

Welcome To The Heights

Kindergarten Orientation

June 16, 2021

Kindergarten Classroom Ratios

- All classes have 1 general education teacher and 1 teaching assistant (TA).
- There are anticipated to be 11 kindergarten classes next year.
- There are 2 self-contained special education classes of students who also mainstream during the day.

Morning Arrival

Teaching Assistants greet students each morning at bus arrival.



Students then walk to their classrooms guided by staff members



Transportation and Start of School

- All students are entitled to a bus
- The bus will drop students off at Heights between 8:55-9:05
- There are 3 locations for bus drop off around the building and staff is present at all locations.
- You may drop off your child through the entrance on Carlyle Place. However, you will not be permitted to enter the building.

Security Entrance



Safety Protocols

Sanitize Hands



Temperature Checks



Curriculum

- In our developmentally appropriate program, each child is viewed as a unique person with an individual pattern and timing of growth and development.
- Different levels of ability, development, and learning styles are expected, accepted and used to design meaningful activities.

Curriculum

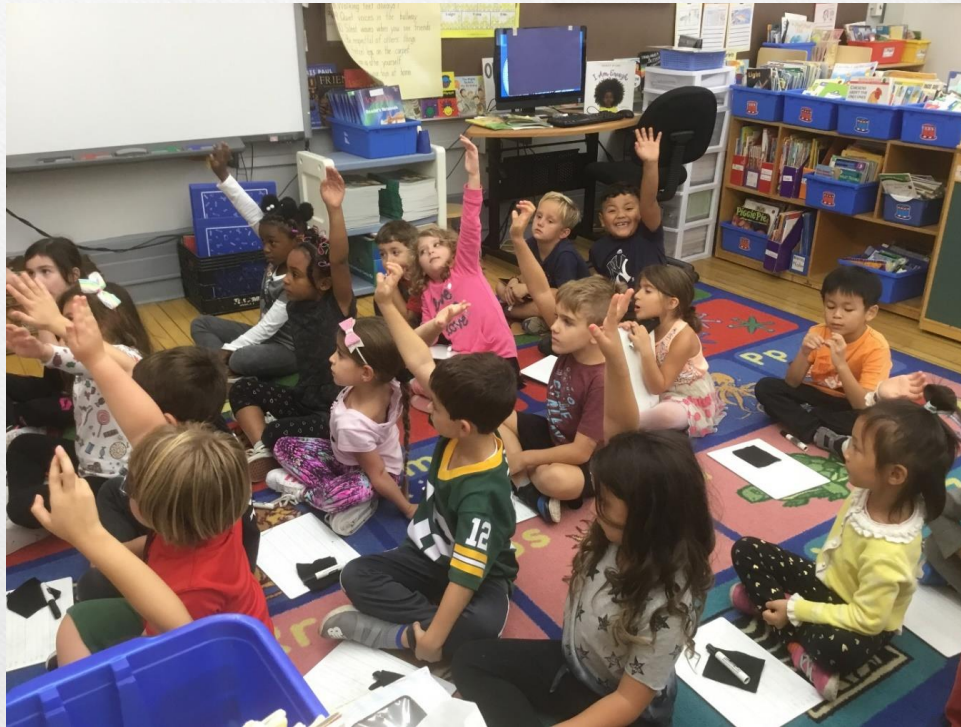
- In a strong kindergarten program, the curriculum is integrated across subjects and areas of development.
- Therefore, our kindergarten teachers spend the majority of the time working with small groups of children in order to accommodate different learning strengths.

English Language Arts (ELA)

Balanced Literacy Approach

- ▶ Reading Workshop
- ▶ Whole class and small group reading and writing
- ▶ Strong emphasis on phonics instruction
- ▶ Expand their personal vocabularies
- ▶ Develop skills for process writing, reading and developmental spelling (i.e. rhyming, sound/symbol discrimination)
- ▶ Exposure to notable authors/illustrators
- ▶ Develop a love of reading!

