Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten

The following is a list of expectations that is intended to help prepare you and your child for a smooth transition into Kindergarten. We encourage you to work on these skills, as necessary, throughout the summer.

Students should be able to:

- Independently use the restroom (be able to button and unbutton uniform pants. Boys are NOT expected to wear belts)
- Unbuckle seat belt, independently exit the car, AND close the car door
    - Students will be dropped off in arrival car line, on sidewalk side of Ellison. It is very helpful for student seats to be placed on the passenger side of the car.
    - Teachers and Jr. High students will assist with this transition in the first 2-3 weeks of school
- Put on, and zip, coats and other necessary winter accessories.
- Clean up and responsibly use school supplies, toys, and other classroom materials.
- Use basic manners ("please" and "thank you")
- Open any snack or food packaging or containers
- Actively listen to multi-step classroom directions and stories
- Take turns and share with peers
- Display appropriate behaviors during weekly mass
    - Students will begin to attend mass in early to mid-September.
- Attempt to tie shoes (we know this can be a difficult task, but please take time to practice this skill)
- Stand in line quietly
- Raise their hand and wait to be called on
- Use a tissue to wipe their nose and cough into their elbow

Academically, students should be able to:

- Write and recognize their first name
- Recognize numbers 1-10 (even out of order)
- Count to 20
- Recognize capital and lowercase letters (even out of order)
- Identify colors
- Sort items by colors, size or shape
- Identify some letter sounds
- Tell if two words rhyme

We will continue to work on all of these skills, and more, throughout the Kindergarten school year. However, spending time practicing these areas prior to the start of school may help your child feel more prepared and comfortable. We are looking forward to getting to know your students!