

PRINCE PHILIP SCHOOL

2022-2023



**Every Student Is
Known • Valued • Believed In**

Welcome to Prince Philip School

I welcome your child to kindergarten and look forward to making the beginning of school life an exciting and rewarding time. Here at Prince Philip, we strive to stimulate your child's interests and abilities in a warm, supportive atmosphere.

Our hope is that the information in this booklet will be of assistance to you in understanding and enjoying your child's year in kindergarten.

WE BELIEVE IN CHILDREN!



Sincerely,

Mrs. MacDonald



A Kindergarten Parable

Author unknown

or....

"Thoughts at the Bottom of the Beanstalk"

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Jack who was about to climb his very first beanstalk. He had a fresh haircut and a brand-new book bag. Even though his friends in the neighborhood had climbed this same beanstalk almost every day last year, this was Jack's first day, and he was a little nervous. So was his mother.

Early in the morning she brought him to the foot of the beanstalk. She talked encouragingly to Jack about all the fun he would have that day and how nice his giant would be. She reassured him that she would be back to pick him up at the end of the day.

For a moment they stood together, silently holding hands, gazing up at the beanstalk. To Jack it seemed much bigger than it had when his mother had pointed it out on the way to the store last week. His mother thought it looked big, too. She swallowed. Maybe she should have held Jack out a year...

Jack's mother straightened his shirt one last time, patted his shoulder and smiled down at him. She promised to stay and wave while he started climbing. Jack didn't say a word.

He walked forward, grabbed a low-growing stem, and slowly pulled himself up to the first leaf. He balanced there for a moment and then climbed more eagerly to the second leaf, then to the third and soon he had vanished into a high tangle of leaves and stems with never a backward glance at his mother.

She stood alone at the bottom of the beanstalk, gazing up at the spot where Jack had disappeared. There was no rustle, no movement, no sound to indicate that he was anywhere inside.

"Sometimes," she thought, "it's harder to be the one who waves good-bye than it is to be the one who climbs the beanstalk." She wondered how Jack would do. Would he miss her? How would he behave? Did his giant understand that little boys sometimes acted silly when they felt unsure?

She fought down an urge to spring up the stalk after Jack and maybe duck behind a bean to take a peek at how he was doing. "I'd better not. What if he saw me?" She knew Jack was really old enough to handle this on his own. She reminded herself that, after all this was thought to be an excellent beanstalk and that everyone said his giant was not only kind but had outstanding qualifications.

"It's not so much that I'm worried about him," she thought, rubbing the back of her neck. "It's just that he's growing up and I'm going to miss him."

Jack's mother turned to leave. "Jack's going to have lots of bigger beanstalks to climb in his life," she told herself. "Today's the day he starts practicing for them... And today's the day I start practicing something too: cheering him on and waving good-bye."

Important Information

Prince Philip School is a K-8 neighborhood school with approximately 210 students. The school has a School Community Council who works in partnership with the students, parents, and staff. Our students benefit from the work parent volunteers do in classrooms and around the school. Our school program is also strengthened by these services:

- resource teacher
- teacher librarian
- phys. ed. specialist
- school music/band program
- autism program
- EAL support
- School team: counsellor, speech therapist, educational psychologist, community health nurse, consultants
- staff supervised lunchroom program
- KinderCare program
- preschool program
- before & after school program

A child who will be five years old by January 31, 2023, may enter kindergarten in the fall of 2022. Upon registration, or by the time school opens in the fall, parents are asked to submit a birth certificate or acceptable proof of age such as health card or passport.

What is Kindergarten

Kindergarten is a very important part of your child's education. It is their first introduction to school. Attitudes towards school, teachers, and classmates will start to form during this year. This year will be the foundational building block to your child's education.

The kindergarten program provides for activities which contribute to the development of healthy children, both physically and mentally. As well, continuous growth in social and emotional development is stimulated through the many opportunities available in the classroom for group participation and group interaction.

The kindergarten environment is planned to stimulate the child's interest in the world around them. Opportunities are provided for sharing experiences through observations, discussions, and play. Experiences through music, physical movement, and art are given to broaden the child's outlook in these areas. Experimentation with a variety of materials is the basis of our program.

The kindergarten class will be a place in which children are free to express their ideas, develop self-reliance, learn respect for living things, and live cooperatively in their world. Though this year Covid has changed how we are able to do things we are hopeful you will feel that our classroom is a place to visit (either virtually or in person), to see the class at work and at play. You are most welcome!

