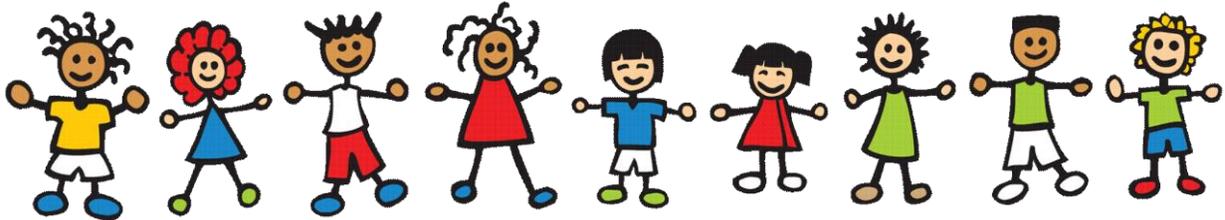


*The mission of Royal Palm Academy is to partner with families to provide an education of rich academics with Catholic formation. We teach the mind, educate the heart, and form the character of tomorrow's leaders.*

# Welcome to Kindergarten



2021-2022

## Welcome to Kindergarten!

I am looking forward to a wonderful year! We are already off to an excellent start! In order to ensure that we are all on the same page, I have prepared a list of important things that you will need to know as we begin this school year.

### Drop off Procedures

Students can arrive and meet in the MAC between 7:45 and 8:00, prior to 7:45 the students should go to "morning care". The school day will begin promptly at 8:00am with morning prayer. The students are learning our daily routines and need to practice these on their own in order to gain independence and confidence in themselves. Any students arriving after morning prayer will be marked tardy.

### Pick up Procedures

Dismissal will take place at 3:15 daily (**with the exception of Wednesday which will be at 2:15**). Please allow your child to be walked to you/your car by the teacher. If your child is to go anywhere that deviates from his/her daily routine, please be sure to include this information in your child's folder, email, or pick up patrol. The RPA Aftercare is available on campus for after school if needed.

### Snack and Lunch

Our lunchtime is at 11:00-11:20. We will have a snack time in the afternoon every day. Please send a healthy snack/drink each day. Candy and sodas will not be allowed. We are unable to heat up food items this year. Please do not send foods that your child is not able to assemble on his or her own. We have a few tree nut allergy in the building, so please **do not pack anything that contains tree nuts in your child's snacks or lunches** (including Nutella).

### Classroom Specials \*(Times can be found on the attached student schedule)

Monday- Spanish, and Art

Tuesday- Spanish and P.E.

Wednesday-Mass, Music, Spanish, and Library

Thursday – Spanish and P.E.

Friday- Spanish and Technology



# Behavior Management

## Classroom Rules

1. Treat others the way you want to be treated.
2. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
3. Raise your hand.
4. Use walking feet in the classroom.
5. Be a good listener.
6. Always tell the truth.
7. Do not leave the classroom without permission.

## Behavior Policy/Incentives:

- Students will earn a stamp at the end of everyday if they had good behavior throughout the day. When they earn 5 stamps throughout the week, on Friday they get to choose a prize from the treasure box.
- Good Behavior: I try to treat the class for good behavior on Fridays. It might be a movie, extra free time, extra recess, etc. I use the traditional green light, yellow light, red light with clips. If a child has good behavior and follows classroom rules the clip stays on green. If I need to give reminders throughout the day, the clip is moved to yellow which means “think about it”, if there are continued issues the clip is moved to red and a note will go home in the homework log regarding their behavior. All clips are moved back to green every morning for a fresh start.
- Praise: I will give super star high-fives, thumbs-up, and verbal praise throughout the day. This is my way of saying “thank you” for trying your best! I use a lot of positive.
- reinforcement in my classroom! 😊
- If physical harm is inflicted upon a child, immediate attention must be provided to the situation by a teacher or aide and the clip will automatically be moved to the bottom.

# Homework

Homework will be sent home on Monday through Thursday and is due the next day. Math sheets are typically sent home nightly and is reinforcement of what we worked on during the day. On some occasions, the homework may vary to include other assignments. Your help with these assignments make our projects and discussions in class more meaningful, relevant, and fun! Reading books will be sent home with your child 2-3x a week as homework. Books are to be read the night(s) they are sent home and returned to school the next day. If your child does not have a book sent home with them that day, you may choose to have your child read a book from home or read to them for 5-15 mins.

## Folders

Your child will be coming home with a folder each day. This will consist of homework, homework log, letters, personal notes, finished seat work, arts, crafts, etc. Please check these folders daily.

## Homework Log

Your child will receive a new homework log on the first day of the week. It is important that you make sure your child completes their work and then sign their log. I will be writing any notes about their behavior on the log, if there is not note than your child had a good day.

## RenWeb

RenWeb.com will be our online classroom connection with grades. If you have any question about RenWeb access please speak to Mrs. Jennifer Sarafile and/or Mrs. Julie Mulligan.



## Curriculum Highlights

### **Orton Gillingham Approach** (to teaching phonics, reading, spelling)

The Orton-Gillingham approach (OG) is a multi-sensory, systematic, explicit, sequential method of instruction in encoding (reading) and decoding (spelling).

OG is research-based and clinically-proven to improve reading and spelling, and on a deeper level fluency (reading with accuracy, speed, and expression), vocabulary, and comprehension.

