*A B C's*

of

*Kindergarten*



2016

2017

**Ms. Costello’s**

**Kindergarten Class**

A B C’s of Kindergarten

August – June 2016 - 2017

**After Care**: Aftercare is available from 3:00 – 5:30p.m. Aftercare is in the cafeteria. We will send your child to aftercare if they are not picked up by 3:00.

**Backpacks:** Make sure your child brings a backpack daily. We depend on them to send things to and from school and to help keep the room tidy. They should be large enough to hold the communication folder and to zip closed. NO WHEELED ONES PLEASE.

**Birthdays:** Birthdays are fun to celebrate and important to the children. We will recognize each child on his/her birthday with a birthday crown, song and special snack that you provide (mini cupcakes or cookies are favorites) during snack time. No candles are permitted.

**Communication:** Our communication is through our website:

 [www.studentsachievemore.com](http://www.studentsachievemore.com) Please follow it to our class website. A folder (the ones you purchased) will go home daily and should be returned daily. It is IMPORTANT that your child have his/her class folder EVERYDAY!

**Conferences and Report cards**: Kindergarten will receive a report card at the end of each quarter. Progress reports will go out in between. You may call me for a conference at anytime.

**Contact information**: Phone: (954) 467-7747 (office). You may also email at d.costell@stanthonyftl.org

**Curriculum**: In Kindergarten we work on listening and following directions in a classroom; how to show respect to our teachers and classmates; and how to have fun while we learn. We will engage in some cooperative learning projects to help us learn to work together as a team. The students will learn to read, write and pray together. There is no homework in Kindergarten. However, you will be asked to work with your child every day to reinforce what we do in the classroom.

**Discipline**: In Kindergarten, this means respect. Respect for teachers, students and for themselves. We will use a behavior chart to help children learn to take responsibility for their own actions and choices. There is a letter to further explain discipline in Kindergarten (signed and returned).

**Dismissal: 2:30** every day unless designated an early release day First Friday’s dismissal will be at 12:45-12:50 (first Friday of each month is 1:00 dismissal). At 2:30 we will bring them to you at the gates on 9th Avenue (once we are in our own classroom). If your child has an older sibling or rides in a car pool, they may go to the front of the school for pick up at 2:40. If you choose, you may get them first then get in the car line to get the older sibling. ONLY KINDERGARTEN IS DISMISSED AT 2:30. We will not be allowed to give you entrance to the school at 2:30 from our gate. If you want to come in to the school you MUST park in the parking lot across the street on 2nd street and walk in the **front** gate. If you choose to pick up at 2:30 at the 9th avenue gate, you must do it quickly and then move your car so you do not block the 2:45 dismissal car line. On rainy days, the students will be picked up the same way but we will wait inside the building until called. This is for the safety of all students. Please be patient. You must sign up to let us know you will be picking up at 2:30. Those students not picked up at 2:30 will be sent to the front for regular school dismissal (when 2:40 bell rings), and you will need to get in the car line.

**Drop Off:** The school grounds do not open until 7:30a.m. An adult or older sibling should walk your child through the gates (on 3rd Street, once we are in our own rooms) and to the classroom. PLEASE MAKE SURE THERE IS A TEACHER IN THE ROOM BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR CHILD. After a few weeks, they should be able to put away their belongings alone, as it is part of our morning routine that they should become familiar with. You can wait outside the door for them. Fridays we go to Mass at 8:15 so they will come in and use the restroom if necessary. Monday and Wednesday we will go to the front for Flag raising. Please bring your child there if we are not in the room.

Remember, there is NO PARKING ON 2nd or 3rd street during drop off and pick up. There will be teachers on duty in the playground each morning. **Please check to see they have arrived before leaving your child**. (Do not send K students to the playground until January)

**Email: Please give us your email address and notify us of any changes. Mine is:**  d.costello@stanthonyftl.org

**Emergencies:** An information form was given to you the first week and is on my website. [www.studentsachievemore.com](http://www.studentsachievemore.com) [click on teacher websites]. Please print it and fill it out completely and return it to me. This will give us the important information we need in case there is an emergency. It will also help us to know your child a little better.

**Field Trips**: We plan field trips to expand the curriculum. Most are in-house (at school). If you have a special place you think we might enjoy learning about, please let us know. We will collect money to cover the costs at the time the trip is planned.

**Flag Raising:** The bell rings at 7:45. Flag raising will be on Monday and Wednesdays at the flag pole and Tuesday / Thursday in the classroom. Friday is Mass day. Please make sure your child is in the classroom when the bell rings at 7:45. He or she will be marked tardy if they are not.

**Fun:** We like to have fun in Kindergarten. What might seem like child’s play to the untrained eye is probably a hands-on learning experience in the classroom.

**Gates**: All gates are locked throughout the day (from 7:45 – 2:45) for the children’s safety. You must ring the bell at the front gate (3rd street) to enter during school hours.

