

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN BYRON SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOL

2025 -2026



In September, we will welcome your child into our Year One/Junior Kindergarten Program at **Byron Somerset Public School**.

When we go back to school, he/she might travel to and from the school on a school bus, or they might walk. Some children might be part of the before and after school program with London Children's Connection.

Staff will walk safely with your child when they are dropped off at school and when they are picked up from school by the bus.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Our school day will start at 9:00 a.m. & it will end at 3:30 p.m. (Note: Kindergarten parents can pick up between 3:20 and 3:30, and then pick up siblings).

Byron Somerset has a balanced day schedule. You will need to send enough food for 2 nutrition breaks. The first will be around 11 a.m., and the second will be around 2 pm. Eating a hearty breakfast before school will help them start their day off right.



THE SCHOOL OFFICE
IS JUST INSIDE THE
FRONT DOORS OF
BYRON SOMERSET P.S.



Our office staff welcomes you and your child to Byron Somerset Public School!



Principal
Ms. Alary



Vice-Principal
Ms. Vickers

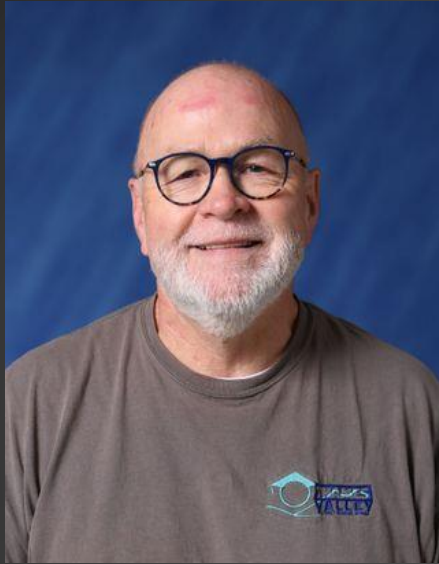


Administrative
Secretary
Mrs. Ovtsherenko



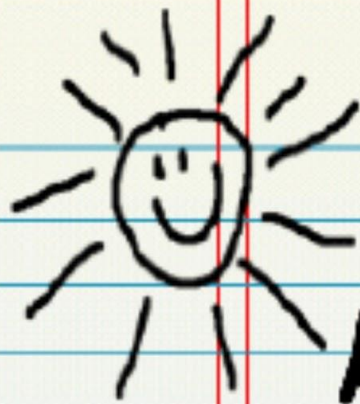
Assistant
Secretary
Mrs. Lahib





Mr. Cluney and Mr. Findlay are custodians at our school.
You will see them working hard to keep our building and our
yard safe and clean, and looking nice.





Robert Fulghum's

ALL I REALLY
NEED TO KNOW
I LEARNED IN
KINDERGARTEN



In the Classroom...

the Teacher and Early Childhood Educator work together as a team.

Families

Studies show that children perform better in school if their parents are involved in their education. By becoming familiar with the Kindergarten program, parents can better appreciate the value of play-based learning and learn about the attitudes, skills, and strategies that their children are developing. This awareness will enhance parents' ability to discuss their children's learning with them, to communicate with educators, and to ask relevant questions about their children's development. Knowledge of the program will also help parents understand their children's growth in learning and will enhance their ability to work with educators to improve their children's learning and development. (p.109)

Kindergarten Program 2016, Ministry of Education, p 109



Mrs. Jekl



Ms. Healy



Ms. Ferraiuolo



Mrs. Foster-Mohan



Here are some of the Kindergarten Teachers.
As of right now, next year, there will be 3 classes:
FDK1, FDK2, and FDK3.
Mrs. Foster-Mohan is the FDK Specialty teacher,
for outdoor education, gym, and music.



Mrs. Seaborn



Ms. Palmer



Mrs. Ritchie



Here are some of the Early Childhood Educators for our Kindergarten Teams. Each classroom is comprised of an OCT (Ontario Certified Teacher) as well as an ECE (Early Childhood Educator) to make up the Kindergarten Team. They focus on age-appropriate planning that promotes each child's physical, cognitive, language, emotional, social and creative development and well-being.



