

Get the Scoop: Kindergarten Edition 2023

Welcome to Neil M Ross! We cannot wait to
SOAR with your little ones this year.

REQUIRED SUPPLIES

[Supply List Link](#)

Labelled for personal use:

- 1 Large Backpack
- 1 Pair of Indoor Shoes, slip on or velcro
- 1 Reusable Non-Spill Water Bottle to go back and forth
- 1 set of Headphones
- 1 Extra set of clothing, including socks and underwear in a large labelled bag

For classroom community use (unlabelled):

- 1 large white eraser
- 1 pair of kid-sized scissors (metal edges)
- 3 jumbo triangular pencils
- 4 LARGE (40 g) glue sticks
- 1 Elmers 120ml white glue
- 6 EXPO dry erase markers (any colours)
- 1 set of Crayola Washable Broadline Markers
- 1 duo-tang
- 2 Boxes of kleenex tissues
- 3 Packages of Wet Wipes
- 1 - 8-1/2" x 11" Burke Group Visual Journal Sketchbook OR
[Hilroy Studio Pro Sketch Book](#), (8-1/2" x 11", White, 50 lb. Paper Stock, 100 Sheets, available at Staples)

CLOTHING

Children learn best when they are actively involved, and sometimes that means getting messy. Please send your child to school in comfortable, easy to wash clothing. It is also important to have them dressed for the weather, rain, snow or shine!

EXTRA CLOTHING

Please send a change of clearly labelled clothing, underwear and socks in a LABELLED bag, to remain at school, in case your child needs to change.

LABEL CLOTHING

Please ensure that ALL clothing and footwear are clearly labelled, including the clothing and shoes that your child will arrive in.



STAGGERED ENTRY

Students with last names that begin with A-L attend on Tuesday, August 29th. Last names M-Z attend on Wednesday, August 30th. ALL students attend classes together on Thursday and Friday.

COMMUNICATION

Each month you will receive a digital class newsletter and calendar outlining our learning, field trips, special days etc. Your teachers will also use email, Seesaw, and the kindergarten webpage (<https://nmrkindergarten.weebly.com/>) to share with you class pictures and important dates and information. Please visit often to see all that is happening in Kindergarten. School wide information will be communicated through the NMR webpage, email and also through a 'Week at a Glance' sent Sunday mornings.

SNACKS and LUNCHES

Snack/lunch time is a social time, but allergies require that there be no sharing. Just a reminder that NMR is a NUT FREE school. NO peanuts/nuts of any kind should be sent in snacks and lunches.

AM Class: Please keep snacks small and nutritious. A simple leak-proof container is an easy option for snack.

Full Day Class: Please send a healthy snack and a lunch as well (only one lunch kit is necessary.)

Water is our beverage of choice therefore a reusable water bottle should come to school with your child each day to be returned home for cleaning at the end of the day.

BIRTHDAYS

Each child is recognized on their special day within the class and by the office staff. If you choose to send in a special treat to share with the class, it must be NUT FREE; this includes treats labelled “may contain” or “made in a facility that processes nuts.”

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be late or absent at school, it is very important to use the SafeArrival App to report their absence. If you experience difficulty, please call the school.

NO KINDERGARTEN DAYS

These are days that are separate from our District PD dates. The calendar can be found on the NMR school and GSACRD District webpages. <https://www.gsacrd.ab.ca/division-schools/division-calendar>

PROGRAMMING

The Kindergarten program focuses on the following areas of your child’s development: SOCIAL, PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL, CREATIVE, EMOTIONAL, AND SPIRITUAL.

The Kindergarten Program Statement outlines what young children need to learn to prepare for entry into Grade One and to provide a foundation for later success. These areas are:

- English Language Arts and Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Citizenship and Identity
- Personal and Social Responsibility
- Physical Education and Wellness
- Creative and Cultural Expression
- Spiritual Development



We learn pre-reading skills, including letter names and sounds, rhyming, breaking apart and putting together sounds in words through the Animated Literacy Program. Each of the 43 sounds in English are explored through read-aloud storybooks, puppet characters, storytelling, song and sign language gestures. Encourage your child to share these stories and gestures with you as they learn them in school. We will also be using the Heggerty program of explicit and systematic Phonological and Phonemic Awareness Lessons through the year. We cannot wait to see your student’s growth this year!

Math literacy (numeracy) is as important as language literacy in academic success. The Kindergarten learning outcomes for mathematics as well as the other subject areas can be found on the New Learn Alberta website. <https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en>

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF STUDENT GROWTH

- Assessment of student progress is an ongoing process and will be shared through PowerSchool.
- A Celebration of Learning will take place in late November providing an opportunity for the children to show you what they have learned to date.

Each new experience adds to a child's knowledge, and when the child shares an experience with an adult, there is a great potential for reinforcing the learning. Parents are in the best position to help children make connections between past experiences and new ones.

Talking with your child about their day in school sounds easier than it is. The pictures shared on SeeSaw can help springboard some great conversations about their day. Here are some suggested questions that may help your child share some more specific information with you.

- What was the best thing that happened at school today? (What was the worst thing that happened at school today?)
- What are you learning about now?
- What learning centers did you go to today?
- Tell me about a story that was read to you today.
- Who did you work with and who did you play with today?
- Who sat with you at snack?
- Did anyone do anything funny at school today?
- What games did you play at recess?
- What's one thing you did today that helped a friend or your teacher?

Growing in Love with the Father

Our Catholic Faith is reinforced through our school day. We participate in several service projects to live our faith. We open each day with prayer and song, pray before eating, and end each day with a closing prayer. We welcome and celebrate each and every child's unique gifts and talents as they are all God's children, created perfectly to plan. At Neil M Ross students, staff and parents know, model, and witness Jesus Christ through our theme of Growing in the Trinity: Love, Mercy & Grace, as Jesus calls us to do through prayer and almsgiving, to realize all things are possible through God.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Our classrooms love volunteers! We love to have parents assist us both in the classroom and on field trips. We will send out requests for help throughout the year!

LIBRARY

When library begins, your student will have a book to borrow for a week.

welcome to
kindergarten

We are looking forward to a wonderful start to our year! If you have any questions, please never hesitate to ask. Thank you!

Your Kindergarten Teachers,
Mrs. Searle and Mrs. Brady (K1 Full Day)
Miss Stefner (K2 AM)

K1: Outdoor Classroom

"We have such a brief opportunity to pass on to our children our love for this Earth, and to tell our stories. These are the moments when our world is made whole."

Richard Louv (author of Last Child in the Woods)

K1 will be taking our learning outside many afternoons during the week! We will be exploring, discovering, playing and learning in and with nature. We are so fortunate to have a great little urban forest in our school yard. Our hope is that our outdoor learning will take place in all weather conditions. Some activities will include climbing, building, open ended play, using our imaginations, looking for bugs, discovering hidden mushrooms and finding other wonders. We can't wait to see what the kids come up with.

Please send your little learner to school dressed for exploration in NMR's surrounding green spaces. This includes:

- Sturdy shoes for exploration (socks)
- Clothing appropriate for the weather. This may include gloves, mittens, raincoat/suit, rain or sun hats and rain/snow boots for example.

What to look for in outdoor gear and play clothes: protects against the elements, stands up to wear and tear, easy to put on and take off, loose fitting enough to allow for range of motion while playing.

We can't wait to create, learn, play, and explore together - Mrs. Searle and Mrs. Brady

"Why go inside when it rains? That's when the mud makes the best globs."

(Swedish Outdoor Association)

