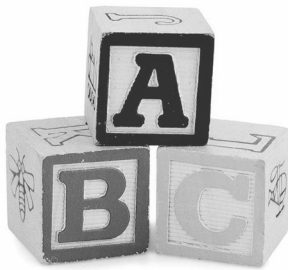




FMCS Kindergarten Program

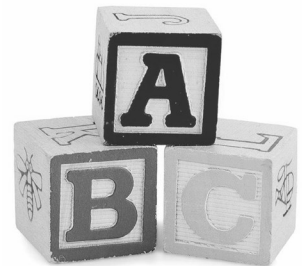
PARENT HANDBOOK 2023/2024

**Florence MacDougall Community School
10802 Rainbow Boulevard**



**Phone: 780-926-2331
Email: flomac@fvsd.ab.ca**

**Website: <https://fmcs.fvsd.ab.ca>
Social Media: fmcsclub**



Friendship, Manners, Caring & Safety

WHAT IS KINDERGARTEN?

It is a place where children will experience growth, not only physically but also culturally, socially, intellectually, and emotionally. It is a place where a program of activities is designed to meet the needs and desires of young children at their level of maturity.

ELIGIBILITY

Parents **MUST** present a birth certificate in order to register their child for kindergarten.

Children qualifying for Kindergarten **must turn 5 years old BEFORE December 31, 2023.**

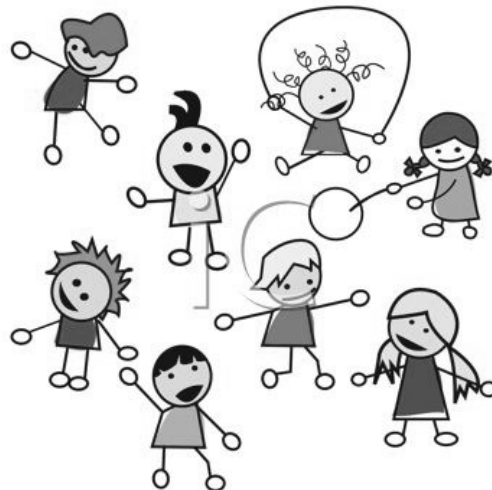
Early entry into our Early Intervention Program is possible if your child is presenting with severe language and/or medical needs. However, please be aware that the provincial qualifications for early entry have changed to more stringent parameters. If you believe your child may qualify for early entry, please contact Jenny Dempster (jennyd@fvsd.ab.ca) at the school for more information.

On reserve students may qualify for funding through Jordan's Principle. Call 1-844-588-8748 to inquire about funding or visit the following website for more information:

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396042341/1568396159824>

ACTIVITIES INCLUDED IN THE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

- ▶ Whole Group Activities
- ▶ Centers
 - Language Arts
 - Math
 - Art & Science
 - Dramatic Play
- ▶ Writing
- ▶ Recess
- ▶ Read Aloud (story time)
- ▶ Physical Education



SUPPLIES

Please mark **ONLY** the school bag and running shoes with your child's name.
All other supplies will be shared within the classroom.

- Backpack
- Running Shoes for indoor wear
- 1 pkg. of large Ziploc bags
- 1 pkg. of small Ziploc bags
- 6 large glue sticks (preferably Elmers)
- 1 pkg wax crayons
- water bottle



Please make sure to label your child's backpack, indoor and outdoor footwear.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

All parents are welcome to attend School Council meetings held once a month. Look for the dates on the school calendar.

LUNCH & SNACK TIMES

Please send a healthy lunch, and drink each day as well as healthy snacks for morning and afternoon snack times.



Due to severe peanut and nut allergies within our student body, FMCS is a Peanut/Nut FREE Zone.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that all parents and students help us by not sending peanuts/nuts or food containing them to school.

This includes peanuts, almonds, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamia nuts, pecans, walnuts or any type of tree nut.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are welcome and are an asset to the Kindergarten Program. A few ways to be an active member of the school community are:

- ▶ Check with your child's teacher for volunteer opportunities;*
- ▶ Participate in Kindergarten field trips and seasonal programs;*
- ▶ Volunteer as a member of the School Council to participate directly in the decisions made regarding your child's education;
- ▶ Check your child's Home Bag daily.

****Please Note:** You will require a Criminal Record Check (RCMP) and a Child Intervention Check (CS) to participate in classroom activities. These are available at the local RCMP station and Children's Services office.*

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Whenever your child will be absent, **please call the school at 780-926-2331 OR email fmcsoffice@fvsd.ab.ca**. Once attendance is taken, if a student is not accounted for the parents will be called to inform them, through our automated call out system, that their child has not arrived at school. **We urge all parents to keep the school advised of any phone number changes.**

SKILL AREAS

Based on the Kindergarten Program Statement the following areas will be covered: mathematics, language, community and environmental awareness, creative and cultural awareness, physical skills and well being, personal and social responsibility. Throughout the year the student will be working on the following specific skills:

- ▶ Identifying colors
- ▶ Identifying numerals
- ▶ Matching numerals to objects
- ▶ Printing numerals
- ▶ Identifying shapes
- ▶ Alphabet recognition
- ▶ Beginning and ending sounds
- ▶ Printing first and last names using upper and lower case
- ▶ Rhyming words
- ▶ Self-help skills
- ▶ Gross and fine motor skills



DAILY SCHEDULE

The FMCS Kindergarten Program is a staggered program. Your child will be enrolled in either a **Monday/Wednesday** or **Tuesday/Thursday** program with alternating Fridays.

For example, if your child was registered for Mon/Wed their schedule would be:

- **Week 1:** Monday / Wednesday / Friday
- **Week 2:** Monday / Wednesday

**Please refer to the attached calendar to see which days your child will be attending.*

DAILY SCHEDULE: 8:30 AM Parent Drop Off Begins

8:40 AM Morning Classes Begin

2:56 PM Students Dismissed

TRANSPORTATION

Bussing is provided for all rural students. Bus cancellations are posted on Facebook and communicated via the **Fort Vermilion School District Bus Status**– free download app from the iTunes store or Google Play.

Children **MUST** be dressed warmly in case of breakdowns. Students will be sent home by their regular means unless **parents advise us of a different arrangement.**

Rural families: Call the FVSD Bus Garage (780-928-3860) for bussing info and to register.

