

# Welcome to Kindergarten!

July 2025



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the kindergarten year at Eileen Madson Primary School! This will be an exciting year filled with many new experiences for your child. It is also an important time for parents, and we hope that together we can make this a fabulous year for you and your child.

During the first two weeks of September, students will not be assigned to a specific teacher or group of peers. During this time, teachers will be collaborating to create balanced classes that support student learning. All K teachers will have similar routines and lessons connected to social/emotional learning and building understanding around being a student at school. All K students will get to know all K teachers and support staff. We will meet in the gym at the beginning of each day and dismiss from the back playground area at 11:00 am.

Kindergarten children in B.C. are required to have fewer instructional hours in a year than other grades, which allows for a smooth transition schedule for your child. We understand that this schedule can create some challenges for parents regarding childcare. We also know the value that it holds for children going through this time of transition. New experiences can be difficult and exhausting for young children, so this alternate schedule provides time to learn new routines, rest, and build stamina in the school setting. Below you will find your child's schedule for the first few weeks.

Week 1				
Monday, Sept. 1	Tuesday, Sept. 2	Wed. Sept. 3	Thursday, Sept. 4	Friday, Sept. 5
Labour Day – No school for anyone	Administration Day for staff	No School for Kindergarten First day of school for grades 1-3	Teddy Bear Picnic  1:30 -2:45 pm *Parents to join*	8:45 -11:00  Please send: - snacks (no nuts!) - water bottle
Week 2				
Monday, Sept. 8	Tuesday, Sept. 9	Wed. Sept. 10	Thursday, Sept. 11	Friday, Sept. 12
8:45 -11:00  Please send: - snacks - water bottle	8:45 -11:00  Please send: - snacks - water bottle	8:45 -11:00  Please send: - snacks - water bottle	8:45 -11:00  Please send: - snacks - water bottle	8:45 -1:04  Please send: - snacks - water bottle - indoor shoes (to be left at school) - lunch * Bussing available both ways

### Week 3

Regular school hours for all students start Monday, September 15

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
<b>8:45 – 3:07</b>  Please send: - snacks - lunch	<b>8:45 – 3:07</b>  Please send: - snacks - lunch	<b>8:45 – 3:07</b>  Please send: - snacks - lunch	<b>8:45 – 3:07</b>  Please send: - snacks - lunch	<b>8:45 – 1:04</b>  Please send: - snacks - lunch

Regular bussing is available for getting to school each day. Return home will be up to individual families to manage for the 5 days when kindergarten is dismissed at 11:00 am. If you need a bus registration form, please go to [Student Transportation | Rocky Mountain School District No. 6](#).

Regular school hours will be 8:45 am – 3:07 pm for all students starting on Monday, September 15, and bussing will be available for all at this time. Please note that we finish at 1:04 pm on all Fridays and our two early dismissal dates.

On the day of the Teddy Bear picnic, parents will go through the C.H.E.Q. survey with school staff so we can get to know the needs of the classes better. You are also invited to connect with EMP's kindergarten teachers in the afternoons to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. If you feel there is any pertinent information that should be communicated prior to September, then please contact the school to advise the kindergarten team. We are here to work with you to provide a successful entry into kindergarten!

**Teddy Bear Picnic (First Day of Kindergarten – Thursday, September 4):** Because parents are an integral part of a smooth transition to kindergarten, you and your child will attend together on the first day. Please bring a snack to share with your child. We will host an outdoor/indoor event, starting at 1:30 pm, at which time students will meet the kindergarten teachers and peers. Students will see the kindergarten classrooms to become familiar with the space and tour the school. During the picnic, parents will have 20 minutes to complete the Childhood Education Questionnaire (C.H.E.Q.) about your child, which provides valuable information for our school.

**Please RSVP by August 23** to confirm your attendance at the Teddy Bear Picnic. If you and your child are unable to make it at the last minute, please contact the school so we are aware. (Call (250) 342-9315 or email [Rebecca.Gray@sd6.bc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Gray@sd6.bc.ca)). Families are encouraged to bring their favourite stuffie.

#### Important Information for the Rest of the School Year:

- ✓ Please send your child with a water bottle on Thursday Sept. 5.
- ✓ Please LABEL **ALL** belongings with your child's name (lunch kit, backpack, hoodies, shoes, etc.)
- ✓ Your child will need a recess snack and lunch **every** school day (Friday included). Please send it "ready to eat". **We do not provide hot water or microwaves.**
- ✓ **Just a reminder that EMP is a NUT AWARE and SCENT SENSITIVE school.** This means we do not allow nuts, including peanut butter, and we try to avoid strong scents (lotions, perfumes, etc.).

- ✓ This year, the kindergarten supplies fee is \$50. Families who would like financial assistance covering this cost please speak to Ms. Gray.
- ✓ Please send inside shoes starting Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. These should be running shoes that your child can put on and take off independently.
- ✓ If you have any questions, please feel free to phone the school at 250-342-9315.
- ✓ The office will be open to begin the school year on August 18, 2025.

**We look forward to a busy and exciting year with your child. See you soon!**

😊 Ms. Casey

Principal of Eileen Madson Primary School

[jodi.casey@sd6.bc.ca](mailto:jodi.casey@sd6.bc.ca)

250-342-9315