All children do not learn in the same way or at the same pace. Therefore, the instruction in our classroom is flexible and varies enough to support and stimulate the needs of the individual child.

The role of the teacher is to give guidance and nurture each child's potential while providing experiences which will challenge the growth of all students.

As a parent you can help your child if you realize that every child is different in some respects from all the other children. Each child differs from others in their ability to learn, in their speed of learning, and in the age at which they learn specific ideas and skills. Therefore, expect your child to be a unique individual!

Coming to School

Separation anxiety is a real emotion. It should be addressed early on. Feel free to walk your child to the classroom; however, it is easier if you say goodbye at the door. One way to reassure them would be to give your child a small possession of yours to keep in their backpack. They can hold it for you until you come at the end of school time to get them and your item. Please don't make it anything that is too valuable as accidents and losses can happen!

If you walk with your child to school and stay until the bell, please use the playground entrances, and wait for the bell outside. This is an opportunity for you to reinforce independence and develop responsibility in following school rules and bell-time procedures.

Attendance Checking

If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please call the Prince Philip office before 8:40 a.m. with this information or leave a message on our school answering machine or use the Edsby App (information about signing up for this App will be sent out in the fall). The number to our school is 306-683-7400. The school has a 24-hr. message manager so you may leave a message at any time. As a safety precaution the Administrative Assistant must make "checkup" calls on missing students if we do not receive a call from parents.

Kindergarten Program Hours (tentative)

Students attend school MONDAY to FRIDAY at the following times:

AM Class: Monday – Friday; 8:45 – 11:33 a.m., Recess 10:25 – 10:40 a.m.

PM Class: Monday – Friday; 12:18 – 3:05 p.m. (if numbers permit), Recess 2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

We will set our kindergarten schedules based on the number of registrations received and requests of parents.

How Do We Begin the School Year?

All kindergarten students attend school starting with a brief morning on registration day. This morning is a confirmation of registration and a chance for students to familiarize themselves with the kindergarten classroom. Parents attend with their child. Staggered start dates will be the three days after the registration day. You will be notified by letter by the end of June about your child's staggered start date.

Kindergarten Drop-Off Routine

Morning supervision begins at 8:30 a.m. Lunch supervision begins at 12:00 pm. Please do not drop off your child before this time. The children will come to the classroom when the bell rings.

Recess and Supervision

Kindergarten children will be going outside for recess. Recess is a part of school life and is the only unstructured playtime for your child. It is a time to encourage children to play and make friends on their own. The playground is supervised at recess, at lunchtime and for 15 minutes before the bell rings at the start of the day.

Dressing

Children attending kindergarten are expected to dress themselves. If your child has difficulty dressing, please practice putting on coats, doing up zippers and buttons, and putting on boots and shoes.

Snack

Snack time and good nutrition are part of the kindergarten program. The children are encouraged to bring a nutritious snack such as fruit, raw vegetables, cheese, and crackers. We are an allergy alert school, so we ask that you do not send nuts or nut products to school.

Library and Home Reading

Your child's first step in learning to read is being read to daily. Kindergarten children go to the school library weekly to sign out a library book to be taken home. We also have a daily Home Reading program that begins later in the school year where you will read a book with your child and return it the next Day. Please make daily reading part of your home routine.

Fire Drills/Lockdown

Fire drills and practice lockdowns are held at different times throughout the year. Please make sure that your child has running shoes to leave at the school, so they are always able to wear them.

Out of School Experiences

An important part of our program is going on learning adventures outside the classroom. The children gain much from these first-hand experiences. You will be notified of each intended trip in the form of a letter or email which your child will bring home. Parent volunteers are welcome.

KinderCare

Kindergarten students will be able to access KinderCare and the Before and After school program. Information on these programs can be found at the end of the handbook.

Newsletters

Kindergarten newsletters are sent home at the beginning of each month. These letters will outline activities and program information pertaining to the kindergarten class.

School newsletters will be sent home or emailed regularly throughout the school year. These contain information regarding activities and functions in the school and the community. We also publicize non-attendance days. We ask that you read the newsletters thoroughly to be informed of these dates and times.

