



Highland Park Renaissance Academy Pre K - 8th Barber Campus

Welcome to Ms. Ward's Kindergarten Class!

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Kindergarten is going to be a great year full of new experiences and discoveries! I would like to create a wonderful learning and growing environment for your child. In order to make this a successful year from the beginning, it is important that we are all aware of the routines and expectations. Below you will find the schedule, academic goals, policies and other info that will help prepare your child for a fantastic school year. Thank you for your support!

Ms. Ward

Attendance

A successful school experience is the responsibility of the child, the parent, and the school. Your child's progress, both academically and socially, is influenced to a great extent by daily participation. Regular attendance without tardiness is a key. The school day runs from **8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.** Breakfast is at **8:00 a.m. Please be on time.** The morning routine sets the tone for the rest of the day.

In the case that your child gets sick, it is important, to keep your child home if they're feeling very ill. This helps to make them more comfortable and prevents others from becoming ill. Children function more effectively in the classroom when they are healthy. If your child is absent, assistance will be given if they need help in understanding the missed material.

Communication/Homework

Please let me know of special circumstances which may affect your child. These could include medication that may make him/her sleepy, a death in the family, etc. Also, please let me know of any allergies your child may have, especially food allergies. It would be helpful to know when I plan food activities or snacks. PLEASE keep your phone number updated with me as it

is very important that I am able to reach you if your child is ill or there is an emergency.

Your support and involvement is essential to the success of your child. Please communicate with your child about their school day and work. I encourage you to read with or to your child every night.

Homework: Each student will be given a folder that will be sent home each day. Please check this folder daily as it will have any important information or homework that you need to know about as well your child's graded assignments. Please return the folder with your child each morning. Students will be given a homework packet on **Mondays**. The packet should be completed and returned on **Fridays**. The homework will be review of what has been taught in class. In order to complete the nightly homework, it would be helpful to have the following items at home: pencils, crayons, scissors, and glue.

Conferences: Conferences are scheduled throughout the year and can be found on the school calendar. If you need a special conference please make an appointment with me.

Classroom Rules/ Behavior Expectations

In order for a class to have an effective educational program, a discipline plan must exist. In our classroom, we have 5 basic rules:

- **Listen and follow directions the first time they are given**
- **Raise your hand to speak or leave seat**
- **Work quietly and do not disturb others**
- **Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself**
- **Respect yourself and others**

If a student chooses not to follow the rules, we will discuss the behavior and how to make better choices. In order to communicate your child's behavior, I have a color code system in place. At the end of each day I record the color crayon your child has earned on a chart on the wall in the classroom. You are welcome to check on your child's behavior after school. I encourage you to ask your child what color he/she was on at the end of the day. At the end of the week, your child will be allowed to pick a special treat from the "treasure chest" if he/she has earned at least 4 green crayons for the week. Each child starts the day on the color green. The crayon color code is as follows on page 3.

Behavior Chart Color Codes

- **Green**- Super day! Your child followed all of the rules
- **Yellow**- Ooops! Your child did not follow the rules 1 to 2 times.
- **Blue**- Your child did not follow the rules 3 to 4 times. Short timeout to think about and discuss better choices.
- **Red**- Your child did not follow the rules 5 to 6 times. Note or phone call home.

Uniforms

Students **Must** wear a uniform. Boys and girls may wear white, navy, or black polo styled shirt and khaki, navy, or black pants. Girls may wear skirts, dresses, or jumpers of the same color with appropriate length. Please make sure your child can zip, button, snap, use their their belt, etc. Comfortable shoes that your child can tie/buckle are also required. Please ensure that your child has appropriate outdoor attire (hat, gloves, warm coat) during fall and winter seasons. It is also a good idea to send a sweater in case the building is chilly.

Skills Acquired During Kindergarten

Kindergarten goals focus on children building strong pre-reading skills, practicing letter and number formation, enhancing listening and communication skills, getting an introduction to basic math concepts, and acquiring an active interest in the world. Generally speaking, your child will be expected to:

Language Arts/ Reading/ Writing

- Recognize and write all of the letters of the alphabet in upper- and lowercase forms
- Write their first and last name using proper letter form and spacing
- Learn sounds corresponding to vowels and consonants
- Use initial consonant sounds and sound patterns to read words
- Identify several sight words, including names of colors
- Recognize and use rhyming words
- Retell a story including details
- Put events of a story in order
- Write simple sentences using sight words and phonics skills
- Write by moving from left to right and from top to bottom

Listening and Communication

- Listen attentively
- Raise hands or wait to speak
- Act on instruction and repeat spoken directions
- Engage in question-and-answer dialogue with classmates and teachers
- Work as a team on projects or problem-solving
- Sing songs

Math

- Sort and classify objects using one or more attributes
- Recognize and write numbers to 30
- Count orally by ones, five, and tens to 100
- Name ordinal numbers first through tenth
- Add and subtract using manipulatives (counters, cheerios, candy, etc.)
- Understand spatial relationships (top/bottom, near/far, ahead/behind)
- Compare quantities by estimating, weighing, and measuring
- Use graphs to gather information
- Recognize and identify patterns and shapes
- Recite the days of the week and months of the year
- Understand sequence of events

Science

Students will study Earth, Physical, and Life Science covering the following concepts:

- Senses
- Push/Pull
- Living/ Non- Living Things
- Earth Materials
- Weather and Seasons

Social Studies

Students will learn about various concepts while meeting the following objectives:

"I Am Special"

- Recognize days, weeks, months, and years as intervals of time
- Recognize home, school, and classroom boundaries
- Demonstrate pride in self and classroom
- Cooperate/ share with others
- Identify goods and services

"Family"

- Family Structure
- Identify changes in family
- Locate home and school
- Rules and responsibilities of family members
- Similarities and differences between cultures
- Identify needs and wants

"Community"

- Distinguish yesterday, today, and tomorrow
- Locate places of significance in immediate environment
- Work together to solve problems
- Identify rules of community helpers

I am looking forward to an exciting year full of learning, growth, and fun. Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, and/or concerns. Please cut off and return the signed bottom portion.

Ms. Ward

tiffany.ward@leonagroup.com

School Phone: 313-957-3005

I read and understand the following information provided above.

Parent's/Guardian's signature

Phone Number

Student's Name

Date