



Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation

Alder Creek Elementary
2024-2025

Thank you for being here!



Welcome to Alder Creek Elementary







We are truly excited to be a part of your child's educational journey. We implore you to get connected with all the great things happening here.






Our goal for this afternoon







- Welcome you to the Alder Creek family
 - Give you an overview of our school and staff
 - Provide general information about your child's year in kindergarten
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Alder Creek Mission Statement



In collaboration with our community, we will educate and empower lifelong learners in academic and social emotional competencies in a respectful, inclusive, and culturally responsive manner while developing a sense of gratitude, perseverance, and purpose in our community.



Hello Mrs. Shapley ✨



I am thrilled to be a part of the Alder Creek Elementary team! I graduated from UC Santa Cruz in Psychology and Legal Studies, and my MA in Education and credential from Pepperdine. I began my career in special education and this will be my 6th year as a classroom teacher. When I'm not at school, I'm hanging out with my family and friends doing all things outdoors: camping, backpacking, paddleboarding, snowboarding, running, or riding bikes! I'm looking forward to meeting my students and their families! This is going to be a great year!!



Hello Ms. Smith

I am beyond excited to be a part of the kindergarten team at Alder Creek Elementary! I graduated from Cal Poly, SLO in psychology and received my credential and MA in Education. I am passionate about teaching reading and creating a learning environment that is enriching and fun. This will be my 21st year teaching with FCUSD! At home, I love spending time with my family and dogs. I love all outdoor activities! Yoga and hiking are my favorites. I can't wait to see what this year has in store with our amazing students and families!





Hello Mrs. Kalafatis ✨



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Hello MS. Fitzpatrick ✨



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The Health Office



- Nurse: TBD
- Health Assistant: Dawn Fein dfein@fcusd.org
- Vaccinations: All vaccinations must be current to start school in August
- Medications: Complete medication at school form. Prescription medications require a MD signature. Return form and medication in original container to health office.
- Oral Health: Form in registration packet, return form by May 2024
- CHDP Physicals: Form in registration packet, return form upon completion of 5yo physical exam with MD. Physicals must be dated after February 1, 2024.
- Mandated Screenings: Your child will have their hearing and vision screened in kindergarten. If you wish to waive these screenings, please notify the health office in writing
- Please keep the health office informed of any changes in health or medications







Alder Creek Coyotes



We believe that all Alder Creek students are leaders and can be:

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- P - Positive Attitude
 - A - Act Kindly
 - W - Wise Choices
 - S - Stay Focused
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Students may earn "Coyote Cash" when modeling these traits at school.



Volunteer Information

- We are SO excited to have parent volunteers! We will be needing volunteers for various events throughout the year such as field trips, play days, school events and much more!
- Volunteer Link ~ Make sure to complete this process early in the year
- Steps below for new volunteers
 - Step 1: Complete the online volunteer application found here. Please note that TB tests must have been completed in the past 60 days. You can visit your physician for this assessment or you can attend one of the courtesy TB Test Clinics sponsored by FCUSD. You can find the list of scheduled clinics here.
 - Step 2: If you are applying to be a Category 2 Volunteer, schedule a live-scan fingerprinting appointment for DOJ criminal background clearance. *You must obtain a FCUSD issued live scan form to complete the fingerprinting process with a third party.*



Volunteer Information (Continued)



Current Volunteers: If you are a previously cleared volunteer within our district, please reach out to Victoria Deal to ensure your records are up to date for the 2024-2025 academic school year.




Again, the steps for volunteering are listed on our school website and the districts website.


If you have any additional questions, please contact:





Victoria Deal
vdeal@fcusd.org





Kindergarten Drop Off & Pick up Procedures



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- Our drop off and pick up process is 'hand to hand'
 - Parents need to park and walk their child to the right side of the school by the black gate and stay with their child until a teacher is present.
 - There is NO parking in the school loop or in the bus loading/drop off zone
 - Anticipate traffic and plan to get here early to accommodate for parking
 - Teachers will not release a student until we see a parent/guardian for pick up.
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Full Day Kindergarten



8:15 am - School Starts

10:00 am - Recess 1

12:05 pm - Lunch

1:30 pm - Recess 2

2:45 pm - School Ends



**** During the first 3 weeks of school, students are dismissed at 1:21 pm ****

These are rough estimates and times are subject to change

Daily Schedule




- Morning Meeting (Welcome, calendar, SEL Activity, 2nd Step)
- Language Arts (Heggerty/Sipps/UFLI) Science of Reading
- Centers (small group instruction/hands on learning)
- Snack & Recess
- Read Aloud
- Math (Envision Math)
- Science/Social Studies (Amplify/ TCI)
- Lunch
- Quiet Time
- Art/Music/STEAM
- Active Learning (Learning through play-Lego's, play kitchen, toys, etc.)

Sprinkled in
throughout the
week:

Art
Music
P.E.
Library
Active Learning
Principal Shout-out/
Raffle
Mileage Club




What can you do to help your child prepare for kindergarten?