Emergencies

If your child becomes ill at school and needs to be sent home, you will be contacted. Please be certain that the school has a phone number we can call in the event of emergency. If you are unable to be reached, we will phone your emergency contact number (often a grandparent, friend, or baby-sitter).

Supplies

A list of supplies will be mailed to parents with the staggered start letter in June.



Principles of Early Learning

The following principles are followed when developing the kindergarten program.

1. Children are seen as competent learners. Children have different strengths, interests, and ways of learning. They come to school competent, inventive, and full of ideas that can be expressed in many ways.
2. Development and learning as holistic. Each person finds identity meaning and purpose in life through connections to people, places, values, and beliefs.
3. Relationships as opportunities. Relationships are opportunities for young children to create a sense of self, identity, and belonging while learning about the world around them.
4. Environments as stimulating and dynamic.

Kindergarten: A time to Learn and Explore

Children learn through play, imitation and shared experiences with their classmates and teachers. They come to school eager to learn and needing experiences to help them learn. Much of the learning that happens in kindergarten is done in a well-planned environment, where meaningful conversations take place and purposeful play is provided. Children explore and experiment with their environment to add to their knowledge, learn new skills and practice familiar ones.

Students investigate and explore their own interests through a wide variety of play opportunities that include:

- Painting
- Cutting and sticking/junk-modelling
- Drawing and writing
- Game playing
- Block play
- Small-world play (figures, vehicles, doll house)
- Sand/water play
- Sensory play
- Imaginative role-play (kitchen area/dress-up)
- Books
- Technology (i-pads)
- Manipulative Play (Playdough/clay)

Each child that enters kindergarten is unique. They have different interests, experiences, and rates of learning. Play is a very important part of helping all children learn. An activity centered kindergarten program allows all children to develop physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually at their own rate, as well as build a foundation for their academic learning. These areas are not independent but are interrelated. To meet the needs of the whole child it is important to provide for the totality of experience.

The activity centered kindergarten program provides children with

- An enhanced literacy component
- Hands on experiential learning
- Language rich experiences
- The opportunity to learn basic skills
- A sense of trust, security, and competence
- The ability to learn, to reason and to solve problems
- To be creative
- To develop physical coordination
- To share experiences with other children and adults



The Value of Play

You say that you love your children,
And are concerned that they learn today,
As am I, that's why I'm providing
A variety of kinds of play.

You are asking what's the value
Of having your children play?
Your daughter's creating a tower,
She may be a builder someday.

You're asking me the value
of blocks and sand and clay.
Your children are solving problems,
They will use that skill every day.

You're saying that you don't want your son
To play in that sissy way.
He's learning to cuddle a doll,
He may be a father someday.

You're questioning the learning centers,
They just look like useless play.
Your children are making choices,
They'll be on their own someday.

You're worried your children aren't learning
And later they will have to pay.
They're learning a pattern for learning,
For they'll be learners always.

By Laurie Monopoli



Highlights of the Kindergarten Program

1. Reading and Writing Readiness

- alphabet identification of upper and lowercase letters
- formation of letters
- letter sounds
- participates in discussions
- recalls sequence of events in stories
- sight words
- phonemic awareness
- listening and viewing skills
- connecting text to their drawings

2. Math

- number sense
- formation of numbers
- 2D and 3D shapes
- measurement
- repeating patterns
- sorting, comparing, and classifying
- time (calendar skills)

3. Physical Education

- exploration of locomotor movement
- spatial awareness
- rhythmical movement
- safety awareness of self and others
- sending and receiving (throwing, catching, kicking)

4. Health

- healthy relationships
- safety of self and others at school and at home
- healthy habits and choices

5. Science

- characteristics of living things (plants, animals, people)
- effects of physical forces
- weather

6. Social Studies

- diversity and uniqueness of each
- other
- rules and responsibilities
- conflict and resolution
- caring for the environment
- importance of keeping promises
- spatial relationships
- First Nations

7. Arts Education

- music and movement
- drama
- music
- creating & using a variety of art
- media



Highlights of the Kindergarten Program

- Literacy enhanced program
- Shared Reading Experiences
- Daily math explorations
- Sharing time
- Daily nutritional snack time
- Supervised recess
- Regular teacher/parent communication through notes, email and virtual classroom
- Integrated learning centers and literacy centers
- Care partner experiences
- Music
- Gym
- Computer time
- Library
- Daily free play/discovery time
- Class excursions
- Class guests
- Special Day celebrations
- Option of attending KinderCare for opposite ½ day of kindergarten and the Before and After School Program



Early childhood is the time of greatest learning. Parents are a child's first and most important teacher and will continue to be throughout the school years.

