



BLUE GRASS ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN

PARENT INFORMATION PACKET

PLEASE KEEP THIS SHEET

WHO?	Students who will enter Kindergarten at Blue Grass in Fall 2023
WHAT?	KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP
WHEN?	Tuesday, April 11 th From 4:00 – 6:00 PM
HOW?	Visit K classrooms, meet K teachers & other staff, and take a guided tour
AND?	PTO will be selling Blue Grass spirit wear.

PLEASE RETURN ENROLLMENT INFO ASAP

CALL THE OFFICE AT 539-7864 OR EMAIL
STEPHANIE.HAUKE@KNOXSCHOOLS.ORG FOR MORE INFO

Blue Grass Elementary The Child-Centered Kindergarten Information

This Handbook will introduce you to the Kindergarten Program at Blue Grass Elementary School.

School Hours

After the first two staggered weeks of school your child will begin a full day schedule. **A full day begins at 7:45 and ends at 2:45.**

The school building opens at 7:10 each morning. No student should be dropped off before 7:10. No one is available to supervise students before this time and it is a safety issue.

It is very important that your child is on time **every day**. Your child **must be in their classroom by 7:45**. If your child is not **in the classroom** by 7:45 a parent must accompany their child into the office to sign the student in and obtain a tardy slip for the student.

Kindergarten-“Staggered Enrollment”

Kindergarten students attend school for only two of the first ten days of the new school year. School hours for Kindergarten students during this **staggered schedule will be 7:45 - 12:00.**

Staggered days are during the first two weeks of school. You will be assigned two days during the two weeks of staggered days. Your child will not attend every day during the first two weeks. **The first full day of kindergarten will be Tuesday, August 22nd.**

The purpose of this “staggered” schedule is to give each Kindergarten teacher the opportunity to meet your child as part of a small group (four or five children) on each of the two days. This will allow your child to become familiar with our school environment without feeling overwhelmed.

Students will have lunch at school during the staggered schedule. They may bring their lunch or buy their lunch. We encourage the student to purchase their lunches on those days so they become familiar with the process. They will eat in the cafeteria. Students should be able to independently open items sent in their lunch boxes or school lunch. **Practice at home**

Transportation

If you live in the Blue Grass bus zone, your child is eligible to ride a bus to and from school. Bus transportation is not provided within **one mile** of the school. If you have questions, please call the school office (539-7864) during school hours. If your child rides a school bus, you are reminded that school bus transportation is a privilege (not required by the State of Tennessee). This privilege is contingent upon students' full cooperation with **all rules** governing safety and appropriate behavior. Bus information can also be found at knoxschools.org. Go to Families and then Bus Stop Locator.

You **will** encounter substantial traffic congestion when you drive your student to or from school. **Plan for delays (especially in bad weather) to prevent your student being tardy.** Your student must be **in their classroom by 7:45** to prevent receiving a tardy. It is the responsibility of parents to maintain a slow, safe and orderly flow of traffic. You must drop off your child at our school's main (front) or south (back) entrance. Your child should exit the car at the first available cone (safety). Please **do not** wait to drop your child off directly in front of the doors or wait for your child to enter the building before leaving. This holds up traffic for the whole school. Say good byes in the car and have students ready to exit the vehicle quickly. **After 7:43** everyone enters through the front entrance. Our back entrance will be closed.

All students should be picked up by 3:00.

Keep in mind that the first few weeks of school creates delays during arrival and dismissal as we all get back into our routine. Plan to leave a little earlier in the mornings to prevent being tardy and plan for longer carpool lines in the afternoon. Thank you for your cooperation.

Welcome to Blue Grass Elementary!

If you have questions you may call our office at 539-7864.

Kindergarten Curriculum

READING & WRITING

- Identify letter name, sound, and write all upper/lower case letters.
- Participate in group conversation.
- Ask and answer questions to show understanding of a story.
- Retell beginning, middle, and end of a story using key details (character/setting).
- Tell the main topic and key details of a text.
- Write 1-2 sentences on topic by the end of the year.

