

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

We are excited to see you in September!

Here is how it works: We will be calling you to set up a twenty minute interview time with Ms. McAuliffe or Mrs. Beesley, our Kindergarten teachers. To make sure we are as safe as possible; we require that only one parent attend during this time and siblings stay at home. Your child will also be given a date to attend a two-hour mini session on either September 13th or 14th. This will give us some time to get to know your child and allow us to create our classes for the year.

Please bring the following to your scheduled interview time:

- \$45 for school supplies
- Indoor runners (label first/last name)
- Nature Learning Supplies (Labeled boots and rain pants. See list for more info.)
- Personal set of headphones in a Ziploc bag (label with first/last name)

Please see the attached newsletter for more information pertaining to Kindergarten start up. Cultus Community School will be open August 30th - September 3rd (8a.m.-2 p.m.). If you need any more information, please call 604-858-6266 or visit the school website <https://cultuslake.sd33.bc.ca/>

August 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Kindergarten Children,

We are so excited to be writing this letter as it means that school will soon be starting, and we will have the pleasure of getting to know all of you!

Our names are Ms. Carolyn McAuliffe and Mrs. Celeste Beesley. We will be the Kindergarten teachers at Cultus Lake this year. It is a wonderful school with a strong commitment to family and community.

Our Kindergarten philosophy is "**Learning Through Play**". Thinking, talking, and making decisions...testing, inventing, and problem solving...reading, writing, and sharing ideas, laughing, moving, and working together...these are some of the things that come to mind when we think about children engaged in rich open-ended play activities. It is our goal to help students become thoughtful, self-directed, happy, and confident learners. We hope to engage children in active and meaningful ways that reflect both their interests and needs. We want to be able to move children's literacy development to a place where they see themselves as skillful and excited readers, writers and speakers.

We are very excited to meet with you and your child! If you have any questions, please call the school (604) 858-6266.

We are looking forward to meeting you in September!

Sincerely,

Ms. Carolyn McAuliffe
Mrs. Celeste Beesley



Pre-Kindergarten Interviews and September Schedule!

In September, the Kindergarten schedule is designed to allow for the transition between home and school to be as comfortable as possible. Time is allotted for classroom visits with each child. Interviews will be around 20 minutes. Mrs. Betts, our school's Secretary, will be calling you sometime this week to give you your scheduled time for your interview, mini-session, and KLST.

Wednesday, September 8th to
Friday, September 10th

Student Interviews

This will be an opportunity for us to meet you and your child and take their photo. This is a great time to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

KLST (Kindergarten Language Screening Test) -

Students who have not yet had a chance to complete their KLST will have an opportunity to do so after their student interview with either our Learning Assistance teacher or our Speech Therapist.

Monday, September 13th

Two Hour Session for half of a class- 8:00-10:00

To allow for a smooth transition into Kindergarten, only a small number of students will attend during this time.

Two Hour Session for half of a class-10:15-12:15

To allow for a smooth transition into Kindergarten, only a small number of students will attend during this time.

Tuesday, September 14th

Two Hour Session for half of a class - 8:00-10:00

To allow for a smooth transition into Kindergarten, only a small number of students will attend during this time.

Two Hour Session for half of a class - 10:15-12:15

To allow for a smooth transition into Kindergarten, only a small number of students will attend during this time.

Wednesday, September 15th

First Half Day of School - 8:00- 11:52

All students attend and are to bring a recess snack.
Students go home at the start of lunch break.

Thursday, September 16th

Second Half Day of School - 8:00 - 11:52

All students attend and are to bring a recess snack.
Students go home at the start of lunch break.

Friday, September 17th

Third Partial Day of School- 8:00 - 12:36

All students attend and are to bring a recess snack and
a bag lunch. Students go home after lunch play time.

Monday, September 20th

First full day of Kindergarten - 8:00 - 1:58

All students attend and bring a recess snack, lunch and
are dismissed at the end of the day.

Cultus Lake Community School

Kindergarten

The following is a list of answers to frequently asked questions at this time of year.