What Parents Can Do to Help

You can help prepare your child for this new experience by talking about school as a happy, friendly place and by answering their questions positively.

Activities to promote learning:

- Read daily: nap time and bedtime are special times to share stories, read the same book several times, visit your public library, read books that encourage counting and mathematical concepts and read silly books and sing silly songs.
- Actively listen to your child. Being a good model encourages communication and supports language development. Have them talk about their day.
- Encourage them to speak clearly and in complete sentences.
- Promote good listening skills. Much of what is learned is through listening. Teach your child to listen and follow through with one or two step directions.
- Play word games
- Develop muscle control by allowing them to cut, paste, color, dig, do puzzles, build with blocks, and dress themselves. Provide activities such as skipping, climbing, biking, skating, swimming, etc.
- Encourage curiosity. Encourage and answer their how and why questions. Allow them to discover the answers to their questions. Take them to the library, museum, the park, a farm, and other interesting places in the community.
- Teach responsibility and independence. Have your child complete small chores around the home such as cleaning up toys and hanging up their clothes. Encourage independence with getting dressed and bathroom routines.
- Count things all day long. Point out numbers seen in their environment and in the community on signs and buildings.
- Collect and sort collections
- Play games to help your child learn their shapes, colors, and numbers.
- Point out words and names of familiar places and on signs. Talk about the letters in the words and in their names.
- Build your child's self- confidence. Let them know they are loved. Allow them to do and try new things on their own.
- Give your child opportunities to interact with other children and adults. Play dates are a great way to do this.
- Sing songs with your child that include rhyming words and predictive beat
- Use art activities to introduce new vocabulary.

Teach your child his/her:

- First and last name
- Address
- Parents first and last names
- Phone number
- Safety habits –crossing streets, obeying traffic signs, not getting into cars with strangers
- Common courtesy and manners



Some Websites to check out...

- www.starfall.com – alphabet and beginning reading
- www.create-a-reader.com – letters and sound recognition
- www.pbskids.org – games
- www.kinderwebgames.com/index.html - letters, shapes, colors, and numbers
- www.seussville.com
- www.abcy.com – letter recognition and letter sounds
- www.learninggamesforkids.com





Golden Rule Programs

2022-2023 School Year Information

❖ Before & After School Care

This program runs from 7:15 a.m. until the start of school and from the end of school until 6:00 pm. Registration for the program is ongoing. Cost for this program is \$4.80 per hour for each hour care is needed and is billed to the minute after the minimum. There is a one-hour minimum charge for both before and after school. Preregistration is required before entering the program, which includes a \$50/family registration fee. Children from kindergarten to grade 8 are welcome to attend.

❖ KinderCare Program (See next page for additional information)

This program is intended for families in our community as another option for childcare as a complement to our ½ day kindergarten. The program is for kindergarten students enrolled at Prince Philip School. KinderCare runs the opposite of the half day that your child is enrolled in the kindergarten class at Prince Philip. Groups are limited to ten students to assure a quality child caregiver ratio.

❖ Preschool

Preschool classes run as follows:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday – 9:00 am – 11:15 am

Tuesday/Thursday – 9:00 – 11:15 am

Tuesday/Thursday – 12:45 pm – 3:00 pm

There are no extended hours for preschool age students

Please see our website for more information, including cost of the preschool program and to register.

To register for one of the above programs please visit the below website and locate Prince Philip under the school tab. Detailed information regarding the Golden Rule KinderCare Program is listed on the following pages.

<https://goldenrulesaskatoon.com/>

If you have any questions about the above programs, please contact Laura Orenchuk at 306.477.5588 or by email at goldenrulesaskatoon@gmail.com.



GOLDEN RULE KinderCare Program

Phone 306.477.5588

Email: goldenrulesaskatoon@gmail.com

Prince Philip currently offers half day, every day kindergarten. Our program is intended for families in our community as another option for childcare. KinderCare will be available as follows:

For morning kindergarten students – Monday – Friday to the end of the school day: until 3:05 p.m.; we pick students up from their class when the lunch bell rings; currently 11:33 a.m.