MATH TOPICS

- Unit 1: Numbers 1-5
- Unit 2: Numbers 6-9
- Unit 3: Numbers to 10
- Unit 4: Add & Subtract
- Unit 5: Numbers 11-100
- Unit 6: Measurement
- Unit 7: Flat & Solid Shapes

SOCIAL STUDIES TOPICS

Culture- Diversity in school, families, and communities

Economics- wants, needs, jobs

Geography- direction, maps/globes, personal address

Government- good citizenship, presidents, national symbols

History- chronology, important holidays

SCIENCE TOPICS

Classify Information

Plants & Animals

Weather

Protecting Our Earth

States of Matter



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Targets for Kindergarten Entry

A five-year-old with these skills is **READY** to succeed at school.

Letters and Sounds:

- Enjoys being read to and can retell a story
- Recognizes letters (upper and lower case) and some letter sounds
- Repeats the first sound in a word
- Speaks in complete sentences
- Prints his or her first name

Math:

- Counts in order from 1-20
- Recognizes numbers and quantities to 5
- Names and sorts items by color, shape and size
- Understands concepts such as more, less, same, above, below, big, small

Social:

- Settles in to new groups or situations
- Can concentrate on a task for 5 minutes
- Follows simple directions
- Shows kindness and concern for others

***Reading together every day
helps your child
master these skills.***

What is the most important way to ensure my child has these skills?

Read aloud, read aloud.....every day together with your child. Studies show children must hear and share in hundreds of stories and Nursery Rhymes before they are ready to learn and read in school. It is also important for them to talk and talk about what they see every day and say the sounds of the letters they are learning.

"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is **reading aloud to children**. This is especially so during the preschool years." *The Report of the Commission on Reading*

What are some simple activities parents can do at home to teach their child these skills?

Whenever you are working with your child, it should always be fun! Early childhood advocates call it *playing with a purpose*. Some ideas are:

- **Snack Time** – Look for letters on food boxes or cans, and say them together
- **Driving** – Sing songs and read signs, such as McDonald's or Walmart – pointing out various letters

- **Preparing Meals** – Put magnetic letters on the refrigerator for play
- **Shopping** – Talk about beginning letters of food, clothes, or toys
- **Nap Time** – Read a story and talk about what's happening on each page. Let children predict what is going to happen next, or "read" the story to you.
- **Doing Chores** – Put sign on a few objects at home, such as "bed" and make a game of saying letters aloud
- **Play Time** – Point to an object and ask children to say words that rhyme, including silly words: ball, wall, tall, dall, jail, nail
- **Eating** – Say nonsense rhymes such as *Hey Diddle, Diddle*
- **Lesson Time** – Spell personal names with letter cards. Let children match each capital letter with its lowercase form, or put the letters in order. Draw a letter and find objects that begin with the same sound. (ball, boy, bike)
- **Library Time** – Make weekly trips to the library part of your family's fun time together. Books about going to school help build children's confidence about kindergarten. A librarian can help you find them.

Blue Grass Kindergarten Supply List

If you wish to buy supplies before school, please refer to the list below. This will prevent from buying unneeded items. If you are uncertain, please wait and ask before you buy.

Fiskar metal blunt tip scissors (not plastic, not pointed)

6-8 Jumbo glue sticks (unscented)

Crayola washable fat markers

1 plastic pencil box (5 x 8 x 2). No handles, zippers, or briefcase style

4 boxes of Crayola 24 count crayons (no jumbo crayons)

1 box of standard size sharpened pencils (no jumbo pencils)

1 package of low odor dry-erase markers (Expo brand, black)

1 box of Kleenex

Large functional book bag or backpack (no wheels, no drawstrings, not suitcase type, and able to fit a Chromebook inside)

2 plastic folders with prongs

Over the ear headphones

1 container of disinfecting wipes

1 wide-ruled composition notebook

2 (4 oz) containers of playdoh

Boys: Paper towels and gallon size Ziplock bags

Girls: Baby wipes and quart size Ziplock bags

Please do not label school supplies except for backpacks, pencil box, headphones, and scissors.

