



### Absences



If your child is absent from school for any reason, please call the school office at 468-6446. Absences without a written excuse or a phone call to the office will be counted as unexcused.

### AIMSweb



School staff will evaluate all kindergartners using AIMSweb reading and math assessments. This testing will be done 3 times during the kindergarten year and you will be informed of the results.

### Attendance



A successful school experience is the responsibility of the child, the parent and the school. Your child's progress, both academically and socially, is influenced to a great extent by daily participation. Regular attendance without tardiness is a key.

### Arrival



Children should arrive between 8:00 and 8:20 AM. Students should not arrive prior to 8:00 AM since supervision is not available by the school staff. School begins at 8:20 AM and afternoon dismissal is at 2:50 PM.



### Backpacks



Please have your child share the contents of his/her backpack with you daily.

### Birthdays



Birthdays are very important in Kindergarten. We will celebrate birthdays and ½ birthdays (for those children who have a birthday in June, July or August). Your child's teacher will make certain that their special day is truly special. If you would like to bring a special snack for your child's birthday it must be store-bought.

### Book Orders



Several times during the school year we will be sending home book order forms for you and your child to look over. These clubs offer wonderful books at reduced prices – what a great way to build your home library!

### Buddies

Kindergartners are paired with 6th grade buddies. Our buddies will help kindergartners during Mass and we will also be doing special projects with our 6<sup>th</sup> grade buddies throughout the school year.



### Clothes



Please send your child to school in clothes appropriate for learning. Do not send your child to school so "dressed up" that you might be concerned about her or him "getting dirty." Being involved in kindergarten activities often means that the students will get a little "messy."

### Computer Class



We visit the computer lab once a week and when we start going to school five days a week, we will have computer class twice a week. Mrs. Kristi Schmidtbauer teaches computer. We use a variety of age-appropriate programs that reinforce math and reading skills.

### Conferences



Parent/Teacher conferences are held in the fall and spring. At these conferences, we will be discussing your child's accomplishments, strengths and overall progress. Please feel free to schedule additional conferences at any time throughout the year if the need arises.



Regular school dismissal time is 2:50. All children who are not riding the bus from school are dismissed from 'Parent Pick-up' which is in the entry way by the North Flag Pole Entrance. Children who are not picked up by 3:15 will be taken to after school care, Kids Place, and a fee will be charged.



Envelopes - when sending money (cash or check) to school, please put it in a sealed envelope labeled with your child's name, what the money is for, and the teacher's name. All the money gets to school and we know what to do with it.

If schools are closed for any emergency, or if opening is delayed, an announcement will be made on both radio and television. Holy Trinity School follows the same closing procedures at Pierz School District.



We plan field trips that are fun and educational for the children. We often need parent volunteers on the trips. All volunteers must have completed the safe environment training. Please contact the school office to set up a time to take the on-line training.

Please have your child wear shoes that are appropriate for running and active movement. Cowboy boots or dress shoes, for example, are not good for school activities because they are slippery and inappropriate for the gym or the playground. Gym shoes must be worn in the gym.

Our class will have a 30-minute gym class twice a week. The children are asked to wear tennis shoes so they can fully participate in all activities. Our Gym teacher is Mr. Brian Hartwig.

Handwriting is incorporated into our reading series, Treasures. (See page at the end of the handbook for correct letter and numeral formation.) Please try to help your child write her name with a capital letter at the beginning of their present and future lives. We provide a quality education integrating academic excellence with church teachings, Gospel principles and morality. Remember, all letters go from top to bottom.

Homework in Kindergarten is designed to reinforce skills that we are working on in school. Homework should take no more than 10-15 minutes. By working with your child, you will get a sense of your child's progress on that skill.



The question of when to keep your child home from school is often a difficult one, especially when a decision must be made first thing in the morning. It is important, however, to keep your child home if he/she is ill. This helps to make them more comfortable and prevents others from becoming ill. Children function more effectively in the classroom when they are healthy.



One strategy that will be used to help convey the vital concept that “print conveys meaning” is the frequent use of journal writing. In these journals the kindergartners combine their emerging writing skills with their drawing skills. As the children are exposed to a variety of phonics and reading experiences, journal entries will move from drawings and phonemic spellings towards more conventional writing.



Holy Trinity offers a school age childcare program that is available before school, after school, days school is not in session and summer programming. Sarah Funk is the director of Kids Place. If you would like more information on Kids Place, please contact the elementary office.

Kindergarten Connections folder – Your child will be bringing home a communication folder, “Kindergarten Connections”, daily. Please familiarize yourself with this folder and use it to write any communications with your child’s teacher.



Students in our classroom are encouraged and expected to treat all members of our class, as well as others, with kindness and respect. Hitting, fighting, name-calling, and mistreating others will not be permitted.



We will visit the Library weekly. Kindergartners will check out a book each week. Library books must be returned before another can be checked out.




We have a Lost and Found in the hallway near the breezeway. We encourage children to check the lost and found collection for any missing items. We ask that you label clothing items worn to school by your child. This will help us return a lost article to its owner.