For afternoon kindergarten students – starting at 8:40 a.m. on Monday through Friday until 12:18 p.m., the end of the lunch hour, when they will go to their kindergarten class.

The Prince Philip administration will work with families in deciding whether your child will attend the KinderCare a.m. or p.m. class. Consideration of class size and composition are considered.

If you require care before 8:40 a.m. or past 3:05 p.m. you have the option of using Golden Rule Before & After School Program. This program starts at 7:15 a.m. and runs until the first bell and starts again after school at 3:05 p.m. and runs until 6 p.m. This program is charged on an hourly basis.

Start Date

KinderCare will begin on the first regular day of kindergarten. Holidays & school closures will follow the Saskatoon Public Schools' calendar. When there is no kindergarten, there is no KinderCare.

Registration

Golden Rule requires a non-refundable registration fee of \$50.00 (dated the 1st day of August 2022) to accompany your application forms, along with postdated cheques for the entire school year for the months of September through June and dated for the first day of each month. **These cheques must be received before your space is ensured.** This means we receive a \$50.00 registration cheque (or cash if that is preferred), as well as cheques postdated for the first of each month from September to June for \$175.00 or \$225.00 per month, depending which option you choose.

The fee structure is as follows:

KinderCare Only

- \$175.00 per month for 3 or less days per week which will include lunch supervision
- \$225.00 for 4 or 5 days per week which will include lunch supervision

Cheques must be dated for the 1st of each month (September to June). You may also pay in one or two lump sums for the year if you prefer. See below for details. Make cheques payable to **Golden Rule Preschool**. (We will hold your spot for 10 days from the date you receive your application, so please return promptly). There will be a \$20.00 charge for any cheques returned NSF. This fee will be required to be paid by the end of the month for the check to be written. If a second NSF cheque takes place, all fees will be required to be paid in cash for the remainder of the school year.

If paying by lump sum payment; fees are due as follow

One payment for entire school year - due August 1, 2022

Two payments for entire school year - due August 1, 2022, and January 1, 2022

Please forward your postdated cheques to Golden Rule Preschool & Extended Day Program; c/o Laura Orenchuk; 1715 Drinkle Street; Saskatoon, SK; S7J 0P8 or leave at the office of Prince Philip School.

Age Requirement

Your child must be enrolled in a kindergarten class at Prince Philip School to qualify for KinderCare. Enrollment in kindergarten is at the discretion of the school.

Lunch Supervision

The kindergarten students will be supervised by Golden Rule staff over the lunch hour. Lunch hour supervision is included as part of the monthly fee.

As with all Prince Philip students, staying for lunch is a privilege and not a right and this service can be dismissed at any time. All parents are provided with a copy of the lunchroom guidelines at the start of the school year.

Your child must be attending KinderCare on a specific day for them to stay for lunch on that day. Otherwise, they must be picked up at the dismissal of morning kindergarten at 11:33 a.m.

Insurance

Golden Rule Preschool & Extended Day Care carries insurance covering only the children enrolled in our program.

Withdrawing your child from KinderCare

We must be given one month's notice in writing of the withdrawal of your child. The full tuition for the one month must be paid even if you withdraw your child prior to completing the month. Golden Rule Preschool reserves the right to terminate KinderCare services at our own discretion should things not work out between your family and the KinderCare Program. See below.

Termination

Golden Rule Preschool and KinderCare Program reserves the right of terminating the contract if:

- We are unable to meet the needs of the child/children to be determined on a per child basis.
- Excessive late pick up.
- More than three cheques are returned from the bank.

Communication

We will communicate with all registered families primarily via email, text, or the Remind App. Please be sure to add our email address, goldenrulesaskatoon@gmail.com to your address book so you receive all notices from us. You will also receive updates regarding school common dismissal days, special dates, etc. from your child's kindergarten teacher, as well, as through the school weekly emails and newsletters.

Golden Rule Preschool & Extended Day Program

c/o Laura Orenchuk

1715 Drinkle Street • Saskatoon, SK • S7J 0P8

306.477.5588 • goldenrulesaskatoon@gmail.com

*"Learning is a treasure
that follows
its owner everywhere."*

Chinese Proverb



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Mrs. M. McKinnell, Principal
Mrs. M. MacDonald, Teacher
Mrs. C. Buchner, Admin. Assistant
Mr. D. Newton, Superintendent of Schools**