



JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN WRCA HANDBOOK



Inspiring and cultivating citizens of Godly character who transform their world for Christ.



2023-2024

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WELCOME TO JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN!

Dear Junior Kindergarten Families,

We are so excited to have you and your family join us at White Rock Christian Academy! Our prayer is that your first year at our school will be filled with wonderful memories of encouraging friendships, being creative, and developing a heart for inquisitive learning. However, our biggest desire and prayer is that you will see how God is at work in all aspects of your lives.

OUR UNIQUE CHRIST-CENTERED PROGRAM HAS BEEN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE IB FRAMEWORK. OUR PROGRAM WILL BE THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM (PYP) AS CHILDREN BEGIN THEIR JOURNEY THROUGH IB, WHICH EMPHASIZES OUR CORE VALUES BY NURTURING INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS IN A TRANS-DISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM. IN ADDITION TO THE IB CURRICULUM, OUR TEACHING IS INSPIRED BY THE REGGIO EMILIA APPROACH TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, WHICH IS FOCUSED ON INQUIRY-BASED PROJECT LEARNING WITH AN EMPHASIS ON EXPLORATION, AS WELL AS CREATIVITY AND PLAY. STUDENTS WILL DEVELOP STRONG SOCIAL SKILLS, SPIRITUAL WONDER AND EMOTIONAL REGULATION THROUGH DEEP CONNECTIONS MADE WITH THE FAMILY AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

We look forward to spending the school year with you!

ALL ABOUT YOUR TEACHERS!

MRS. HOUSTON

My name is Gatim Houston and I am the Lead Teacher for Junior Kindergarten. I love being a part of the wonderful teaching team here at White Rock Christian Academy. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Early



Childhood Education (ECE) from Columbia Bible College in Abbotsford. Prior to coming to White Rock Christian Academy, I have been teaching for over 10 years. This will be my ninth year at White Rock Christian Academy.

In my free time, you can find me spending time with my husband, family and friends.

We enjoy spending time in God's creation,

either hiking or stand up paddle boarding. We also enjoy traveling and experiencing new cultures.

My husband and I attend Peace Portal Alliance Church in South Surrey.

MRS. BIRCH

I received my diploma and license as Education Assistant and Early Childhood Education Assistant at Sprott Shaw College.

I have two musically talented teenagers. They play the saxophone and the trumpet. I enjoy hiking, camping, gardening. As a family we like to take walks along White Rock Beach. I am truly amazed by God's intricate work when I am outdoors.

I love hosting my friends over a meal, bible study, prayer meeting and fellowship. I believe that with such connections, we can have influence in each other's lives.

My family and I attend the White Rock Salvation Army Church. We do volunteer work and community outreach as way of giving back.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN AND IB

Our Junior Kindergarten students are our youngest IB learners, taking their first steps in WRCA's IB Continuum of Learning.

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is a transdisciplinary program designed to foster the development of the whole child, and our early learners do so while in a nurturing, stimulating and developmentally-appropriate environment.

Throughout the school year, we will complete four Units of Inquiry. These units typically run for 8-9 weeks.

1. Who We Are (Year Long Unit)
 - ◆ "We Can Learn about Ourselves Through Exploration."
2. How We Express Ourselves
 - ◆ "Feelings and Experiences Can Be Expressed Through Creativity."
3. How the World Works
 - ◆ "Structures are Built to Meet Needs"
4. Sharing the Planet
 - ◆ "People Use the Earth's Resources to Produce and Provide Food."

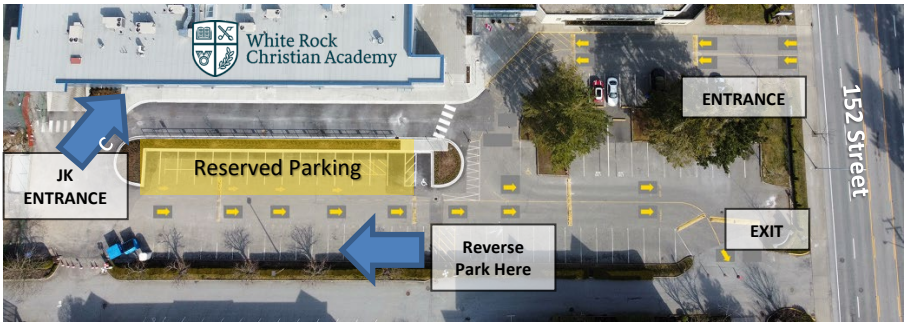
Through these units, we will incorporate the IB Learner Profile. The IB Learner Profile are traits that we would like to see in a life-long learner. They are as follows:

- ◆ Inquirers
- ◆ Knowledgeable
- ◆ Thinkers
- ◆ Communicators
- ◆ Principled
- ◆ Open-Minded
- ◆ Caring
- ◆ Risk-Takers
- ◆ Balanced
- ◆ Reflective

CLASSROOM AND PARKING

The Junior Kindergarten classroom is located in the Senior School building.

Parents can park in the main parking lot in the non-reversed spaces. When parking, follow the parking attendants' directions, and please reverse park in the indicated area.



PARENT TEACHER COMMUNICATION

As the relationship between the child's home and school is of vital importance, there will be a couple of ways for you to find out what is happening in the classroom.

E-mail (houstong@wrca.ca)

Please feel free to email Ms. Lau if you have a question, concern or information about your child's day at school. I will try my best to get back to you in a timely manner, that is, within school hours (7:45am-3:45pm) and days (Monday to Friday).

On occasion, I will send out class emails about future events and news. Please make sure that you check your email on a regular basis.

In Person

We would love to connect with you outside of class time. If there are any concerns, questions or celebrations that require extra time and space, please do not hesitate to set up a time to meet with me.

Seesaw

Seesaw is a personal, private, online learning portfolio that I use to document your child's learning and experience at WRCA. Through this platform, you will be able to view, like and comment on your child's pictures and videos.

To be able to use Seesaw, I will send every family an individual link to sign up. This will happen at the beginning of the school year.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

As Junior Kindergarten may be one of the first times away from home, it is important that we take care in providing a smooth transition.

HOME VISITS

Home visits will take place Tuesday & Wednesday of the first week of school. The purpose of this visit is to get to know you and your child in a familiar environment. During this time, we will take some time to play with your child in their favorite activity. Then we will visit with you. This will be a time for us to go over some paperwork. This visit typically takes 15-30 minutes.

CLASSROOM VISITS

A classroom visit is when you and your child will have an opportunity to familiarize themselves with their new learning environment. Please make sure that you bring their school supplies and any items that will remain in their cubby.

This visit will take place on Thursday & Friday of the first week of school. This visit typically takes 15-30 minutes.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION CONT.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

MONDAY - 2 hours (8:35-10:35am) Parents will sign their child in and say goodbye at the door. Children will come in and start their morning routine.

TUESDAY - 2 hours (8:35-10:35am) Parents will sign their child in and say goodbye at the door. Children will come in and start their morning routine.

WEDNESDAY - 3 hours (8:35-11:35am) Parents will sign their child in and say goodbye at the door. Children will come in and start their morning routine.

THURSDAY - 3 hours (8:35-11:35am) Parents will sign their child in and say goodbye at the door. Children will come in and start their morning routine.

FRIDAY- 4 hours (8:35-12:35pm) Parents will sign their child in and say goodbye at the door. Children will come in and start their morning routine.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION CONT.

For some children, this will be an easy transition, however, for some other children this may be a little more difficult. When saying goodbye it is important to tell a teacher that you are going to be leaving. The reason for this is so that we can gauge whether or not your child will be needing any assistance. Then TELL (NOT ASK) your child that you will be leaving and that you will be back at the end of the class. At this point, it is important that you follow through, even though it may be hard to leave because he/she is crying. Then a teacher will approach the child and help them through the process of saying goodbye.

The key to a smooth Junior Kindergarten transition:
Be LOVING, Be CONSISTENT & Be PATIENT

As each child is unique, we want to give them time and space to feel comfortable with the teachers and with the classroom. Therefore, some children may need a longer adjustment period. If you feel that your child may have a difficult time adjusting to Junior Kindergarten, we ask that you let us know ahead of time so that we can discuss strategies and an appropriate plan of action.

The gradual entry process is for children who are attending Junior Kindergarten at WRCA for the first time. For children who are starting school in the middle of year, we can discuss whether or not gradual entry will be necessary for your child. This process can also be shortened or lengthened depending on the needs of the child. This will be decided upon by the discretion of the teachers and parents.