This is where we begin and end our day. Our coats, backpacks, extra clothing and indoor shoes are kept here. Don't forget to label everything!



The Importance of Play

- Builds knowledge and skills appropriate to individual developmental level.
- Helps to develop strong oral communication skills, make friends, and build confidence.
- Fosters understanding and respect for diversity, nurtures positive citizenship.
- Inclusive and ideal for children who are learning English as a second language.
- Fosters creativity in completing tasks, solving problems, and making decisions.
- Develops persistence, motivation, and self-esteem.



Play is Learning, ETFO, p. 2



HERE IS A PEEK AT A COUPLE OF
OUR CLASSROOMS.
HERE WE LEARN THINGS
TOGETHER. WE ALSO HAVE OUR
LUNCH AND SNACKS IN OUR
ROOMS.



We learn in many different ways. Sometimes we are inside and sometimes we are outside.

The classes may not all be doing the same things however we are all following Ontario expectations. Each class has its own set of needs, personalities, and interests.



The Kindergarten Program

Four Frames

Belonging and Contributing
Math and Literacy Behaviours
Self-Regulation and Well-Being
Problem Solving and Innovating

You will see these 4 frames on our Communication of Learning.

Belonging and Contributing & Self Regulations and Well Being
are the focus for the first few months of school.

Self-Regulation = Calm, Focus, Alert



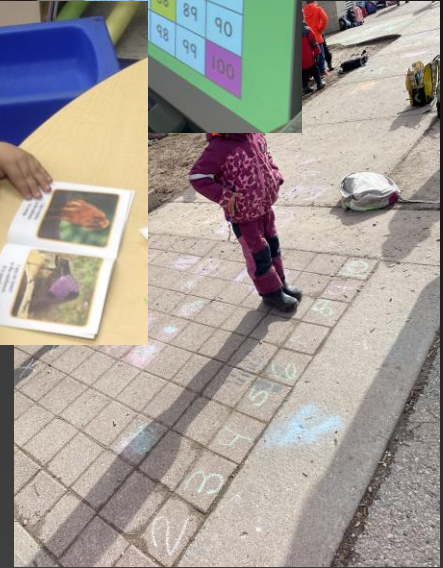
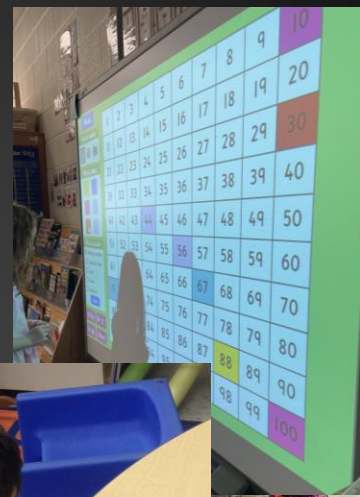
Belonging & Contributing

- *Developing social skills*
- *Sharing thoughts and feelings*
- *Building a positive self-image*
- *Care for self and others*
- *Care and respect for the environment*
- *Explore the arts*



Literacy & Mathematics

- Oral language
- Rhyming
- Letters and sounds
- Printing Skills
- Early reading & writing skills
- Number recognition
- Counting and matching
- Shapes
- Patterning



SELF-REGULATION & WELL-BEING

- *Learning about health and well-being*
- *Building self-regulation*
- *Using social skills in play*
- *Exploring movement*



Problem Solving & Innovation

- Explore through hands-on investigations and observations
- Share questions, thinking, and learning with others
- Use problem-solving skills on their own and with others
- Create and design



It began with building a floor

We measured to see if the floor was big enough for the house!

Authentic conversations about measurement and cooperation and creativity at its finest!



This is the Learning Commons/Library.

Your child will go to the library with their class to read and choose new books. This is also a place we can go to do special activities and learn about technology.





This is the **gym** in your child's new school. It is across from the office at the front of the school, when you come inside to the right. It can be two smaller spaces or one big gym. The gym is used for physical activity, games, special events and assemblies or presentations.





Our school yard has lots of space!

Your child can make new friends and play with peers during outdoor times. This is a great time for social skills and learning about problem solving.



Some more information
for parents...



Items Needed for School

(PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING)

Indoor and outdoor shoes - *Velcro* works best unless they can tie shoes independently.