**Homework: There is no formal homework in kindergarten. However,** occasionally your child may bring home some work to be done at home. You should set aside at least 15 minutes of “homework” time each day to practice. You will need to read with your child, go over folder work and practice sight words EVERYDAY, even though there is no formal homework assignments!!

**Is Kindergarten Important? Yes!** It is their first year of formal education. Kindergarten may determine how your child views school. It sets the stage for the next 13 years of School. If they learn to be on time and organized in Kindergarten, chances are they will stay that way. Don’t let your child start off on the wrong foot.

**Lunch:** Lunch is a big issue in Kindergarten. It is their first time to eat in the cafeteria! The website to set up your child’s lunch account is:  [www.slalunch.com](http://www.slalunch.com/) . Each child should register with the company and have a lunch account for emergencies of forgotten lunches. PLEASE GIVE THE TEACHER THE ACCOUNT NUMBER

**Make a note: of our website. Hang it on the fridge! You will need to go there everyday!! Just to be sure: ☺** [www.studentsachievemore.com](http://www.studentsachievemore.com) [click on teacher websites].

**Mass:** We will attend a school-wide Mass every Friday at 8:15am. Please join us if you can. On Mass Holy days times are different. Check the school calendar for the times. The children will have 7th grade buddies (beginning in late September or October) that they will sit with at church. Parents sit together in the back (not with your child) as we are assigned seats as a class in the front.

**Parking:** There is no parking in front of the school on 3rd street or on the back on 2nd street. These are drop off lanes. You may park in the parking lot located on the corner of 2nd and 9th avenue. You may also park on 9th avenue (anywhere).

**Playground**: This is a safety issue. NEVER LEAVE YOUR KINDERGARTEN STUDENT UNATTENDED ON THE PLAYGROUND OR AT A GATE.

**Rainy Days:** Rainy days get a little crazy. If it is raining in the morning, the children should go to the cafeteria (not the playground) to wait for the bell (STARTING IN JANUARY). We will pick them up there. If it rains at dismissal - PLEASE DO NOT GET OUT OF YOUR CAR! You must stay in your car to pick up at the large gate 2nd street for L-Z – (by clubroom), or the front of the school – 3rd street for A-K. We will bring your child to you when it is your turn in line. Please be patient! It is best to come a few minutes early and get in line when it is raining. The gates will not be open on rainy days. You must wait in the car lines.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES SET UP BY OUR SAFETY COMMITTEE. (Found on the school’s website) [www.studentsachievemore.com](http://www.studentsachievemore.com) – then click on school.

**School Hours:** Our day begins at 7:45 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. The gates will open at 7:30a.m. For the safety of the children please do not leave them before that time. There is no one on duty to supervise until 7:30 a.m. Please have your child at school on time. If you arrive at school after 7:40 a.m. you must come to the front gate to enter. You must go to the office for a late pass before coming to class if it is after 7:50. All gates are locked when the bell rings at 7:45. Attendance is kept electronically and your child will be marked absent if he/she is late.

**Sick Child**: If your child is sick, keep him/her at home. Children who run fevers in the evening should not come to school the next day. They should be fever free for at least 24 hours. If your child gets sick at school we will call you to pick them up. You will need to come to the front of the school (3rd St.) and sign your child out. They will wait for you in the clinic or at the office.

**Snack:** Each child will be asked to bring their own snack to school to have in the afternoon. **There is also the issue of allergies among some of the students. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOUR CHILD HAS A PEANUT ALLERGY OR OTHER FOOD ALLERGY. Please do not send peanuts or nuts**.

**Specials:**

**Tardiness:** Tardies are recorded by the office and kept with your child’s school records. Again, if you are late, you **must** first go to the office for a late slip before you can come to class.

Attendance is kept electronically and your child may be marked absent if he/she does not get a late slip when they are late to school. You will be notified if your child’s tardies are excessive.

**Volunteers:** Lots of volunteers are needed in our school. Watch our website for a list of volunteer opportunities. Our room mom will contact you about helping.

**Want to know EVERYTHING going on at your child’s school and in the classroom? CHECK** [www.studentsachievemore.com](http://www.studentsachievemore.com) **EVERYDAY!!!!**

**What Can You Do?** You can prepare your child each day by making sure they eat a nutritious breakfast. You can help by being sure that your child gets enough sleep each night. Talk to your child about school. Go over the work in their folders and help them correct any mistakes. READ TO THEM AND LET THEM READ TO YOU. Keep me informed of any important changes in your family that may affect your child at school. Support your child’s teacher.

**XY and Z** We are here to make your child’s Kindergarten year *x-tra* special. Saint Anthony Catholic School wishes to welcome you and make you feel a vital part of our school. Please work with us to make your child’s school experience the best it can be. Let us know if we can help you in any way.

Please feel free to contact me for any reason. My contact information is listed below. d.costello@stanthonyftl.org or (school) 954-467-7747

Thank you,

*Kindergarten Team
Saint Anthony Catholic School*[*www.studentsachievemore.com*](http://www.studentsachievemore.com)