

Welcome to Kindergarten at Knightdale Year Round Elementary School! This is a new and exciting time for you and your child. It will be a time of change and new beginnings — new surroundings, new friends, new skills and new challenges. By working together we can make it a happy and rewarding experience for everyone!

Kindergarten has probably changed a lot since your own experiences beginning school! We're going to have a lot of fun learning letters and letter sounds, basic words, and beginning reading concepts in our literacy centers. We'll become writers, beginning with basic letter information and handwriting, and becoming authors of our own stories in our journals. Your child will love using math manipulatives and computer games to learn about counting, sorting, patterns, and many other math concepts. For our science units we will use our five senses to explore animals, weather, measuring, and the properties of objects. We will learn about holidays, community helpers, transportation, and more in social studies.

Your child will also have weekly special classes including art, music, technology, physical education, media center, and guidance. These special classes are led by other teachers outside of the regular classroom and are sure to be a favorite part of your child's school experience.

Other parts of your child's day include a half hour for lunch in the cafeteria, recess on one of our two new playgrounds, snack time, and even a quiet rest time when needed!

Often parents ask how they can prepare their child for their first year of school. Here are a few suggestions to give your child a strong start:

- Read to your child regularly, and talk about the stories you read.
- Talk about what you are doing every day when you are out: eating, shopping, walking, playing, or visiting relatives or friends. This will help build your child's vocabulary and communication skills.
- Help your child learn to recognize his/her name in print.
- Let your child use crayons, pencils, and (child friendly!) scissors to get their finger muscles warmed up for Kindergarten!
- Help your child become more independent. From tying their own shoes and buttoning their own pants to using tissues and opening ketchup packets — your child will be more self confident if they can perform these tasks on their own.

We look forward to getting your child started "*On The Road To Success...*" here at Knightdale Year Round Elementary!