A ziplock bag labelled with spare clothes. (shirt, pants, socks and underwear)

Appropriate clothing for outdoor recess and outdoor education for *each season*, (winter/rain boots, snow pants/splash pants, hat, mitts x2, sunscreen or sun hat).

Large backpack. Must fit- lunch bag, library book, take-home bag for notes or artwork.

Lunch bag with reusable containers and a reusable water bottle.



Eating times

We will have 2 Nutrition Breaks (one around 11 a.m. and the second around 2 p.m.) Please **label** all containers and lunch bags clearly with your child's name. Eating times are often a social time for many new JK children. We start early to help with this to give students enough time. Often students don't eat much in the first few months as there are so many new friends and distractions. This is normal. If you feed them a hearty breakfast before they start their day, this will help. Children learn best with a full belly and **healthy** food choices. You can include fruit, vegetables, grains, and protein. Cut and peel fruit such as apples or oranges for quick bites. Cut grapes in half the long way. Talk to your child about their likes and dislikes and about the importance of eating fresh food before packaged food.



Hot lunch days will be offered and can be paid for through **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE** (e.g. Pizza Days)



Toileting

There is no set bathroom time, children may use the washroom when they need to. We have them ask us though, so that we know if they are out of our sight or if there was a fire drill, for example. Everyone's safety is important. We do remind them and offer many opportunities throughout the day for bathroom breaks.

Encourage your children to be independent in the washroom. Have them practice pulling up and down their own pants. Buying elastic band waistbands can help make it easier. Have them practice wiping, flushing and washing hands. Praise them for their independence. You can always clean up with a bath or wet wipe after school. Accidents do happen and we can manage helping with wet pants, as long as we have spare clothes in their cubby.



If a child has a bowel movement accident their parents will be called.



Preparing for Full Day Kindergarten

Practice independence

- Putting on and taking off shoes
- Opening and closing backpack and wearing it
- Opening and closing reusable snack/lunch containers
- Putting on pants, jacket, socks, boots, sweater
- Going to the toilet and wiping own bottom and washing hands
- Not putting toys or hands in mouth to prevent from getting sick
- Holding a pencil correctly and cutting with scissors



Establishing a good bedtime routine. (10 -13 hours of sleep per night is recommended for 4 - 5 year olds).

Practice printing their name (UPPER CASE might be easier to start). Read aloud books to your child each night and practice counting to 10.

Encourage your child to use sentences when speaking, rather than one-word answers or baby talk. Yay - they are big kids now!

Staggered Entry

To ease adjustment to a new setting and schedule, Junior Kindergarten children are normally "staggered" into the class during the first week of school. The purpose of the staggered entry process is to allow for gradual entry prior to attending full time and help students adjust to their new learning environment. It also enables the teacher and ECE to get to know your child a little better before they become integrated into full day attendance. We have found staggered entry to be beneficial for most students in supporting a strong start.

You will receive your staggered entry schedule (starting date) via email/post by the end of June. **All JK students will be in attendance by Friday of the end of the first week.**



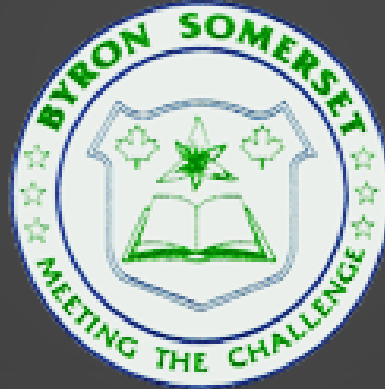


Kindergarten is a journey.... not a race.

We as educators will allow your child time to explore,
to play and to learn.



The staff are excited to welcome you to
Byron Somerset Public School!





A Healthy Start to Kindergarten

Do you have a child starting school next year? Check out this resource by the Middlesex-London Health Unit that includes information on immunization reporting, packing lunches, dental screening and more!

To download the resource from our website, use the QR code below



or visit: <https://www.healthunit.com/healthy-schools-parents>

 @ML_Schoolhealth

 BUREAU DE SANTÉ DE
MIDDLESEX-LONDON
HEALTH UNIT
www.healthunit.com

