

Kindergarten & Grade 1 Orientation

May 21, 2026



Introduction of Kindergarten & Grade 1 Teachers



Kindergarten:

Sra. Rodriguez, and Sra. Galvez



Grade 1:

Sra. Dos Santos, Srta. Monaco, and Srta. Acevedo



Agenda



- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- Transportation
- First day of kindergarten

School Council and Parent Society



School Council Co-Chairs: Carmen F. & Miceala C.
Parent Society Chair: Lindsay B

Vision:

A group of people who work together to advise the Principal and the Board with respect to matters relating to the school. A means for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning.

Mission:

Committed to supporting opportunities for each student to maximize their intellectual, physical, social, emotional and creative growth in an encouraging, safe and caring environment.

School and Parent Council Initiatives



- New Playground Build (2027)
- Residencies
- Technology – additional hardware
- The climbing wall
- Bussing for field trips
- Garden of Wonder improvements and upkeep
- Grade 6 Farewell
- School community events

Why Get Involved in School Council & Parent Society



- Good way to be in the know – you're welcome to come and listen and do not need to hold a council position
- The Principal and Assistant Principal provide a report at every meeting CBE information is reviewed, as applicable
- Good way to socialize and meet other parents
- Join us at the AGM in the fall (Sept 25, 2026)
- For more info contact: womparents@gmail.com

Learning Through **PLAY**



More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

Learning Through PLAY



Learning Through PLAY



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy & Numeracy



Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

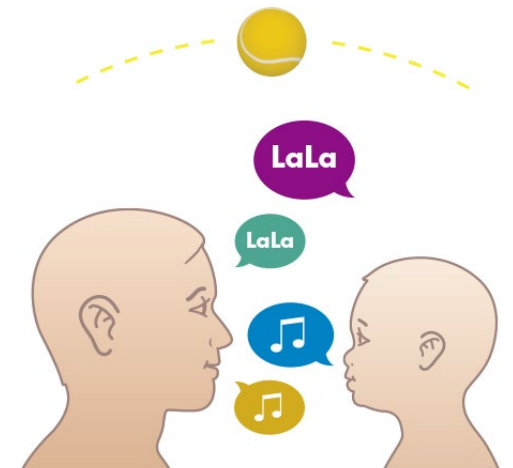
- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library (when possible)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:

- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing, and play in *your first language* every day
- praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes



Information for September



- On August 26, you will receive an email from the Principal welcoming you to W.O. Mitchell.
- On August 27, you will receive an email from your child's homeroom teacher. The email will have the teacher's name and room number.

First Day of Kindergarten & Grade 1



Morning Kindergarten Staggered Entry

Monday, August 31: Surnames A - G 9:10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (no bussing)

Monday, August 31: Surnames H - Z 10:40 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (no bussing)

Afternoon Kindergarten Staggered Entry

Monday, August 31: Surnames A – L 1:00 p.m. to 2:20 p.m. (no bussing)

Monday, August 31: Surnames M – Z 2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. (no bussing)

Friday Alternating A/B Full Day Kindergarten Schedule

September 4 – Morning Kindergarten 'A' Full Day (9:10 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.)

September 11 – Afternoon Kindergarten 'B' Full Day (9:10 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.)

Grade 1 Entry

Monday August 31: Regular Day 9:10 a.m. - 3:50 p.m. (busing)

Soft Entry 8:55 a.m. 9:10 a.m.

Kindergarten Staggered Entry



During the staggered entry teachers will ask you for:

- Bus information (bus letter, and stop #)
- Who can pick up your child?
- Allergies/medical
- Custody

Getting To & From School



Routines:

- Student Drop-off and Pick up Area
- Attendance 403-777-6100 ext.1
- **Bus students: Each year, families register and pay for transportation using a MyCBE account (Z-pass)**
- Lates & Pick Up
- Please DO NOT park in the bussing lane or use the staff parking lot. The staff parking lot is not a drop off zone

Bussing:

- Students are greeted by a bus attendant when they arrive at school and are led to the compound area where they enter the school.
- Kindergarten and Grade 1 bus students: At dismissal time they are walked to the gym where they line up according to their bus letter. They are then walked to the bus by a bus attendant - as the year progresses, they become more independent, and a buddy meets them prior to loading the bus.
- Kindergarten students sit at the front of the bus, unless they have a sibling with them.