ELA: Whole Group Guided Instruction



English Language Arts

Small group instruction



1:1 Conferences



English Language Arts

Hands-on Learning



Phonics- Foundations



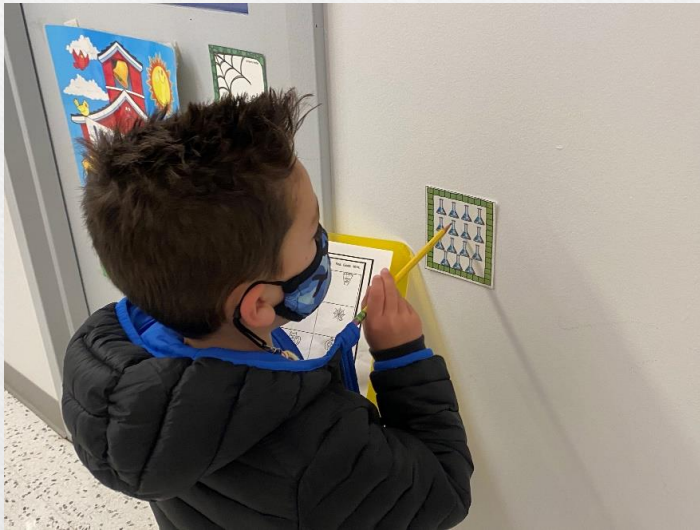
Mathematics

- Number Sense
- Counting
- Number recognition
- Addition/Subtraction
- Problem Solving



Mathematics

Hands-on Learning



Math Manipulatives



Science- Next Generation Learning Standards

Exploration of:

- Weather
- Solids and Liquids
- Plants and Animals



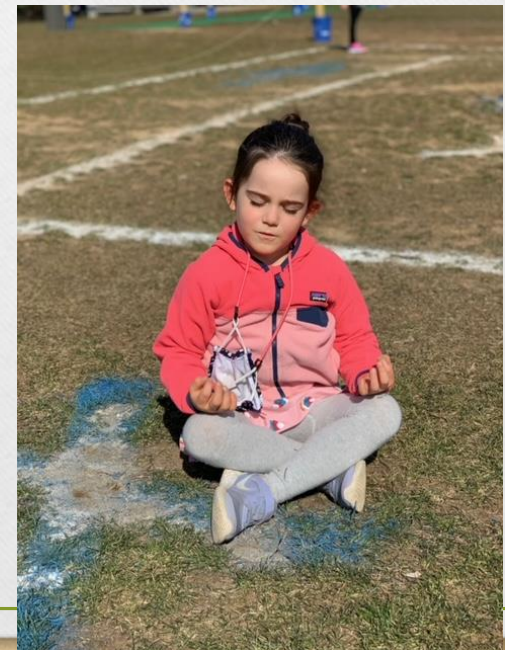
Social Studies

- Focus on helping students develop an awareness of themselves as growing individuals and an appreciation for the special characteristics and needs of others
 - Think independently
 - Develop decision making and problem solving skills
 - Respect the rights of others
 - Identify their role in all communities



Social-Emotional Learning

- Social and emotional skills are important to healthy child development.
- Books of the Month, Second Step, Responsive Classroom and other activities focus on topics such as Mindfulness and Growth Mindset.
- Developing skills such as empathy and social problem-solving serve to build self-esteem and confidence in students.

