

Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation P.S. 89.





ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



Ralph Martinez, Principal

Regina Cucinotta, Assistant Principal, PreK-3

Allegra Levine, Assistant Principal, I.A. (Special Education)

Abby Katechis, Assistant Principal, 3-8 (Math)

Tanya Reid, Assistant Principal, 4-8 (ELA)



PS/MS 89

The Williamsbridge School



Meet our
TEAM



Ms. Bloch
Ms. Scialabba
Mrs. Sarfaty
Ms. Rodriguez
Ms. Piedmont
Ms. Gregorwich
Ms. Skolnick

Hello.

My name is Mrs. Bloch and I am very excited for this school year. I have been teaching for 16 years. This will be my fourth year teaching Kindergarten and I can't wait to meet my new students. We will read, write, make new friends, and have an amazing time together. I will do my best to make all of my young learners feel safe, comfortable, and welcome in our classroom.



MRS. BLOCH



MS. RODRIGUEZ & MRS. SARFATY

Welcome Parents, and Students to P.S. 89. My name is Ms. Rodriguez. I am a Special Education Teacher and have been teaching at P.S. 89 for 14 years in grades K to 5. I will be working with Mrs. Sarfaty this year and we are very excited to share this Kindergarten experience with your child. Together we will make this a great year with lots of fun and learning with your child. We hope you are as excited as we are. We are looking forward to getting to know your child and creating a great year.



Hi Friends! I am Mrs. Sarfaty and I am so excited to be your child's teacher and work with Mrs. Rodriguez this year. We are going to have so much fun! I have been with PS 89 for 7 years now & have been teaching for 9 years. I have taught Pre K, 1st, 2nd, & 3rd grade, so I am very comfortable with the development and social emotional needs of early childhood! I love aquariums and I love baking! Looking forward to making lots of memories this year!



Ms. Skolnick

Hello Parents/Guardians. My name is Ms. Skolnick and I'm so excited that I will be your child's Kindergarten ESL teacher this school year 2021-2022. ESL refers to a student who is age 5 or older and who is learning English as their second language. Students in my ESL class will receive extra support with their reading, writing, listening, and speaking capabilities. I always teach my students in a risk-free environment filled with lots of love, kindness, and support! My ultimate goal is to help your child become literate using the English language in all aspects of his or her life! In addition, your child's social and emotional needs will be continuously supported throughout the school year. I have been teaching at PS 89 for 16 years. I previously taught Kindergarten ESL from 2004-2014, and Pre-K from 2015-2020 at PS 89. We will have an incredible year learning together and making new memories together! I'm looking forward to meeting you and your child! We will have an amazing year together filled with love, laughter, and happiness! See you soon!

Sincerely,
Ms. Skolnick



MS. GREGORWICH



Hello!! My name is Ms. Gregorwich. I have been teaching for 14 years in New York City. I grew up in the Bronx and attended District 11 schools as a child. I now live in upstate New York and I enjoy spending time with my family, including my three dogs.

I am looking forward to teaching your child this year! We are going to have a wonderful year of learning and fun! I am a **HUGE** reader. I love reading to my students and teaching my students how to read. I can't wait to meet your child!

Sincerely,

Ms. Gregorwich

MS. PIEDMONT

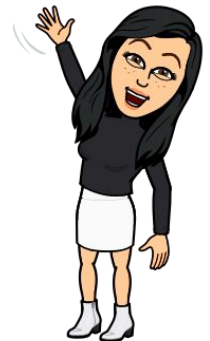
Hello Students and Families! My name is Ms. Piedmont and I am greatly looking forward to this upcoming school year! I have been an early childhood educator for the past eleven years as a Pre-K teacher. This is my first year teaching kindergarten and my first year at PS 89! I am so excited to begin this new adventure with your children! I am passionate about teaching and inspiring my students to love learning. I aim to create a strong classroom community filled with kindness, love and respect. I can't wait to meet my new students! We will have an amazing year together!