Children may either purchase a school lunch or bring a lunch from home. A monthly lunch menu will be sent home with each day's meal choice for you to discuss with your child. The price for lunch during the 2011-12 school year will be in the fall packet. All families are encouraged to apply for free/reduced lunch prices through the hot lunch program. When students qualify for free/reduced lunches, this provides federal for other programs: Title I.






The kindergarten mathematics curriculum provides students with mathematical experiences that help them develop number sense and a positive attitude toward mathematics that will continue through their school career and their lives. We use EveryDay Math Series, which utilizes a hands-on and visual learning approach to problem solving.

Ms. Janice Rybaski is our music teacher and she will be teaching the children the basics of music education and will be sharing many fun songs. We are scheduled to have music  a week in kindergarten.



We will be sending home newsletters to keep you informed of the happenings in our classrooms. There are two newsletters: all school on Tuesdays and Kindergarten on the last day of the week.

Kindergarten teachers take care of minor hurts in the classroom such as scratches and scrapes  the children to our school office staff or the school nurse, Rachel  for more serious injuries and illnesses. The school nurse is available  Holy Trinity on Wednesday. Please be sure to send any changes in your emergency contact numbers to the office in case "The Nurse" needs to reach you.



The children will be going outside, weather permitting, every day. Please keep this in mind when helping your child to select clothing for the day. In winter months, children must have boots, snow pants, hats, mittens and a warm jacket.





Debra Meyer-Myrum is the Principal of Holy Trinity School. (The children call her Mrs. M & M)



You may have unanswered questions. The best time to reach Kindergarten teachers is from 7:30 – 8:00 AM or 3:00 – 3:30 PM.



### Reading Curriculum



The Elementary School uses Treasures by Houghton Mifflin/McGraw Hill which is literature based. This program provides our children with a strong background in phonemic awareness. Leveled readers are storybooks from this series that will be sent home with your child throughout the year.

### Reading



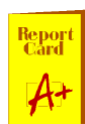
Because children learn to read by reading and being read to, it is important to read to them daily. Please include a wide variety of literature - fiction, nonfiction and even easy chapter books in your selections.

### Religion



Religion is taught everyday in all grade levels. Not only is religion taught as a separate subject, but it is also integrated into every aspect of everything we teach.

### Report Cards



These reports reflect the progress your child has made toward various kindergarten objectives.

School Secretary  
School Bookkeeper



Snack



Kelly Becker (Monday – Friday) and Lori Funk (Monday, Tuesday, Friday) are our school secretaries. They can be found in the office (468-6446). They are more than willing to help you in any way that they can.

Every morning or afternoon we have a short snack time. Several times during the year your child will bring home a note requesting that they bring snack to share with their class. Please try to send these within a week. \*Milk is available for snack.

Social, Science and  
Health



Social, Science and Health are integrated throughout the kindergarten curriculum during the entire school year.

Toys



Bringing toys to school is discouraged for a number of reasons. If a toy is accidentally lost or broken, feelings will be hurt.

Transportation



If you plan to pick up a child who normally rides the bus or other changes in your child's pick up routine, you must send a written note. Do not rely on your child to tell us this information because children often become confused and relay information incorrectly. **If a written note is not received, your child will be sent home by his/her usual method of transportation.** For last minute *emergencies* a phone call should be made to the office.

Undress



Kindergartners are expected to dress and undress themselves for outside play. This includes putting on boots, snow pants, mittens, and hats and fastening jackets



Your support of school activities makes your child feel important and sends the message that you value school. If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know.



### Website



Holy Trinity School has a website, which can be accessed at [www.holytrinitypierz.org](http://www.holytrinitypierz.org)

### Wednesday's



For the first few months of school, kindergarteners will not be coming to school on Wednesdays. This is a day off for them to rest up and get used to our busy schedule. Sometime in December, kindergarteners will start coming to school on Wednesdays. We will let you know the exact date before this happens.

### Wish List

Throughout the year we sometimes need supplies above and beyond our classroom materials. These needs will be posted in the newsletter. Extra items that you think we might be able to use are always welcome!

### Writing



Our writing program builds on what each child already knows. Writing begins with scribbles and proceeds to lines and circles, random strings of letters, words and spaces and eventually sentences. Your child will be encouraged and praised for all attempts and accomplishments in writing. Providing a risk-free environment is paramount to your child's progress in writing. If possible, please provide your child with writing tools, such as pencils, crayons, markers and paper at home.



### Extra Clothes



There is a supply of extra clothes in the nurse's office to be used in case of bathroom accidents, spills, etc. If your child comes home wearing clothes from the Nurse's Office, please wash and return them as soon as possible



### Year 2011-2012

By working together, we can make this an exciting year for your child.

### Zzzzz's



Make sure that your child gets plenty of rest. Setting and keeping a bedtime is a wonderful gift you can give to your child. It will help them to be alert and ready to learn each day!