



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Kindergarten! The Barclay Kindergarten Team is excited for a new school year to begin. **Our main goal is for your child to LOVE coming to school each day, excited to learn.** Every day is a new adventure, and we try to learn as much as we can from your children as they do from us. We take great pride in our work and our school family here at Barclay. Thank you for sharing your children with us. Our partnership in your child's learning is essential.

A little about me...Mrs. Beard This will be my third year at Barclay and tenth year teaching Kindergarten! I have degree in Elementary/Early Childhood Education, and a master's degree in Reading. When I am not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my husband and black lab, Luna.

What can you expect your child to learn in kindergarten? It certainly will be an engaging, exciting year of learning! Each day, we will focus on skills such as following a routine, working in a cooperative group, and solving problems. Some skills we will be exploring in each subject are:

<p>Reading/Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ recognize, name, and make the sound of upper and lower case letters ➤ develop phonemic awareness of sounds ➤ develop print concepts ➤ develop comprehension skills and use them to respond to literature ➤ draw and write simple stories ➤ follow simple directions ➤ begin to use decoding skills 	<p>Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ read and write numbers ➤ recognize uses of numbers through daily experiences ➤ understand the basic meaning of addition and subtraction in real situations ➤ use and make patterns ➤ recognize and name basic plane and solid figures
<p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ explore the five senses ➤ learn about the jobs of our body's organs ➤ observe and describe weather ➤ describe the four seasons ➤ work cooperatively in a group to solve a problem 	<p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ recognize people as individuals with feelings ➤ identify community helpers ➤ identify important historical and everyday heroes ➤ identify farms and farm animals as sources of goods ➤ gain an appreciation of holidays celebrated throughout the world

You will be amazed in June when you think back to September and reflect on how much your little one has grown academically, socially, and physically!

There are a few things that you can do now to aid your child's transition into kindergarten and prepare for a successful year. First, there are many supplies that will be useful. Check out the included supply list to see what your child will need. Also, "warm up your child's brain!" That means READ, READ, READ with your child! It never hurts to learn something new from a great book or simply enjoy a good story that you read to your child. You may want to start a bedtime schedule/ routine sooner rather than later, too. We have very busy days. Following directions is tricky for our kindergarteners. Try giving directions to your child only one time and let them practice the follow through.

Keep a lookout for communication from Barclay with important summer orientation/visit dates.

Looking forward to meeting you in person!
Mrs. Beard