MS. SCIALABBA



Hello! My name is Ms. Scialabba and I am so excited to be teaching Kindergarten this year! I am a Special Education Teacher and this will be my third year teaching at P.S. 89. Before becoming a special education teacher I was a dance instructor for 11 years. I am looking forward to creating a safe, fun, and welcoming environment for your child to learn and grow in this school year!





ARRIVAL



8:00 am arrival for Kindergarten (Please note that on the first day of school, Monday, September 13, 2021, Kindergarten students will have a half day from 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m..)

- Grade K will line up at their teacher's post in front of the mini building. Teachers will be holding signs that display their name and class number. Once your child arrives, please be sure to have their teacher check off their names to ensure they have arrived on the correct day. (More guidelines on A, B, C, D days to follow.)
(Please note that on September 13, the first day of school, Kindergarten students will have a half day of school. Arrival will be 8:00 a.m. and dismissal will be 11:30 a.m.)
- Please be sure to follow all social distancing protocols when dropping off students. (3 ft. apart, masks on)
- Parents are NOT allowed in the building under any circumstances. Our staff will be there to support students to enter the building.
- Early Pickup Procedures: you must sign in at the front desk and show proper identification. Please be advised that you must have proper identification in order to pick up your child. Any other adult picking up a student must be on the blue-card and show identification. The student will be walked out of their classroom by a staff member by the mini building and you will be directed on where to meet the child.

Students are given a class color that will be tied to their backpacks (PLEASE do not remove) Those color codes are posted throughout the auditorium so that staff knows exactly where to send the children



DISMISSAL

- ✓ For Kindergarten, dismissal is at 2:15 in the school yard, where students were dropped off. Please make sure you are on time picking up your child. Please be advised that anyone picking up your child must be on the blue card. **If they are not, we will not release your child to that person.**
- ✓ If someone else is going to pick up your child, you **MUST** provide a note **the day before or in the morning** stating the child's name, date, and the name and phone number of the person picking up your child that day. That person must provide the teacher with a **picture i.d.**
- ✓ If the child is not picked up on time, the teacher will escort the student to the late room. If your child is not in the yard, you must walk around to the front of the building and present the security guard with a picture I.D.
- ✓ The late room is located in the cafeteria. You must sign the book before your child is taken to you.
 - Please note that there are **no pets or recreational transportation such as bicycles, motorized toy scooters or quads** allowed in the yard during arrivals or during dismissal. If your child arrives to school using one of those recreational transportation items, please leave them by the gate entrance. **Of course, handicapped mobility support such as wheelchairs, scooters, are always allowed.**

Always check the weather! Be sure to dress in appropriate clothing and bring in an umbrella in the event there is inclement weather as we will be outdoors for arrivals and dismissals.*



ATTENDANCE

- ✓ It is imperative that your child is in school on their assigned days, UNLESS THEY ARE SICK. Please do not bring your child to school if they have a fever or display any symptoms of the Covid-19 illness.
 - If your child is absent, you must bring in a **doctor's note** or a note explaining why he or she is absent.
- ✓ Please be sure to call the school when your child is absent. Communication is important to us!
- ✓ Multiple **unexcused** absences/late pick ups will be addressed as per Department of Education protocols



SCHOOL DRESS CODE

- ✓ Uniforms must be worn everyday in school.
- ✓ Girls - Light blue shirt, navy pants/skirt/shorts
- ✓ Boys - Light blue shirt, navy pants/shorts





Toys and electronic devices
are not allowed in school



SAFETY FOR COVID

PROMOTING BEHAVIORS THAT REDUCE SPREAD



Physical Distancing

All individuals in school buildings should remain at least 3 feet apart. We will work with schools to create conditions that make physical distancing possible.



Mask are Mandatory

Face coverings will be required inside school buildings. Each classroom is equipped with two air purifiers. Windows are open in all hallways and classrooms as well.



Keep Hands Clean

There will be increased access and regular opportunities for students and staff to wash hands or use hand sanitizer throughout the building.



Temperature Checks

Health screening forms must be completed upon arrival. Temperature checks will also be taken prior to entering the building.

