

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL IN PK3 only (Petite Section) 2019

PREAMBLE

Our schedule for the first week in PK3 addresses the developmental and socialization needs of our youngest group of children. The goal is to facilitate a smooth transition between home and the new school environment. The schedule allows time for parents to introduce the classroom to their own children. The experience will be intimate and nurturing. The idea is to build confidence and bridge home and school by helping the child make connections.

The key to a smooth transition is doing it gradually. While parents are in the classroom the teachers have the opportunity to engage the children on an individual basis. The aim is to build personal relationships that are strong and explicit enough for the children to feel safe once their parents are gone.

We strongly recommend that parents follow the schedule as far as possible. We understand that some families may encounter logistical problems or professional commitments that preclude this. Parents unable to follow all, or part, of this schedule should identify themselves. Our teachers and nap monitors will be available to transition the children of these families during the course of the entire school day.

FIRST DAYS OF SCHOOL FOR PK3 SPECIAL PROGRESSIVE INDUCTION

We have two PK3 classes. Each has a whimsical color name that works nicely in French and in English. Solely for the purpose of the first day logistics each class has been divided as follows:

“PK3 Tangerine”—Group A & Group B

“PK3 Turquoise”— Group A & Group B

Wednesday August 21: First Day for Group A children

A gentle morning introduction with just half of the class (9:30 - 12:00 pm)

Thursday August 22: First Day for Group B children

A gentle morning introduction with just half of the class (9:30 - 12:00 pm)

- ***Parents bring children to the classroom between 9:30 and 9:45am.***
The parent introduces his or her child to the teaching team and then proceeds to present the classroom to the child. Under the gentle auspices of the teacher and

the two assistants, the parents and children will name the play corners, visit the bathroom and explore outside and other spaces. Parent and child will rotate from play station to play station and will participate in a collaborative art project. Each parent will have a little interview with the teacher to share information on the child. ***The parent and the child leave together around 12:00pm.***

Friday August 23: Second Day for ALL children

Morning only including lunch (8:40 am -12:30 pm)

- ***Parents bring children to the classroom between 8:40 and 9:00 am.***
The parent remains in class and continues the exploration of the space with the child until 9:30am. Parents and children together attempt to engage in games with other children. As the morning progresses, the parent becomes more and more of an observer and should leave the classroom by 10:00am allowing their child to explore by themselves as teachers will get to know students individually and share a circle time. At 11:30am, the parent should come back and helps the child with a lunch bought from home, introducing the "lunch-box" concept—especially if it is new to the child—and describing parental expectations regarding lunch: "This is what I prepared for you." "This is how to open this container." "I will show this to you so that you can do it by yourself next time."
Parent and child leave after lunch at around 12:30 pm.

Monday August 26: Third Day and beyond for ALL children

First regular school day (8:40 am - 3:15 pm)

- ***Parents bring children to the classroom, which is opened as early as 8am.***
On this day parents will stay in the classroom no longer than 20 minutes after arrival. Parents should casually point out children playing happily with new friends. At the appropriate moment, parents leave confidently after a prompt goodbye. **Circle Time will start every day at 8:45am.** At this juncture the regular routine for school has been established.
- ***At 9:00 am there will be a formal PK3 Orientation meeting for parents with the Administration team in the Multi-purpose space.***
- ***Parents return at 3:15 pm for an early pick-up.***