2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 5-6 (T/W)	Junior Kindergarten Home Visits
September 7-8 (Th/F)	Junior Kindergarten Classroom Visits
September 11-15 (M-F)	Junior Kindergarten Gradual Entry
October 2 (M)	Truth & Reconciliation Day – School Closed
October 9 (M)	Thanksgiving – School Closed
November 8 (W)	PD Day – No Class
November 9 (Th)	PD Day – No Class
November 10 (F)	Remembrance Day – School Closed
December 22 (F)	Last day prior to Christmas break
January 15 (M)	School reopens following 3-week break
February 16 (F)	PD Day – No Class
February 19 (M)	Family Day – School Closed
March 16 (F)	Last day prior to Spring break
April 2 (T)	School re-opens following 2-week break, including Easter weekend
April 10 (W)	JK Student-Led Meetings
May 16 (Th)	Staff Retreat - School Closed
May 17 (F)	Academic holiday – School Closed
May 20 (M)	Victoria Day - School Closed
June 21 (F)	Last day for JK students

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN UNIFORM

The uniform for the Junior Kindergarten class is comprised of the following items:

- ◆ Official crested navy WRCA polo
- ◆ Official crested navy hype jacket
- ◆ Medium grey unbranded sweatpants. Leggings and grey denim are not permitted.
- ◆ Black socks and all black shoes including black soles.



Please label all clothing items!

Official crested WRCA uniform items are available through:
CANUCK VOLLEYBALL:

<https://www.paddlevancouver.ca/collections/white-rock-christian-academy>

PW: WRCA

We also have a “Gently Used” uniform program where gently worn uniform pieces are given back to the school to sell at a discounted price with proceeds going to our Benevolent Fund.

Please visit the uniforms web page (wrca.ca/uniforms) for further information with purchasing links, or e-mail your inquiries to uniforms@wrca.ca

DAILY CLASSROOM ROUTINES

8:35am: GOOD MORNING! Your child's day begins with being greeted at the door with a friendly hello/good morning and a hug/high five. Then your child can go to their cubby to hang up their coat, backpack, and to change into their inside shoes.

When this is accomplished, they can go read some books on the carpet.

8:35-9:05am – MORNING MEETING. We begin our day with prayer, worship and a story time. This is where we lay out the day's events and expectations.

9:05-10:00am: EXPLORATION TIME. As the children complete their work at the carpet, they are allowed to go and explore an activity. This may include but is not limited to:

- ◆ Current IB Unit of Inquiry project work
- ◆ Building activity like Lego, blocks, magnets etc.
- ◆ Spending some time in our art space, either drawing, cutting paper, gluing, or painting.
- ◆ Sensory activities like clay, water, or sand.
- ◆ Exploring the properties of light at our light table
- ◆ Reading a book
- ◆ Engaging in imaginative play through our housekeeping area or large block area

10:00-10:15am: TRANSITION CIRCLE. As each child finishes cleaning up an area, we move into a time of music and movement. While this is happening, children are invited to use the bathroom and to wash their hands for snack. When everyone has finished washing their hands, we will pray and enjoy our snack.

DAILY CLASSROOM ROUTINES CONT.

10:15-10:45am: SNACK. During this time, children are encouraged to be independent in taking care of their snack. This includes tasks such as opening/closing their own snacks, throwing garbage away and cleaning up.

Please refer to our Nutrition Policy on what to bring to school for snack.

10:45-11:45pm: OUTSIDE TIME. Once they are dressed, the children are allowed to go outside to our fenced playground area. Here, they have an opportunity to enjoy playing in all types of weather and to develop their gross motor skills. Depending on the weather, there may also be table toys, sensory experiences and drawing to explore.

11:50-11:55am: REFLECTION TIME. As the children transition from outside to inside, they will change their shoes, take off their coat and hang up their things in their cubby. Then they will lie down on the carpet to have some quiet time to reflect on the day and the things that they have learned.

11:55-12:10pm: DISCUSSION TIME. During this time, we further discussion our current IB Unit of Inquiry. We may also talk about a letter of the alphabet or a number.

12:10-12:25pm: MORNING WORK. This is tied to what was just discussed. We may draw a picture or do a printing worksheet.