For additional information, please refer to the DOE Homecoming 2021 Health and Safety Guide for Families

SAFETY CONTINUED...

- ✓ We kindly ask that you make (remote) appointments to speak with teachers and **refrain from talking to them in the yard at dismissal or at arrival as they are walking to their** classrooms from the auditorium. This poses a safety hazard to all students in the class. Teachers must keep their eyes on students and focus on getting them safely to their families or their classrooms.
- ✓ Please be advised that all parent-teacher meetings will be conducted **remotely until further notice**. Parents and family members cannot enter the building past security. This will help us all continue to maintain proper social distancing in the school building.
- ✓ Every year, we encounter some students who are upset the first few days/weeks of school. At PS 89, we help to comfort those students and ask that parents allow them time to adjust to their new routine. Again, parents are not allowed to come into the building and sit with their child in the classroom, or to walk them in.





SUPPLIES



✓ We are asking that each parent sends their child in with their own individual supplies because students will not be sharing materials :



Mask (Mandatory)



Needed

- (4) Plastic Folders with pockets (red, yellow, blue, green)
- (1) Pack of Pencils
- (1) Glue stick
- (1) Pack of crayons
- (1) Package of copy paper
- (1) Box of tissues

Suggested

- (1) Box of dry erase markers
- (1) Roll of Paper towels
- (1) Roll of disinfecting wipes
- (1) bottle of hand soap

Wishlist

- Magic Erasers
- Baby wipes
- Gallon Ziploc bags
- Quart size Ziploc bags
- Hand Sanitizer

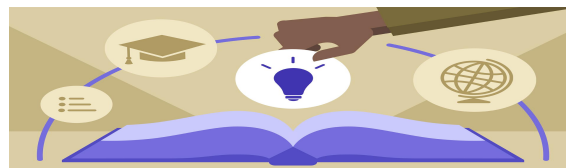




CURRICULUM

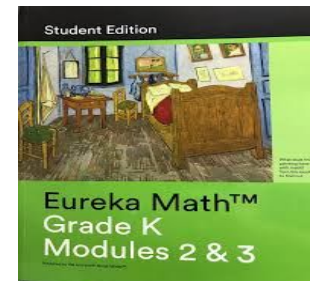


- ✓ Our lessons are aligned with the **Kindergarten Common Core Learning Standards of New York State (CCLS)**.
- ✓ We focus on the following academic skills: Reading, Writing, and Math, with Science and Social Studies embedded into ELA lessons.



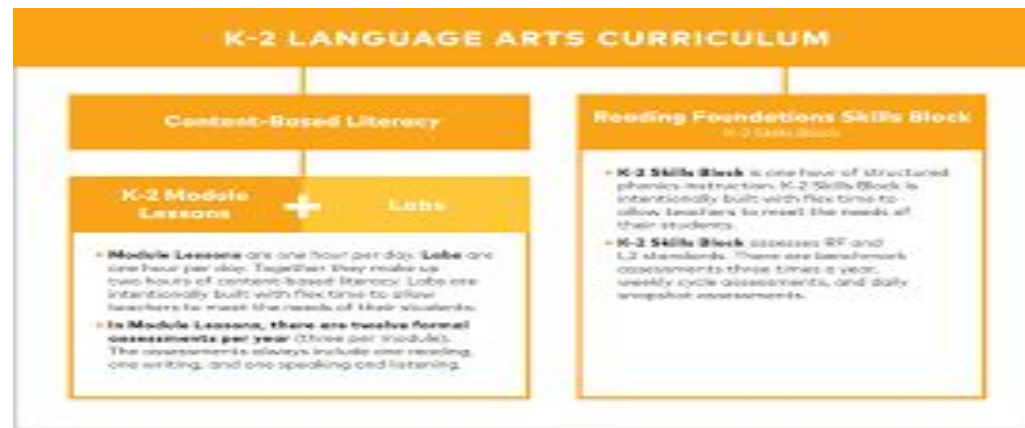
KINDERGARTEN MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM

