

THE
DISCOVERY
SCHOOL

**Welcome to
Lower Elementary
2nd and 3rd grade**

“

“We open our minds and hearts so we can
discover the knowledge and ideals to build
a better world.”

Mission Statement

Our LE Team



- ★ Ms. Lindsay Strohecker
- ★ Ms. Kate Normington
- ★ Ms. Ashly Isaacs
- ★ Ms. Sarah Mackey
- ★ Ms. Lauren Dobson
- ★ Ms. Annie Payton

Hello!

Dear Families,

Welcome to our Lower Elementary community! We are excited to have you with us as your child starts this wonderful journey of growth, discovery, and newfound independence. This stage of learning is all about exploring interests, sharing ideas, and taking on new responsibilities in a warm and supportive environment.

In Lower Elementary, we truly believe that learning is a team effort. We love working together, reflecting on our experiences, and building a close-knit classroom community. We can't wait to partner with you to support your child every step of the way!

Our passion is to create classrooms where learning is both an educational and a joyful experience. Our spaces are filled with curiosity, connection, and lots of laughter! We're really looking forward to starting this exciting adventure with you.

With lots of warmth,
The Lower Elementary Team

Here are some of the new and exciting things students will do next year

New Units of Inquiry

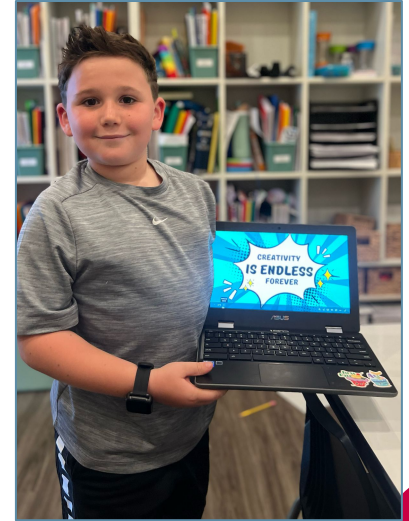
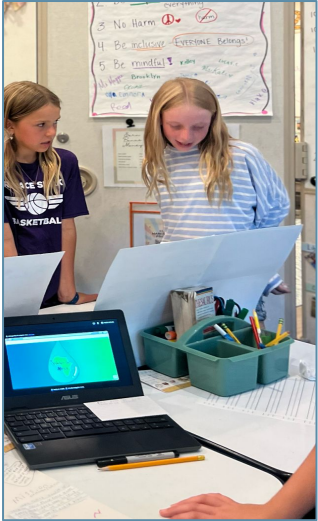
Next year, the LE units explore many exciting topics. We will learn about culture and expression, the human body and the Earth and space. We will also deepen our understanding of climate zones and geography as well as learn how business operate.



Exciting Day Trips and guest speakers



Technology is an integral part of the learning experience.



**Discovery students strive to be independent learners.
Some of the skills students will practice next year include:**

- Following instructions for longer projects that take several days to complete.
- Organize materials in class and at home so that work is turned in on time.
- Building writing stamina to produce longer pieces of work.
- Using technology more frequently for the purpose of learning.
- Self-evaluate your own work against rubrics and other criteria.

Summer Language Arts Learning

Read, read, read, and read some more

Rising 2nd-3rd Grade books

The summer is a valuable time for students to maintain reading stamina and explore new books and genres. Students should aim to read at least five, age-appropriate books from the attached summer reading list. Encourage your student to fill out the Summer Reading Bingo (or Blackout if they want to). Students should come to the first week of school prepared to share books they enjoyed reading with the class.

LE SUMMER READING



Extra skill practice

If you would prefer more extra practice, you might consider purchasing a copy of *Summer Reading Skills Sharpener*. Practice with grammar and mechanics will help students build writing fluency, help sharpen their knowledge, and review what they have learned as they prepare for the next school year.

[Rising 2nd graders link](#)

[Rising 3rd graders link](#)

Keep a journal; record your summer adventures

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Summer Math Learning

Card games and board games that develop math skills.

- [Dino Math Tracks](#)
- [Shut the Box](#)



Math for Love summer curriculum.

It is intended for a summer class, but there are so many lovely math games and tasks your child can engage in both independently and with others.

[Rising 2nd graders](#)

[Rising 3rd graders](#)

Fact fluency. Let's keep practicing.

If you have a rising 3rd grader and they want to get a jump start on practicing multiplication facts, we suggest purchasing [Multiplication by Heart](#). It's a lovely visual way to think about multiplication.