DAILY CLASSROOM ROUTINES CONT.

12:25-12:30pm: CLEAN UP AND GET READY TO GO HOME. As they finish their work, children will get ready to go home.

12:35pm: GOODBYE! SEE YOU NEXT TIME! As each child is ready to go home, they are asked to sit on the carpet and wait until a teacher calls their name. Then each child will be given a hug/high five and a goodbye for having such a great day.

***Please note: Our schedule is flexible. It is up to the teachers and the children to decide how and what our day will look like.*

Once a week, JK students will have an opportunity to visit the school library. During this time, Mrs. Scheirer reads them a story and teaches them about our IB Unit Of Inquiry. Mrs. Scheirer also plays an important role in connecting our students to library resources that extend their interests and learning.

On occasion, we may have an opportunity to have time in the gym. This generally occurs two or three times a week for 30 minutes. The time will be based on availability and will be communicated to families in September.

Typically the JKs have an assigned library time once a week. The time will be based on availability and will be communicated to families in September.

Throughout the school year, the JK students enjoy spending time out in the forest. This is a great opportunity for the students to explore, build gross motor skills and enjoy being in God's creation. The experience of exploring the forest is under the discretion of the teachers.

Class times are scheduled to change. We will notify you of any changes that may occur.

WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL

Please ensure that your child brings the following items to school:

Everyday:

- ◆ Backpack
- ◆ A healthy, nut free snack (please refer to our Nutrition policy)
- ◆ Water bottle

PLEASE BRING AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. THESE STAY IN YOUR CHILD'S CUBBY:

- ◆ All Black, indoor shoes that your child can easily slip on and off
- ◆ Rubber or snow boots (weather dependent)
- ◆ Muddy buddies/rain/snow pants (weather dependent)
- ◆ Rain coat or a warm jacket (weather dependent)
- ◆ A complete extra change of clothing
- ◆ (including undergarments and socks)
- ◆ Seasonally appropriate gear (eg. Mittens, gloves, a toque etc.)

School supplies (grade specific lists will be available online by June:
wrca.ca/school-supply-lists.)

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Approximately once a month you will receive a Scholastic Book order. There is no obligation to order any books. When making a book order, please follow the instructions to order and pay online.

TOYS FROM HOME

Please leave personal toys and items at home or in the car. When personal toys are brought into the classroom, they risk being broken or lost. They can also create disagreements/problems in the classroom, as the child may not want to share his/her special toy with friends or will only share it with a select group of children. It can detract from the wealth of materials and experiences that are available to them at school. Below are some of the items that are better left at home or in the car: jewelry, games, action figures, collectible cards, videos, video games, Barbies, small figurines etc. When your child insists on bringing a toy to class, here are some positive suggestions for how to say “no”:

- ◆ At Junior Kindergarten, the rule is that “home toys” are
- ◆ best left at home.
- ◆ At Junior Kindergarten, there are so many toys and materials to play with. Remember how much you enjoyed (insert favorite activity here)”

However, when a “home toy/item” is brought into the classroom, we will remind the child that the item needs to be kept at home for safety reasons. We will keep the toy safe at the teacher’s desk until pick-up time.

We understand that sometimes, a child will find something great in nature or have some other grand “treasure.” In cases like this, we are delighted to have your child to bring it in to show their friends.

NUTRITION POLICY

Eating together is an important part of our classroom routine. It offers a special opportunity to sit down and to engage one another in further conversations about our day. This is also a time to develop healthy eating habits and to reinforce table manners.

Parents will be responsible for providing a healthy, nut-free snack to eat at school. An example of a healthy snack would include 1 fruit or vegetable, 1 dairy option (yogurt, cheese etc.) and/or 1 grain/meat option (crackers, whole wheat bread or wrap, cooked meat pieces etc.)

These items should be in a labelled, reusable container as we are trying to limit our waste in the classroom.

During this time, the children will be offered their entire snack and they will be able to choose the sequence in which they want to eat it.

Please refrain from packing any sugary foods, snacks that are high in salt content or juice boxes. These items can be saved for special events or class parties.

There will be times, when the children and their teachers will make or bake something special as part of the day's activity. On such occasions, parents will be informed of what was made as well as the ingredients that were used.

