

# WELCOME TO CRESTVIEW SCHOOL



We feel fortunate that you have given us the opportunity to work with you and your child. Our goal is for this year to be a successful one for everyone.

A good way to plan for success is to be ready for school.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE READY FOR SCHOOL?

There is no one quality or skill that children need to acquire in order to do well in school. A combination of things contributes to success. These include good health and physical well being, social and emotional maturity, language skills, an ability to solve problems and think creatively, and general knowledge about the world.

As you go about helping your child develop in each of these areas, remember;

**Children develop at different rates, and most children are stronger in some areas than in others.**

While schools offer small differences in their curriculums, most educators agree that the following areas are important for success:

**CONFIDENCE:** Children must learn to feel good about themselves and believe they can succeed. Confident children are more willing to attempt new tasks - and try again if they do not succeed the first time.

**INDEPENDENCE:** Children need to learn to do things for themselves.

**MOTIVATION:** Children must want to learn.

**CURIOSITY:** Children are naturally curious and must remain so in order to get the most out of learning opportunities.

**PERSISTENCE:** Children must learn to finish what they start.

**COOPERATION:** Children must be able to get along with others and learn to share and take turns.

**SELF CONTROL:** Preschoolers must understand that some behaviors, such as hitting and biting, are inappropriate. They need to learn that there are good and bad ways to express anger.

**EMPATHY:** Children must learn to have an interest in others and understand how others feel.

Finally, talk with your child about school. Make positive comments about the school - your good attitude will rub off!

Talk about the teachers and how they will help your child learn new things. Encourage your child to look at the teacher as a wise friend toward whom children should be courteous. Explain to your child how important it is to go to class each day.

Our door is always open and we encourage you to communicate with us. Let's work together to make this year a successful one!

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How can I help my child prepare for Kindergarten?**

- ❖ Read to your child often.
- ❖ Foster independence and responsibility (using the bathroom, fastening clothing, caring for belongings, cleaning up etc.)
- ❖ Reinforce a proper 3-point pencil grip.
- ❖ Establish good bedtime routines.
- ❖ Ensure your child has adequate sleep.

### **What should my child be able to do prior to Kindergarten?**

- ❖ Say their first and last name.
- ❖ Identify their name in print.
- ❖ Print their name, forming letters from top to bottom and left to right.
- ❖ Hold and use scissors correctly.
- ❖ Use a variety of writing tools (pencils, crayons, markers).

### **What else could I do to prepare my child for Kindergarten?**

- ❖ Learn their address and phone number.
- ❖ Identify the letters of the alphabet (uppercase and lowercase).
- ❖ Produce sounds for the letters of the alphabet.
- ❖ Identify and write numerals 1 through 10.
- ❖ Count to 10 (both by rote and by counting sets of objects).
- ❖ Identify basic shapes (circle, square, rectangle, and triangle)
- ❖ Identify basic colours (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, black, brown and gray).
- ❖ Run and play with your child. Hop on one foot, gallop and skip. Practice bouncing and catching a ball. Have fun!