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- Help your child successfully follow 1-2 step directions
 - Match other's facial expressions to feelings
 - Dealing with emotions when you don't get what you want
 - Ask for help when needed
 - Focus on basic pencil/paper and scissor skills
 - Develop independent self care tasks-use the bathroom, take coats on and off, loading/unloading backpacks, blow nose, etc.
 - Help your child independently write their first name with lowercase letters
 - Recognize and write some letters and numbers
 - Begin to establish an appropriate bedtime. Students should be able to wake up independently for school if they getting enough sleep!
 - Limit screen time!
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READ, READ,
READ!!!

BEGIN TO ESTABLISH A
NIGHTLY READING
ROUTINE!



Social & Emotional Learning



We are deeply committed to teaching the whole child-which includes their social/emotional health! FCUSD has defined a strategy for focused and explicit teaching toward social-emotional competence with the following strategies:

- Positive climate and culture focused on empathy, respect, and equity
- Direct SEL instruction
- SEL integrated into academic lessons and extracurricular activities
- Educative and restorative discipline practices that build community and repair harm



In kindergarten we're implementing SEL through:

1. Music, role playing, brain breaks, P.E., active learning and being independent for various tasks
2. Responsive Classroom
3. Having a calm space in the classroom when students need a break
4. Using our district approved SEL program, Second Step



Curriculum



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- Language arts - Science of Reading, Heggerty, UFLI, SIPPS
 - Math - enVision, number talks, games with dice and cards
 - Writing - Step up to Writing
 - Science - Amplify and Mystery science
 - Social studies - TCI
 - Social emotional - Second Step
 - P.E. & Music & Art & Technology
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*And any other resources to meet your child's needs!

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Kindergarten Supplies



Recommended for your child's own use:

- Labeled lunchbox and/or snack bag
- Labeled water bottle
- Labeled backpack- no rolling backpacks
- Headphones in labeled large ziploc bag (no ear buds please)

A list of additional supplies will be posted on our teacher websites and available to families before the 1st day of school.

An Important Note About Supplies: We recognize that many families wish to provide supplies for their own student(s) or donate materials to the classroom and/or school and they are welcome at any time. The supplies listed are suggested materials and are not required of any students or family to fully participate in the school's program. All required materials and supplies will be provided by the school to students at no cost.



Kindergarten Snack

Please provide your child with a healthy snack to eat during the morning recess. The snack should be:

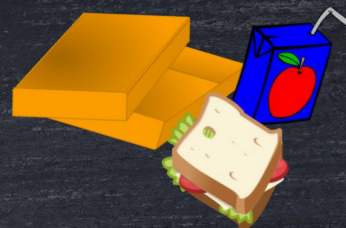
- Healthy
- Easy to open
- Small portion
- In a snack plastic baggy or small labeled snack container
- Keep the snack separate from the lunch box so that your child can locate it easily. Perhaps storing it in a zipper pocket of backpack everyday so it is routine.
- We also want to encourage families to not pack nuts or peanuts (peanut butter) due to potential allergies - thank you for your support!



Kindergarten Lunch

All kindergarten students will eat lunch in the multi. purpose room at designated class tables. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Pack a healthy lunch for your child in a labeled lunch box
- Keep all lunch portions kindergarten friendly
- Be sure your child can open all snack/lunch containers independently
- School lunch is available for purchase
- Please begin to encourage your child to eat quickly - they will only have about 15-20 minutes to eat
- [FCUSD Lunch Information](#)
- We suggest that all kindergarten students bring their lunch to school the first 3 weeks until we have taught them the school lunch procedure
- Students will have a recess after lunch



Fun at Alder Creek


So many of our fun events will be made possible by our PTA and our awesome Alder Creek staff. These are just some of the fun activities we hope to offer at our school. Please be sure to join us!

- Big Buddies
- School Families
- Assemblies
- Field Trips
- Fun Fridays
- Coyote Call / Shout Outs
- PTA Restaurant Nights
- Movie Night
- Trunk or Treat
- Family Engagement Nights (e.g., Math Games Night, STEAM Night, Literacy Night)
- What's Perkin' with Parenzin
- Read Across America
- and more!



A few other things we want you to know



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- We love our jobs!
 - We can't wait to meet your children!
 - We value communication. Please always feel free to call, email, ask a quick question at pick up/drop off, or set up a conference anytime with any questions or concerns.





Children are most successful with a strong connection between home and school!





Next Steps



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- August 5th 11:30-12:30 pm: "Coyote Call" - students, come meet your teachers!
 - August 7th 10:00 am: Kindergarten Back to School Morning - parents only please!
 - August 8th: First day of school
 - 2024-2025 Instructional Calendar
 - Student Care FCUSD
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Comments or Questions?



Please visit our school website at: <https://www.fcusd.org/ace>.
or contact our office: (916) 294-2465



Sara Parenzin- Principal
sparenzi@fcusd.org



Malissa Thatcher- Administrative Assistant
mthatche@fcusd.org



Thank you! We look forward to our year ahead!

