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES

Children are given the opportunity to explore their world and the world of science through the exploration of various themes throughout the school year. These interactive, hands-on theme studies encourage the students to develop their reasoning and inquiry skills, and introduce them to the Scientific Method. Theme units include topics such as: Apples and Pumpkins, Fall, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Families, Winter Celebrations, Friends, Valentine's Day, Science Fair Project, Signs of Spring, Mother's Day, and Life Cycles.

ART

Students participate in a wide variety of arts and craft activities that help develop their fine motor skills. Activities include cutting, pasting, colouring, and painting. Emphasis is placed on following directions, creativity, and the use of a variety of media.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in JK participate in a structured Physical Education Program four times per week for thirty minutes. The children develop body awareness, movement, primary ball skills, and learn games of low organization. The child will develop kinaesthesia- body image, laterality, and directionality dominance. In addition, during the Fall term the children participate in a swimming program every Friday and a skating program in January and February.

MUSIC

The children of JK will be given the opportunities to explore sound through singing, moving and listening. They will be introduced to the verbalization and visualization of musical ideas i.e. beat, high low, loud and soft, fast and slow, matching tones. Children will participate in the Holiday Play performed by the Primary Division each year.

FRENCH

French in JK is taught three times per week for thirty minutes. The students learn through song, rhyme, flash-cards and games. The approach is thematic and is designed to encourage the child to imitate sounds inherent to the French language. The program is flexible to keep the students interested and motivated. The purpose is to give the students a sense of success and accomplishment.

COMPUTERS

Students in JK participate in the Computer program two times per week for thirty minutes. They learn the names of the computer parts, and safety rules to follow when using computers. They practise mouse control and begin to learn the letter locations on the keyboard using age appropriate software and Internet sites.

Senior Kindergarten Program

LANGUAGE

Senior Kindergarten students build on the reading foundation of Junior Kindergarten. Sight words and phonetic readers are used to build decoding strategies and fluency in oral reading. Written and oral comprehension activities accompany the readers to build analytical and higher level thinking skills. The mechanics of writing are introduced and students begin to write sentences. Formal spelling lessons based on phonetic generalizations begin.

Resources

- Gage Canadian Phonics Program
- Jolly Phonics
- Jolly Grammar
- Jolly Readers
- Mac and Tab Series
- Lady Bird Reading Series
- Write Traits Kindergarten

SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES

Children are given the opportunity to explore their world and the world of science through the exploration of various themes throughout the school year. These interactive, hands – on theme studies encourage the students to develop their reasoning and inquiry skills, and introduce them to the Scientific Method. Theme units include topics such as : All About Me, Fall/Leaves, The Five Senses, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Remembrance Day, Endangered Animals, Dinosaurs, Winter Celebrations, Canada, Valentine’s Day, The Seasons, Science Fair Project, and Learning About Trees Water and Flowers.

MATHEMATICS

Problem solving and reasoning are the foundations of Mathematics in the SK program. Nelson Mathematics – Kindergarten Level emphasizes a problem solving approach to covering the required expectations in each of the five strands:

- Number sense and Numeration
- Measurement
- Geometry and Spatial Sense

Patterning

Data Management and Probability

In addition, supplementary resources including units from Math Quest 1 are used to develop basic computational skills.

ART

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in SK participate in a structured Physical Education Program four times per week for thirty minutes. The children develop body awareness, movement, primary ball skills, and learn games of low organization. The child will develop kinaesthesia- body image, laterality, and directionality dominance. In addition, during the Fall term the children participate in a swimming program every Friday and a skating program in January and February.

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The children of SK will be given the opportunities to explore sound through singing, moving and listening. They will be introduced to the verbalization and visualization of musical ideas i.e. beat, high low, loud and soft, fast and slow, matching tones. Children will participate in the Holiday Play performed by the Primary Division each year.

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