As we may have children with food allergies, the sharing of snacks will not be allowed.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN TOILETING POLICY

Your child **must be completely toilet trained before** starting Junior Kindergarten. We are not equipped or licensed to change diapers or pull-ups (exceptions may apply if your children has a full time aid in place for a developmental special need).

Our policy assumes that a child can complete the entire toileting process independently. If they ask for assistance we will talk them through the process. We will only help if we feel that they are unable to complete the process independently.

Although we have this policy, we desire to be gracious and patient in this area as well. We understand that the transition to a new school routine can be stressful for some children. Therefore, we expect that some bathroom accidents will occur.

As a team (parents and staff), we can help the child to be successful in this area by:

- ◆ Requesting that parents take their children to the bathroom as they arrive to school. Although they may not need to go it is important for them to try and this will help in creating a predictable routine.
- ◆ If your child has an accident, we will be calling you to come and assist with the cleanup. If we cannot reach you and the child is willing to let us help, then we will assist in changing them.
- ◆ Bring a complete extra change of clothes which we will store at school in case of accident.

HEALTH, ILLNESS AND MEDICATION POLICY

In order to limit the spread of illnesses in the classroom, the teachers will be cleaning and sanitizing the tables before and after eating. Toys/materials will be cleaned and sanitized by the teachers on a regular basis.

The children will be required to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet.

Illness

We are committed to keeping our classroom a safe and healthy place for everyone. We ask that any child with a communicable disease to be kept at home. This includes fever, a cold with yellow discharge, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, a congested cough, pink eye etc.

Please make note of the following:

- ◆ Your child must be without fever (without the use of medication), vomiting and diarrhea for 24 consecutive hours before returning to school.
- ◆ If your child is unable to participate in all aspects of our day, including outdoor play, please keep them at home.
- ◆ Please inform the teachers if your child has any of the following or other contagious diseases:
 - Chicken pox
 - Mumps
 - Measles
 - Hand/Foot/Mouth Disease
 - Lice

If there is an outbreak of a contagious disease in the classroom, we will be informing you through e-mail and through an announcement on our parent board. We will be in contact with a public health nurse and our licensing officer to inform them of the outbreak.

If your child becomes ill while at school, we will contact you or your emergency contacts if you are unavailable. While we wait for you to pick up your child, they will be placed in a comfortable and quiet area with a teacher.

Medication

Teachers are not permitted to administer any medication unless a “Permission to Give Medication” form has been completed by the parent. However, it is highly recommended that parents try to work out the medication schedule for when the child is at home.

If your child has any allergies or health concerns, please inform the teachers in your application form. In the event that your child may require extra attention in this area, we will be working alongside you to create a care plan. The purpose of the care plan, is to guide the teachers in what to do in an event of an emergency. It is essential that you keep this information up to date.

All medication will be kept in a locked box in the cupboard or in the fridge.

BEHAVIOURAL GUIDANCE CONT.

BEHAVIOURAL GUIDANCE

It is the core value of White Rock Christian Academy to “Inspire and cultivate citizens of godly character who transform their world for Christ.” WRCA exists to assist Christian parents in the fulfillment of their biblical mandate to “train up children in the way they should go.”[1]

The purpose of the discipline policy at WRCA is to give a framework for how the WRCA community will work together to teach, train, and guide students in Christian virtue.[2] Loving discipline should work to create an atmosphere conducive to the safe and effective operation of the WRCA community. Discipline should be administered restoratively rather than punitively, and with love and grace rather than fear,[3]so that the dignity of the child is preserved and long-term character growth can occur.

Discipline is meant to guide students back into a restorative relationship with God and community through instruction, training, and correction. Parents and staff (all school employees) must instruct students as to what is expected. Training assists the student in forming good habits. Correction occurs to adjust the student’s behavior by taking action to cause them to follow previous instruction.

It is important that we have a set of clear guidelines. This is what the educators will use to encourage appropriate behaviors so that the classroom is an enjoyable place for everyone. We commit to the following:

- ◆ Build relationship with the child and their family.
- ◆ Set consistent and clear expectations about what types of behavior is acceptable. (Ex: “When we are inside, I need to see walking feet.”)
- ◆ Focus on the child’s positive behaviors. (Ex: “I noticed that you were really gentle with Mindy. I am very happy to see that you remembered to use your gentle hands.”)