During the summer, please help your child learn the following important skills and information

- Know his/her first and last name (not just nickname)
- Write his/her first name (first letter capital and the rest lowercase)
- Birthday
- How to hold scissors (thumb facing up)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=heuy4JNBCXs>
(video)
- How to hold a pencil and crayons (tripod grip)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eq6ggYR-aeY>
(video)
- Self help skills:
 - Taking care of bathroom needs (wiping, zipping and buttoning pants)
 - Putting on coats, gloves
 - Tying shoes
 - Zipping backpack and putting things inside a backpack

**It is going to be a GREAT year at Blue Grass
Elementary**

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Guidelines for Acceptable Use of Electronic Media

Use of Electronic Media in the Knox County Schools constitutes the acceptance of these guidelines and the user's assent to abide by the terms of use stated herein.

I. Statement of Affirmation

The Internet is a global electronic highway connecting millions of computers and individuals in the fields of education, business, government, the military and a variety of other organizations. This communication information network is being used in schools to educate, inform, and expand resources in much the same way as periodicals, videos, and computer software programs are used.

Knox County Schools' users will participate in projects using the Internet in a directed manner to support curriculum and research activities. They may participate in distance learning programs, ask questions of and consult with experts, communicate with other users, and locate materials to meet educational needs. Users will also be able to access a variety of information including news resources, electronic discussion groups, information databases, the holdings of libraries worldwide, and electronic mail.

The State of Tennessee and the Knox County Board of Education believe that the benefits of having access to the Internet are invaluable for both educators and students. Among the vast resources on the Internet are some materials that are not suitable for viewing in a school environment. It is not appropriate to locate material that is illegal, defamatory, or offensive. Such conduct will lead to the immediate loss of Internet access and may lead to other disciplinary actions.

Users are expected to understand and abide by the guidelines and behaviors set forth by the Knox County Board of Education in its *Guidelines for Acceptable Use of Electronic Media*. The Board makes no warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the use of the Internet. The Board shall accept no liability or legal responsibility for any damage which may arise from the use of the Internet in violation of these guidelines.

II. Rights and Responsibilities of Users

All use of the Internet must be in support of education and research and be consistent with the mission statement of Knox County Schools. For educational purposes, users have specific rights and responsibilities which include, but are not limited to the following.

Users can

- examine and use interactive electronic formats.
- examine a broad range of opinions, ideas, and information in the educational process.
- locate, use and exchange information on the Internet.
- retain ownership of their own intellectual works as users of the Internet, consistent with the policies of the Knox County Board of Education.

Users cannot

- use the network for personal commercial or for-profit purposes.
- participate in harassment, discriminatory remarks, or other inappropriate behaviors.
- use the network to access obscene or pornographic material.
- use the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts.
- damage computer(s), computer systems or computer networks.
- invade the privacy of other network users.
- gain unauthorized access to computer networks, resources or materials.

III. Network Etiquette

Network users are expected to abide by accepted rules of network etiquette. These rules include but are not limited to the following.

- Do not reveal your own personal address or phone number or those of other students or colleagues.
- Be polite. Use appropriate language. Do not become abusive in your messages to others. Never use a computer to harm other people. Show consideration and respect for others at all times.
- Do not use a computer to steal. Do not copy software for which you have not paid, use computer resources without authorization, or plagiarize the intellectual property of others.
- Be mindful of the rights of other network users. Do not violate the privacy of other users.
- Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its operation or that would interfere with another user's computer work.
- Abide by the policies and procedures of each network accessed.
- Keep your password private.
- Be careful when using sarcasm and humor. Without face-to-face communication, a joke may be viewed as criticism.
- Focus on one subject per message.
- Make your subject line as descriptive, yet as short, as possible.
- Keep paragraphs and messages short and to the point.
- Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
- When including a signature at the end of e-mail messages, limit it to four lines.
- Use capital letters only to highlight a word or identify titles or headings. Using all capitals for an entire message has the same effect as verbally shouting.
- Always think about the social consequences of what you do on the network.

A a B b C c D d

E e F f G g H h

I i J j K k L l

M m N n O o P p

Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x

Y y Z z

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