

May 2026

Dear All Saints Catholic Academy Kindergarten Families,

I hope all of you are looking forward to a restful and relaxing summer! As we prepare for the 2026-2027 school year, I would like to provide you with a few details to ensure a smooth introduction to your child's kindergarten year.

We slowly transition our kindergarten students during the first week of school. In order to allow me the opportunity to get to know your child and to provide him/her with all the routines of kindergarten, we divide the class to start the first week. Half the class will attend on Wednesday August 26, 2026 and the other half of the class will attend on Thursday August 27th, 2026. We will come together as a full class on Friday August 28th. We find this gentle introduction works best for students and allows children (and parents!) to work out those "beginning of school jitters." We will send a separate email with information on who is scheduled which days in late July/early August when the class list is finalized.

Please be sure to keep your eyes open for details on our Kindergarten meet and greet on the week before school starts. We will meet behind the school on the playground; the purpose of the social is to allow students and parents to connect with one another and school personnel. It is also a great opportunity to have questions answered, should you have any. Please note that the school will be closed for cleaning during that time so if the weather is inclement, we may need to cancel.

Many parents wonder what to bring on their child's first day of school. The list is pretty simple: a healthy snack (or parents can order snack through our online portal), and a cold lunch (or parents can order lunch through our online portal). Students should also have a filled water bottle each day. We do have a short rest time in the afternoon so please send your student with a blanket or rest roll (we have padded mats to use underneath). Rest items will go home each week to be washed.

I would also like to request that each student bring 1 box of tissues, 1 small bottle of hand soap and 1 container of cleaning wipes for the classroom. It is amazing how quickly we go through them!

Breakfast and lunch menus, as well as other information will be added to the school's website later this summer. We do not have refrigerator space for lunch boxes in kindergarten, ice packs should be included to keep any cold items at safe temperatures until snack/lunch.

Our school day starts at 8:00 am. Students may begin arriving at 7:30 am, and will go to the multipurpose room until 7:50 am, at which point they will be dismissed to our classroom. During the first few weeks of school, we will be establishing routines and learning how to be more independent. After the first few weeks of school, I would like to see students enter the classroom by themselves and take care of their own belongings (coats, lunch boxes, etc.) Students are dismissed at 3:00 pm. Please wait in the hallway while waiting for your child so he/she may finish up work and hear important announcements.

Occasionally, our younger students have bathroom accidents. It is not always possible to provide the necessary cleanup. Teachers are not able to provide care in the bathrooms due to boundary concerns. Students must be able to take care of themselves independently. If teachers feel that an issue has occurred beyond a student's ability to maintain proper hygiene, the student must be retrieved immediately. We are very sensitive to the health and well-being of all of our students and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

If you would like to donate age-appropriate games or puzzles to our class it would always be appreciated. We enjoy Ravensburger puzzles, floor puzzles, and games. It certainly helps out when we have inclement weather for indoor recess. We also have a class wish list available through amazon if you would like to make a donation to the class. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2ZY4UD4L3AKA?ref_=list_d_wl_lfu_nav_4

Whew! That's a lot of information to take in at once! I encourage you to keep this note for reference, and ask for clarification when we meet at our social, if necessary. Additional information is also available in the Parent/Student Handbook, which will be uploaded to our school's website during the summer. The handbook contains a great deal of information that will be useful as you and your child navigate the kindergarten year.

I am very excited about the upcoming year, and look forward to getting to know you and your child. Enjoy the rest of summer!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Niggel', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Amy Niggel
aniggel@allsaintsvt.org

Kindergarten Summer Bookworms Projects

Hello Kindergarten families,

Welcome to our 2026-2027 Kindergarten family, we are looking forward to having a wonderful year with all of you!

This May the kindergarten classroom found itself home to a gaggle of adorable little bookworms. While I love books, I find that I can't possibly take care of all of these little wigglers this summer, so I'm asking each family to take a bookworm home to care for.

The good news is that bookworms are not hard to take care of at all! They don't need food or water, you don't need to walk them or bathe them. There is just one thing that bookworms need to be happy...STORIES! Bookworms love stories! Stories of all kind: adventure stories, romance stories, princess stories, space stories, super hero stories, true stories, silly stories, they love them all.

Please spend some time this summer showing your bookworms all your favorite stories. These can be stories that adults read to you outloud, books that you listen to on your computer or in the car, or books that you look at on your own. Bookworms especially love it when you make up your own stories.

If you come across a story that your bookworm particularly enjoys, please have your adult write down the title (that's the name of the story) and author (that's the person who wrote the book) and send it to me so I can make sure we have a copy in our classroom library for the fall.

I hope that you have many wonderful adventures in real life and in the books you enjoy this summer! I'll see you in August my friends!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs. Niggel', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Mrs. Niggel