



Welcome to Kindergarten Curriculum Night

October 1, 2015
6:00 to 6:45 p.m.
Ocean Avenue Elementary School

Presented by:

The Kindergarten Teachers
Of Ocean Avenue School

Christen Boyd
Lisa Crowley
Juanita De Witt
Nancy Tryzelaar

Welcome to Kindergarten Curriculum Night!

We hope that the information presented this evening helps you to understand the Kindergarten Curriculum. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme:

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International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program

Ocean Avenue School is the first elementary school in Maine to aim to become an IB PYP World School! Your child is part of our school-wide journey to incorporate the inquiry-based philosophy of learning that is the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP). All learners at Ocean Avenue School gain knowledge and skills through stimulating concept-based units that incorporate social studies, science, reading, writing, the arts, and math, where appropriate. For that reason, our themes are considered “trans-disciplinary.” We aim to develop our students into life-long learners who think conceptually, seek knowledge that help them understand the world, and act with integrity and an open mind throughout their lives.

Trans-Disciplinary Themes

Knowledge is divided into six organizing themes.

At each grade level, students will gain knowledge and skills through these same organizing themes, but with different central ideas and lines of inquiry.

Kindergarten Programme of Inquiry 2015-2016

WHO WE ARE: “Getting to Know You”

Central Idea: Learning about ourselves helps us understand and connect to others in the world.

WHERE WE ARE IN PLACE AND TIME: “Journeys”

Central Idea: People come from and travel to different places in different ways and for different reasons.

HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES: “Stories”

Central Idea: People express stories in different ways and for different reasons.

HOW WE ORGANIZE OURSELVES: “Community”

Central Idea: People work together in a community.

SHARING THE PLANET: “Reducing Human Impact”

Central Idea: Things that people do to live comfortably can affect the world around us, but we can make choices that reduce our impact.

HOW THE WORLD WORKS: “Sensational Changes”

Central Idea: We use our senses to understand growth and change in the natural world.

The Learner Profile Attributes

Ocean Avenue IB students are:

- Inquirers
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Knowledgeable
- Courageous
- Principled
- Caring
- Open Minded
- Balanced
- Reflective

What Do We Do In Kindergarten?

A Parent Guide to the Kindergarten Curriculum

- **Basic Daily Routines:**

- Children learn to independently take care of basic routines: walk in to the classroom, hang up their jackets and backpacks, how to line up and walk in the halls with rest of class (quietly!), how to enter cafeteria, recess rules, correct use of supplies such as scissors and glue sticks, etc.
- Frequent mini-lessons and activities encourage students to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe.

- **Language and Literacy:**

○ **Language and Word Study**

- Morning message/Calendar
- Interactive read-alouds – stories, songs, poems
- Language and Word Play; Phonics and Word Study
 - Early literacy concepts
 - phonemic awareness
 - letter knowledge
 - letter/sound relationships
 - spelling patterns
 - high frequency words (a list is attached)
 - word meaning

○ **Reading**

- Shared Reading, Guided Reading, Independent Reading, Partner Reading
- Reading Workshop

○ **Writing**

- Modeled/Shared/Interactive Writing
- Writers' Workshop (Students will learn to write different types of text: narrative, informational, and opinion texts.)
- **Penmanship (“Printing Practice”):** Students are taught and given time to practice correct letter and numeral formation.

Math:

- We are using *enVision*, a Math program specifically aligned to meet Common Core State Standards. The dominant emphasis in Kindergarten is on number. Students will learn to compose and decompose numbers within 20 to help build an informal understanding of place value and strategies for addition and subtraction.
- Kindergarten topics fall in five major domains:
 - *Counting and Cardinality* (reading, writing, counting, comparing, and ordering numbers from 0 to 10; counting, reading, and writing numbers to 20; counting to 100)
 - *Operations and Algebraic Thinking* (understanding addition and subtraction; composing and decomposing numbers to 10)
 - *Number and Operations in Base Ten* (composing and decomposing numbers 11 to 19)
 - *Measurement and Data* (describing and comparing objects by more than one attribute; sorting, classifying, counting, and categorizing data)
 - *Geometry* (identifying and describing shapes)
- **Integrated Studies (Science, Social Studies, Health and Nutrition):**

Topics are related to our IB program of inquiry, and are incorporated into literacy activities (reading, writing, listening, speaking) as well as math (patterning and graphing, for example).