OG is taught in three tiers:

Tier 1—Assessment takes place to determine appropriate level for whole-group instruction (three times/year—beginning, middle, and end).

Tier 2—Small group instruction—typically 5-8 students in a group for differentiated instruction based on individual needs, additional support to achieve expected levels of learning.

Tier 3—Individual intervention for students not achieving at expected levels while participating in Tier 2 (The Learning Center with Loretta McIntosh), approximately 45-60 minutes of intervention daily.

### **Spelling**

Will correlate with our phonics program Orton Gillingham. Spelling will begin in the late fall/early winter.

### **Fountas + Pinnell**

The Fountas + Pinnell Benchmark Assessment measures each student's reading proficiency through systematic observation, recording, and evaluating of performance. The assessment will be administered 3 or 4 times during the school year to confirm student growth in reading.

### **Writing Program**

The Units of Study of Lucy Calkins and the *Teachers College* will help us to teach narrative writing with increasing complexity. We will foster higher level thinking skills and develop strategies for writing. The program supports greater independence through various writing opportunities. We will use both mini lessons and independent writing and conferencing with the teacher throughout the year to help the students learn how to put their creative ideas onto paper. We will do a lot of sharing within the class to highlight their progress throughout the year.

### **Interactive Read Aloud**

IRA is a Fountas + Pinnell program that we use here at Royal Palm. The children love it. We read stories that have a common theme and while reading we discuss author/illustrator, character, setting, predictions, feelings, and continuous comprehension questions.

### **Math**

RPA has adopted Sadlier Math in grades K – 4. Sadlier Math is a comprehensive math program that provides an effective pedagogy that fosters students' conceptual understanding and skill development through both guided and independent practice. The program offers abundant real-world problem-solving applications and STEAM connections (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), reinforcing the relevancy of

the study of math. Sadlier Math supports innovative instructional practices and includes a variety of digital tools for enhancing instruction.

- Basic addition and subtraction
- Reading and writing graphs
- Reading and writing patterns
- Identifying “more than” and “less than”
- Writing/Counting/Reading/Recognizing numbers 1-100
- Counting by Ordinal Numbers
- Counting pennies, nickels and dimes
- Telling time to the hour and ½ hour
- Adding two-digit numbers
- Measuring to the nearest inch & centimeter

**Science**

- Seasons/Climates
- Classification and habitats
- Human body
- Space
- Physical Science
- Geosphere
- Life Cycles

**Social Studies**

- Globe and Map
- Pilgrims and Thanksgiving
- Christmas Traditions
- Famous Americans - Symbols and Figures
- Community Helpers
- Past & Present, Long Ago

**Handwriting (Handwriting Without Tears)**

- Proper writing position
- letter formation
- Journal writing

**Religion**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Holy Trinity</li> <li>-Attributes of God</li> <li>-Baptism</li> <li>-Creation Story</li> <li>-Forgiveness</li> <li>-Ten Commandments</li> <li>-Daily Prayer</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-God’s House</li> <li>-The Church</li> <li>-Miracles of Jesus</li> <li>-Church Leaders</li> <li>-Parables</li> <li>-All Saints/All Souls Day</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Lent/Easter</li> <li>-Thanksgiving</li> <li>-Mary-The Mother of God</li> <li>-Advent/Christmas</li> <li>-Chapel Visits</li> <li>-Participates in our virtues program</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|

**Grading**

<b>Above Grade Level (AGL)</b>	<b>On Grade Level (OGL)</b>	<b>Below Grade Level (BGL)</b>
<p>The student consistently exceeds grade level expectations and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the content area. The student consistently applies and/or demonstrates the skills and/or behaviors expected and is working above grade level according to RPA Curriculum standards and benchmarks in the content area.</p>	<p>The student meets grade level expectations and demonstrates and understanding of the content area. The student generally applies or demonstrates the skills or behaviors expected and is working at grade level according to RPA Curriculum standards and benchmarks in the content area.</p>	<p>The student is making progress toward meeting grade level expectations. The student demonstrates limited understanding of the content area. The student occasionally applies or demonstrates the skills or behaviors expected and is working below grade level according to RPA Curriculum standards and benchmarks in the content area.</p>

# Reading Grade

	<b>Above Grade Level (AGL)</b>	<b>On Grade Level (OGL)</b>	<b>Below Grade Level (BGL)</b>
<b>Quarter 1</b>	Level D+	Level A - B	
<b>Quarter 2</b>	Level D+	Level B – C	Level A
<b>Quarter 3</b>	Level D+	Level B - C	Level A
<b>Quarter 4</b>	Level D+	Level D	Level A - B

## Special Events

These are some of the special activities your child will look forward to this year:

- Field Trips (TBD)
- Grandparents Day
- Thanksgiving Feast
- Christmas Class Party
- 100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration
- Valentine's Day Party
- Kindergarten Graduation (TBD)
- Birthdays: When your child's birthday month arrives, I will be contacting you for arrangements on what to bring in! We encourage healthy eating!

## Classroom Volunteers

Our room parents will assist with arranging parties, events, chaperones for field trips and volunteers. Please look for emails from them to help make our events successful!

## Your Child Will Be Successful Each Day By:

- Arriving on time for the school day.
  - Coming properly dressed.
- Having their school/home folder and homework completed.