Medical Conditions



- **Parents / Guardians required to fill out a form** from the office if medication is being administered at school.
- EpiPens / Inhaler Storage
- Medic Alert Bracelet
- Inform the teacher of any new concerns or changes

Drop Off & Pick Up



- We ask that you drop off your child at their designated entrance / exit door. Please do not enter the school at drop off. If you need to talk to your teacher, please schedule an appointment with them.
- At the end of the day, we ask that you meet your student at their designated entrance / exit door. During dismissal, the teacher and student will make eye contact with each parent to hand off duty of care.
- Please do not use the playground during the day – during the day, our school is considered a "Closed Campus"
- For early pick-ups please ring the buzzer at the front entrance and sign your child out of the Main Office.

First Days of Kindergarten and Grade 1



1. Large Backpack



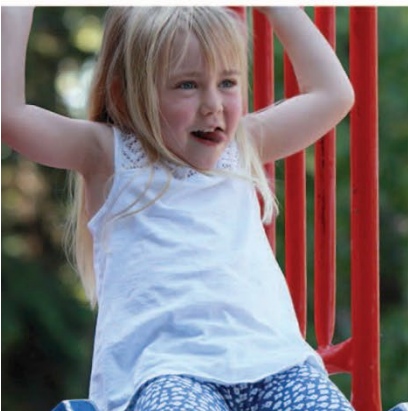
2. Labeling & Extra Clothing



3. Independence and Responsibility



First Days of Kindergarten



4. Nutricious Snacks

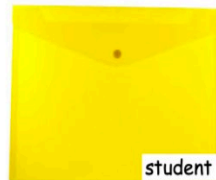


5. Two-Shoe Policy



😊 velcro ✓

6. Communication Folder



7. Parent Volunteer



8. Weekly Message

9. No Toys



Additional Resources and Questions



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193_931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?_ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division

Questions



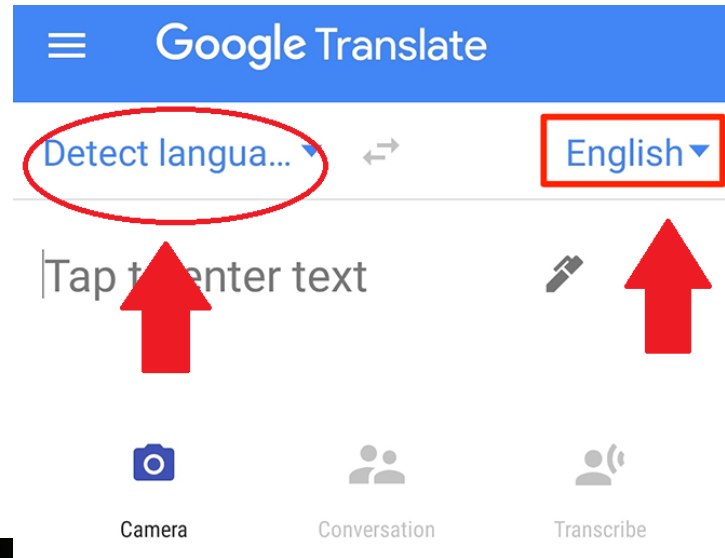
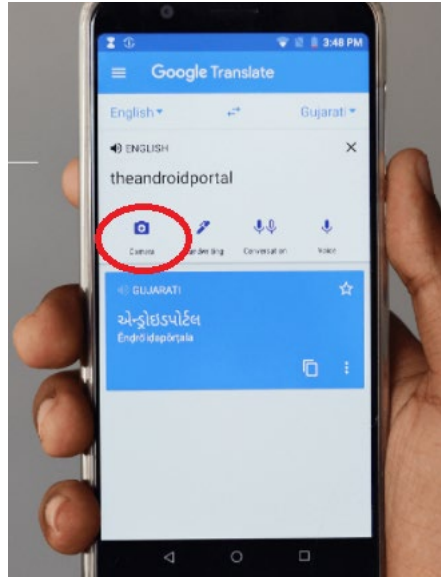


Google Translate on CBE Websites

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `school.cbe.ab.ca/school/ForestLawn/Pages/default.aspx`. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website header includes navigation links: News Centre, Calendar, Print, For Staff, QuickLinks, and a Google Translate button (circled in red). A search bar is also present. The main content area features the Forest Lawn High School logo and name, along with a navigation menu with categories: About Us, Teaching & Learning, Extracurricular, Culture & Environment, Get Involved, and Registration. A prominent orange alert banner reads: "ALERT: KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 LEARNING FROM HOME". Below this, there are several news items with images and text, including "Kindergarten to Grade 6 Students Move to At-Home Learning" and "CBE Recognizes CMHA Mental Health Week 2021". A large red arrow points from the bottom of the alert banner up to the Google Translate button. The Calgary Board of Education logo is visible in the bottom right corner.