BEHAVIOURAL GUIDANCE CONT.

- ◆ Explain the reason or rationale for the limits that have been placed. By doing so, it helps children understand and learn the rules for living and playing in community. (Ex: “Please keep the sand low so that it doesn’t get in other people’s eyes.”)
- ◆ Use positive language when talking to children (Ex: “Please turn the book gently” versus, “Don’t be rough with that book.”)
- ◆ Get down to their eye level when speaking with a child, gently touch their shoulder or back and speak in a low, calm voice.
- ◆ Acknowledge a child’s feelings (Ex: “I see that you are feeling angry but I need you to keep your hands to yourself so that our friends are safe.”)
- ◆ Encourage and model problem solving skills (Ex: “I can see that you would like your turn with the doll, how about we go and ask Mindy for a turn.”)
- ◆ Provide children with appropriate choices. (Ex: “Would you like to play with the blocks or would you like to read a book while we wait for our turn?”)
- ◆ Use specific statements that encourage rather than statements that praise the child. (Ex: “Wow, I really noticed how you spoke to your friend in a kind voice.” Versus “Good job” or “Good boy/girl.”)
- ◆ Involve the child in making amends (Ex: “Mindy is really sad, let us go and get her a Kleenex.”)

When a behavior is persistent and continues to be disruptive, the educators and the parents may need to have a conversation to discuss strategies and goals for the child. This will be accomplished through regular communication via email and in person. If needed, the educators and the parents will arrange for a meeting outside of class time to discuss further strategies to help the child be successful in the classroom.

BEHAVIOURAL GUIDANCE CONT.

None of the actions listed below will be permitted in the classroom (according to the CCLR section 52)

1.
 - a) Shoving, hitting or shaking by an employee or another child, or confinement or physical restraint by another child;
 - b) Confinement or physical restraint by an employee, except as authorized in a child's care plan if the care plan includes instructions respecting behavioral guidance;
 - c) Harsh, belittling or degrading treatment by an employee or another child whether verbal, emotional or physical, that could humiliate the child or undermine the child's self-respect;
 - d) Spanking or any other form of corporal punishment;
 - e) Separation, without supervision by a responsible adult, from other children;
 - f) As a form of punishment, deprivation of meals, snacks, rest or necessary use of a toilet.

- 2) A licensee must ensure that a child is not, while under the care or supervision of the licensee, subjected to emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse or neglect.

When a child is harmed and needing first aid, the incident will be logged in an Incident Report Book. If required, a Licensing Report form will be completed. Then the children's parents will be informed of the incident.

[1] Proverbs 22:6.

[2] Galatians 5:22-23, Colossians 3:12-15.

[3] 1 John 4:18.

SPECIAL CLASSROOM EVENTS

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are a wonderful way to get the outside community involved in our learning. These events are planned around our IB Unit of Inquiries.

Parent volunteers are greatly appreciated on these trips. It is a wonderful way to connect with the children and to receive your volunteer hours.

SPECIAL CLASSROOM VISITORS

To supplement the children's interests or inquiries, there may be opportunities when we ask for someone special to come and give us a presentation. These special guests could be a policeman, fireman, local artist or maybe even you! If you have a special talent or interest, please inform us, as we would love for you to share it with us!

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are an exciting and special time of the year! We welcome you to bring a birthday treat to share. Small toys, crayons, playdough are highly preferred over sugary treats. The birthday treats will be handed out at the end of the class time.

To avoid multiple treats on the same day, please inform the teachers prior to the child's special day.

In addition, if your child's birthday falls during winter/spring/summer break, we still would love to celebrate! Please let the teachers know when you would like to do so!

When handing out birthday invitations, please be sensitive to the children who will not be invited. This can be done privately and outside of the classroom. Thank you for your consideration in this area.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN TUITION POLICY

Junior Kindergarten's Monthly Tuition Fee is as follows:

5 Days/Week: Monday-Friday (4 year olds): \$1,000

For more information about payment plans, please see:
wrca.ca/admissions/tuition-fees/

WITHDRAWALS

One full month's advanced notice - in writing - is required if you decide to withdraw your child. After the one month's notice, we will refund the remaining tuition balance if you have pre-paid for the whole year, or will stop the automatic withdrawals, if you have signed a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) agreement.