1. School Hours

Monday through Friday 7:57 - 1:58
(first bell 7:52am, school starts 7:57am)

- Please be prompt! Being on time helps to develop a positive classroom routine.
 - At the beginning of the day, children will line up outside the playground door. Their teacher will greet students as they enter the school.
 - At the end of the day your child will be dismissed. There are two kindergarten classrooms, so please talk to your child's teacher about pick up routines. Please send a note if your child is going home with someone other than their usual caregiver. If your child is planning to take the bus, please register online at: <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/school-bus-registration>
2. Backpack - the best size will accommodate a child's large library book as well as a large lunch kit and should come back and forth every day.
3. Inside Shoes - one pair of runners to remain at school, labeled on the heel with name. Unless your child can tie their shoes, **please send velcro or slip-on shoes.**
4. Cheques - any cheques to the school are made payable to Cultus Lake Elementary. Any cheques for book orders are made payable to SCHOLASTIC Book Club.
- School Supplies = \$45 cash or cheques payable to Cultus Lake Elementary
5. Labels - please label children's indoor and outdoor footwear, jackets, and backpacks with permanent marker.
6. Nature Learning Supplies - We will be outside for at least 60-90 minutes each day. To ensure your child is dry and comfortable please check out the Nature Learning Supply List. Rain boots and rain pants will be used every day and will remain at school for Nature Learning. I also recommend sending a change of clothes to be kept in a cloth bag at school, as accidents do happen.





Getting Ready for Kindergarten!



Here are a few things you can do to help your child during their first year of school:

- Read this letter with your child and discuss any concerns or worries they may have.
- Practice printing their name beginning with a capital (upper case) and followed by small letters (lower case). (*We use the terms upper and lower case in kindergarten.*)
- Teach them to identify letters in the alphabet (upper case and lower case).
- Practice counting orally to 30 and practice counting objects and adding objects together.
- Practice cutting and pasting! Practice cutting along a line.
- Read a story with your child every day. Discuss the events and characters in the story.
- Enlist your child's help in picking out a special backpack, lunch kit, indoor school shoes.
- Spend time walking and exploring in nature. Ask your child to think deeper by asking, "Why do you think that? How do you think that happens? What would happen next? Why is that important?"
- Encourage your child to wait for their turn to speak and congratulate them when they do not interrupt you, but rather wait to speak and say "excuse me". (This is great practice because in kindergarten there are 20 children and students absolutely must be able to wait their turn and use their hand.)
- Visit the school playground. Help your child to climb on the equipment safely and teach them to "pump" on the swings.
- Begin encouraging your child to be as independent as possible. Teach them to tie their own shoes or send them to school with shoes they can take off and put on by themselves. Help them to be able to take on/off a coat or sweater by themselves.

Cultus Lake Community School
Outdoor Learning Student Supplies (K-3)
2020-2021

For the 2021-2022 school year students will be involved in outdoor learning opportunities on a regular basis. This is what is known as “place based learning” and is a part of the new curriculum.

Your child will be outside for some extended periods of time (60 minutes or more) throughout the week in a variety of weather conditions and seasons. The following are **required items** for your child to remain warm and dry to enjoy the outdoors.

- Waterproof rain pants *To stay at school *No one piece suits
- Waterproof rain boots *To stay at school*
- Waterproof rain jacket
- Waterproof, insulated mittens (no gloves please)
- Labeled cloth bag with complete change of clothes (T-shirt, sweat pants, underwear, socks)

The following are suggested list of additional supplies that may be needed for colder weather:

- Warm, waterproof winter jacket
- Insulated, waterproof winter boots
- Thermal socks
- Fleece or wool toque
- Long sleeve shirt (base layer, no cotton please)

Please do not send your child with an umbrella to school for Outdoor Learning

Check second hand stores or other local stores like Walmart, Winners or Sports Check for these items*

PLEASE LABEL EVERY ITEM (e.g. both boots, etc.)

Should you have any questions please contact the school