Google Translate App



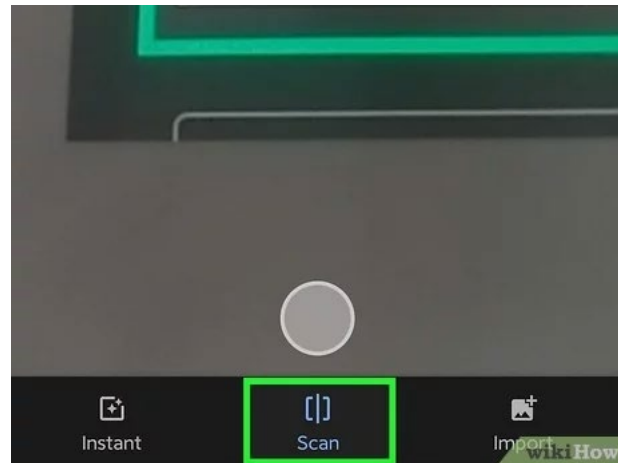
learning | as unique | as every student





Google Translate App

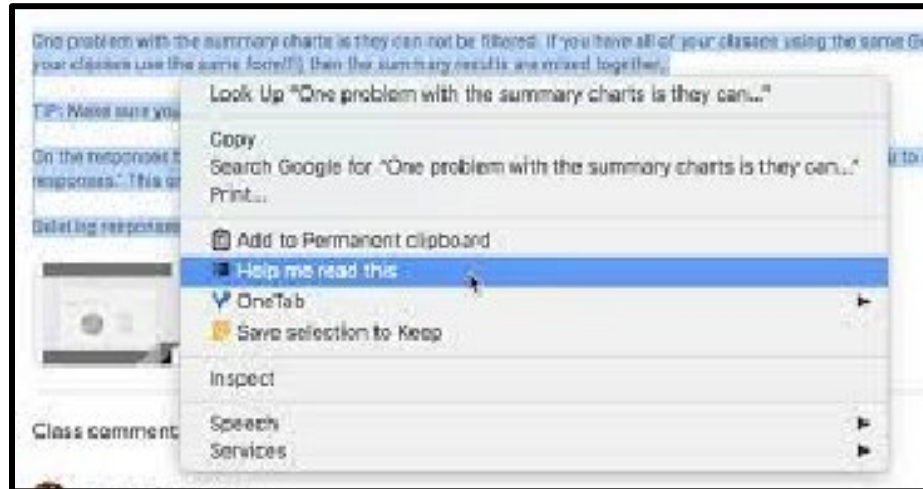
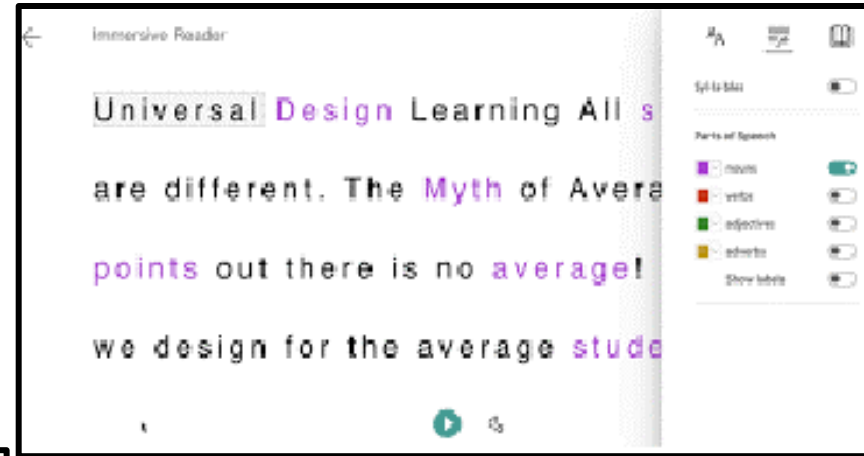
If you have a **long document** tap the **camera** and then the **scan button** at the bottom of the app to translate the entire document.



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Immersive Reader



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SAY Hi App for Speaking Translation