BC AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE

There are child care subsidies available for those families that qualify for it. It is a monthly payment to assist eligible British Columbia families with the cost of child care. Monthly subsidy payments vary depending on the family's circumstances.

For more information and for the application form, please see:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/child-care-benefit>

SAFE RELEASE OF CHILDREN

When arriving in the classroom, please remember to sign your child in, as this is required by our licensing regulations.

At your return, please remember to sign your child out. Please note, that children will only be released to adults (18 years and older) who are listed as authorized on their application form. Parents may include additional names by notifying the educators in writing. In the event that someone new is picking up your child, please re- mind them to bring their driver's license with them to enable the teachers to verify their identity.

If someone who is authorized to pick up your child, appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, the educators will be contacting the police as our concern is the safe transportation of the child.

If an unauthorized person attempts to pick up your child, we will contact you to ask for consent and then we will check the person's driver license before allowing the child to be released.

If you have a court order that disallows someone from picking up your child, please inform us on your application form. We will require that you provide us with the appropriate court documents. Should the person(s) named in the document attempt to pick up your child the school administration and the police will be involved. We will inform you of the situation.

Under no circumstance, will we release a child to someone who is not authorized to pick up your child unless you have given us formal, written consent.

Please remember to be on time to pick up your child. If we do not hear from you, we will wait 15 minutes after class has ended to contact you at home or at work. Then, if we continue not to hear back from you, we will move onto your emergency contacts that were provided on your application form. After significant time (approx. 2 hours) of not hearing back from either you or your emergency contacts, we will be required to call and involve the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We welcome parent volunteers in the classroom. Not only do we love the extra help in the classroom, but your child will also love having you there. These volunteer opportunities will be in our weekly emails. All volunteers require a Criminal Records Check for volunteers with the local RCMP office.

All families are required to fulfil volunteer hours for the year. More information will be provided at the start of the school year.

ACTIVE PLAY & SCREEN TIME POLICY

The Junior Kindergarten program at White Rock Christian Academy recognizes the importance of physical outdoor activities for young children. By implementing appropriate physical practices, we are providing an environment where children are developing the IB Learner Profile of being “Balanced”. Being “Balanced” means that they “understand the importance of balancing different aspects of their lives – intellectual, physical and emotional – to achieve well-being for themselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.” As a result, we have chosen to value and implement the following into our program:

- ◆ Children will spend a minimum of 40 minutes outside during each class time. This will occur in all types of weather. In the case of severe weather storms, the time outside may be shortened and supplemented with indoor games and/or movement activities.
- ◆ Teachers will model physical activity for children. We agree to be physically active with them.
- ◆ There will be un-facilitated play and facilitated games/activities for children.
- ◆ We will be incorporating fundamental movement skills (balance, coordination, running, jumping etc.) and injury prevention into all active play situations.
- ◆ Children will have limited exposure to screen time and it will only be used on the following basis:
 - To play worship music and Bible programs.
 - It must relate to our current Unit of Inquiry
 - It will only be used to enhance further research that has been done through books and/or through other experiences

ACTIVE PLAY & SCREEN TIME POLICY

- ◆ Teachers will model appropriate and limited screen time and cellphone use in the classroom. We agree that while we are with the children, we will call or text people outside of class time. We will also model research skills through the use of books.
- ◆ However, family involvement is important in helping children learn how to be balanced in their lives now and into the future.

As a result, you can support us in the following ways:

- ◆ Provide your child with seasonally, weather appropriate clothing. Please refer to page 11 of your JK Handbook for what to bring to school. It is important to think, “There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothes.”
- ◆ As a family, commit to spending a minimum of 60 minutes outside doing physically active activities such as walking, running, swimming etc.
- ◆ Role model appropriate screen time use in your own personal life.
- ◆ Limit children’s screen time at home to no more than 30 minutes/week.
- ◆ Replace screen time with reading books, play and face to face interactions with one another.

By each one of us doing our part now, we can set a strong foundation for the next generation to live lives that are well balanced and healthy

NOTES

NOTES

ENGAGED

PROVIDE A HOLISTIC EDUCATION FROM A BIBLICAL
CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW



LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD
WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
YOUR SOUL, YOUR MIND
AND YOUR STRENGTH.

MARK 12:30



White Rock
Christian Academy

2023-2024



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Christian Academy**

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