Throughout the year, we emphasize the importance of eating nutritious foods and engaging in physical activity in order to grow and be healthy. Nutrition lessons are often done around snack time – when we discuss the various food groups and children are given the opportunity to talk about healthy foods they enjoy.

- **Physical Education:**

In Kindergarten, the Physical Education Program focuses on spatial awareness and basic axial and locomotor movements. These skills and concepts create a foundation for use in all games and movement activities. Through the use of simple games and movement activities, students learn how to maintain appropriate personal space while moving as well as how to share the general space with others in a safe, responsible, and respectful way. As the year continues, students will be using small equipment to practice a variety of object manipulation skills. We also talk about the importance of daily physical activity.

- **Art:**

In the Art Room students learn the safe and responsible way to use a variety of art materials. We learn how to be respectful in cleaning up our materials and to respect the artwork of others.

The curriculum focus is color. Almost all of the projects are based on the primary and secondary colors. Literacy is a very important part of the art program, and most Kindergarten art classes begin with a story. The books chosen correlate well with the art lesson for the day. Art history is also introduced throughout the year, and several art projects are influenced by the work of famous artists.

Information tags are placed on the students' artwork. The information on these tags help to initiate conversation about the project and give a better understanding of the lesson at hand. Projects come home frequently at the beginning of the year and then taper off as they are kept in a portfolio to share during classroom teacher conferences. They are then yours to bring home!

- **Music:**

The Music Education program focuses on the development of fundamental musical skills. The best way for anyone to learn music is to actively engage in all of its processes: singing, playing instruments, moving, listening, and composing. Musical activities are designed and implemented to involve students in each of these processes, sometimes several of them at once. As students develop their musicianship, their appreciation for music and enjoyment in producing music for themselves will likely deepen. Ideally, students will continue to make music throughout their school years and beyond. The music used for all activities is carefully selected for its quality. The songs we learn come primarily from our own rich song tradition, complemented with songs representing cultures around the globe.

- **And a whole lot more!**

These are just a few of the many things that we do in Kindergarten. Our days are very busy!!!

Ways to Support Your Child This Year:

Home/School Folders

Please check your child's folder every day and remove all papers and classwork from the folder. The only items that should be returned to the folder are forms that you have completed and signed, permission slips, or other such paperwork. This is also the place for you to place any notes or messages you have for the classroom teacher (for example, about a change in dismissal plan for that day).

Healthy Snack

Please provide your child with a small, nutritious snack every day. Suggestions include: fresh fruit or vegetables, cheese and crackers, yogurt. Please do not send candy, sweetened drinks, or chips. This will help to support our nutrition lessons and our school's healthy food policy.

Clothing

Please send your child to school in clothing that is comfortable and appropriate for the weather. We encourage children to get themselves ready for recess and dismissal independently. You can encourage this same independence at home by teaching your child to zip and unzip his own clothing, and – later on – put on snow pants and boots without assistance.

A Good Night's Sleep

Try to ensure that your child gets to bed early enough every night. At least ten hours of sleep each night is recommended.

Read!

Read with your child daily. Read and re-read favorite books, poems, and nursery rhymes; have your child read to you. Look for letters and words on trips to the grocery store, car rides, walks around the neighborhood.

Count!

Ask your child to count out the correct number of forks or spoons needed to set the table, the number of stairs in your house, the number of guests coming to a party. Take a look at the numbers on a calendar, the numbers on your house. Talk about shapes and patterns.

Kindergarten High-Frequency Word List

a

so

like

he

and

up

no

is

do

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am

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you