Book Recommendation

- [Table Talk Math](#)

LE Supply List

Personal Items (please label personal items with child's first and last name):

Personal Items:

- Backpack
- Lunchbox
- A leak-resistant, reusable water bottle (please no glass or collapsible bottles)
- Headphones (labeled with your child's name) and stored in a labeled zip-lock bag (most students prefer over-the-ear headphones versus earbuds)
- [One Colored Pencil Set with Canvas Bag](#)
- [Main Lesson Books \(6 pack\)](#)
- [Words I Use When I Write](#)
- [Addition by Heart](#) - Recommended for 2nd-grade math learners
- [Multiplication by Heart](#) - Recommended for 3rd-grade math learners

Shared Items:

- Pre-sharpened Dixon Ticonderoga pencils (36 ct.)
- One package of Elmer's glue sticks
- 2 packages of fine-tip black EXPO brand dry-erase markers (please no eraser caps)

Novel Study Books:

We will group students based on their needs and interests throughout the year. In these groups, they will participate in 2-3 novel studies (that align with our IB units) and engage with the books deeply by highlighting, underlining, and using sticky notes to interact with the texts. We ask families to purchase these novel study books to take them home when they finish reading! We will send information about which novel study book your child will need approximately one month before we start reading to ensure you have time to order it.

Dress Code

General information

Students enrolled in the Foundational Elementary program are required to wear uniforms.

- These uniforms may be purchased from [Lands' End](#) using school number **900064593**. Once you enter the school number, all approved items will be displayed for you to order.
- All tops (shirts, blouses, cardigans, sweaters, even dresses) must display the school logo.
- You may also request the school logo (admissions@thediscoveryschool.org) and add embroidery to tops you purchase.
- Bottoms (shorts, pants, and skirts) may be bought from anywhere as long as they are approved school colors.

Guidelines

- School colors for polo shirts are Blue, White, Maize, and Gray.
- School colors for pants, shorts, skirts, jumpers, etc. are khaki, navy, and gray.
- Outer garments such as jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts that are worn in the classroom must be school colors. Any non-Discovery logo on the apparel must be smaller than a business card.
- **We strongly encourage you to label your child's attire with their first name and last initial.**

Sweatshirts, sweaters, and hoodies must be plain white, navy, or grey. School logo is required. Other logos are not allowed.



Polo colors include white, blue, maize, and heather gray. Rapid dry polo colors include blue, soapstone and white. School logo is required.



Tshirt colors include white and heather gray. School logo is required.



Shorts colors include navy, white, khaki, and grey. Shorts must be at least mid-thigh length. Shorts worn under dresses/skirts can be any color as long as they are not visible when the child is standing.



Skirts colors include navy, white, khaki, and grey. Skirts must be at least mid-thigh length and have shorts worn underneath.



Pants colors include navy, white, khaki, and grey. Sweatpants, joggers, yoga pants, gym shorts, and jeans are not permitted.



Leggings colors are navy, white, khaki, and grey. Students in 1st-8th grade may wear leggings or tights in instead of shorts when wearing dresses or skirts. Leggings or tights may not be worn as pants.



Several dress options are available on Land's End. Dresses must be at least mid-thigh length and have shorts worn underneath.



All shoes must be closed toe and cover the foot, with socks worn. Shoes should either tie or Velcro snugly. No flip-flops, thongs, jellies, or sandals



Other Important Information

Arrival/Dismissal

Please note the arrival time for Elementary students is between 8:00 am and 8:15 am, and we begin **promptly** at 8:15 am each day. If a student arrives after 8:15, please sign them in at the front office, and a staff member will walk them to class. In the carline, a teacher will open the car door and greet your child. Please be sure to remain in your vehicle at all times as a safety precaution and courtesy to others. As a reminder, questions or concerns should be addressed with teachers outside of pickup/drop-off times.



Snack and Lunch

Students are encouraged to bring a nutritious, low-sugar snack and lunch. There will be an option to pre-purchase lunch from local restaurants through our school lunch program. They will also need a reusable water bottle that they will be encouraged to refill throughout the day.

Open House

Open House will be on Tuesday, August 11th. You will receive the Open House schedule at the beginning of August. This time will allow you to visit our classroom and familiarize yourself with the campus. It is optional for you to drop off any labeled and unpacked classroom supplies at that time.



Can't wait to see you next year!