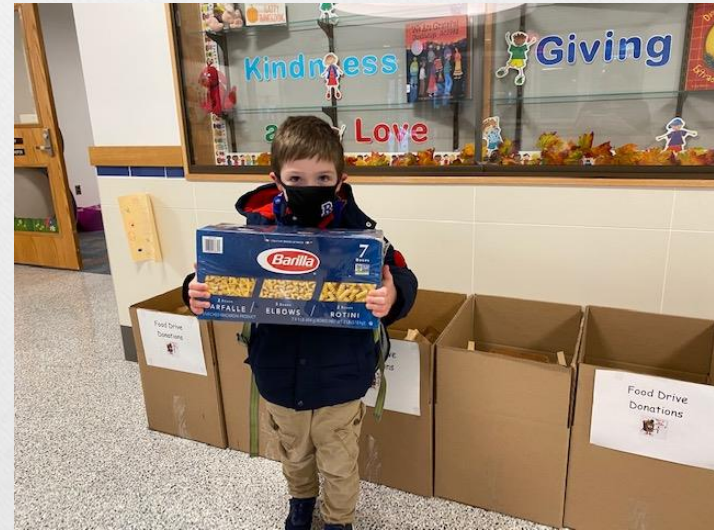


School-Wide Community

Unity Day



Donation Drives



Specials

- Physical Education 2X/week
- Library 1X/week
- Music 1X/week
- STEAM 1X/week

Physical Education



Library

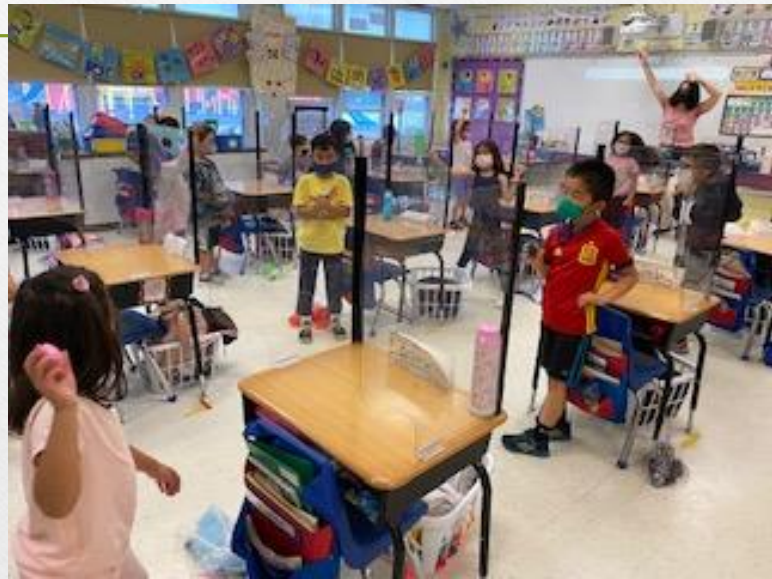
Whole Class Learning



Independent reading



Music



STEAM

- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math

- Analysis - Posing Questions
- Inquiry - Seeking Answers
- Design - Developing Solutions



Field Trips

Pumpkin Patch



Super Market



Snack and Recess



Lunch/ Recess

- Recess/Lunch Split- 10:50, 11:50, 12:55
- Lunch Monitors
- Recreational Specialist
- Hot Lunch, Ice Cream



Dismissal

Students dismiss from their assigned bus line.



Teaching Assistants and Teachers escort students to the bus.



Transportation

Bus Orientation 8/25



Students love the bus!



Dismissal for Pick-Ups

- Dismissal begins at 2:50 at Carlye Place and St. Marks exits.
- No pick-ups for playdates
- Permanent Pick-ups are permitted for Students and Carpools
- Preferred method to communicate a pick-up if not on the permanent pick-up list is through a note in the backpack



Security- Top Priority

- Full-Time Security Guard (retired Police Officer)
- Visitor Protocol
 - Appointment
 - Visitor ID Badges
 - Surveillance Cameras
- Exit/Lockout/Lockdown Drills
- Strong Collaboration with NCPD

Important Information

- School begins at 8:55 and ends at 3:20.
- Busing-Bus Orientation-Wed., August 25th
 - Students must go home on their scheduled bus and are not allowed to switch buses.
 - Students are expected to sit and stay in their assigned seat on the bus.
 - Bus matrons ride the bus

Important Information

- Class Assignments Through Portal- late August
- Meet and Greet- Students meet their teacher and visit the classroom before school begins
- Communication...you will get a lot!
 - Sign up for emails!
 - Look out for a letter from your child's teacher and a letter from me!



Heights is a place where students explore the world around them and develop a love of learning that will last a lifetime. We welcome you and your children on this wonderful adventure.



Questions???