- **Module 1:** Numbers to 10
- **Module 2:** Two and Three Dimensional Shapes
- **Module 3:** Comparison of Length, Capacity, and Numbers to 10
- **Module 4:** Numbers Pairs; Addition and Subtraction to 10
- **Module 5:** Numbers 10-20; counting to 100
- **Module 6:** Analyzing, Comparing and Composing Shapes



ELA CURRICULUM

- **KM1:** Building Literacy in a Collaborative Classroom: Toys and Play
- **KM2:** Learning through Science and Story: Weather Wonders
- **KM3:** Researching to Build Knowledge and Teach Others: Trees are Alive
- **KM4:** Contributing to Community: Enjoying and Appreciating Trees

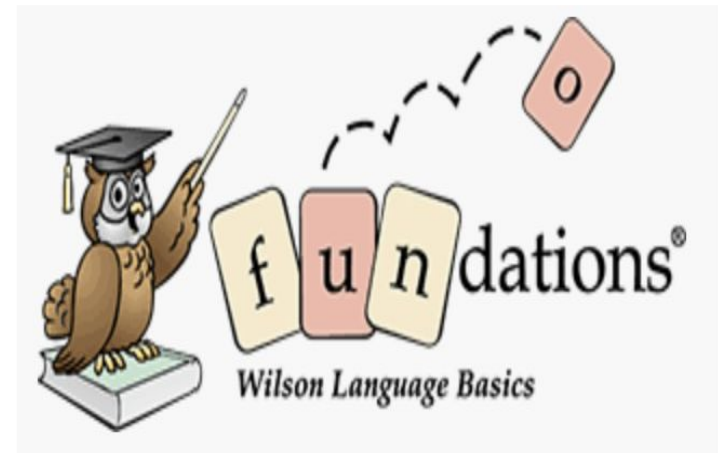


WILSON FOUNDATIONS

A whole class reading program that teaches students the foundation of reading. The program is taught daily for 30 minutes

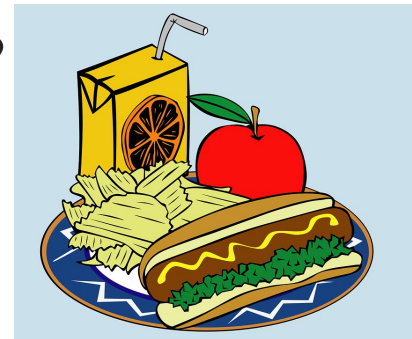
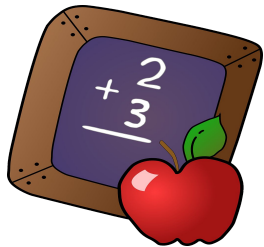
FOCUS ON:

- Letter Identification
- Letter-sound correspondence
- CVC words
- Multisyllabic words
- Phonemic Awareness
- High frequency word study
- Comprehension strategies
- Hand writing (letter formation)



A DAY IN KINDERGARTEN

- Morning meeting
- Read Alouds/Fundations
- ELA Lesson and Centers
- Lunch in the Classroom
- Specials: P.E., Art, Music
- Independent Reading and Guided Reading
- Math Lesson/ Math Centers



BIG PICTURE LEARNING



- Over 65 Big Picture schools in the United States and many more around the world
- **Philosophy:** Putting students directly at the center of their own learning.
- Creating **STRONG** classroom community
- **Teachers & advisors**
- **Team Building & Community Circles**
- **Movement & Mindfulness** (awareness of thoughts, feelings, body sensations)
- **Real World Application**
- **Exhibitions:** Students and parents are active in their learning!

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Homework

- ✓ Homework will be given to your child Monday through Friday.
- ✓ Please help your child while he or she is completing the homework assignment but please do not do it for them.
- ✓ Please check your child's homework folder daily. In addition, please empty out the "Keep Home" side every night.

POTENTIAL CLASS CHANGES

*Please be advised that there may be changes with your child's classroom assignment as we may need to make necessary adjustments.

*This is due to the amount of students that are registered during the beginning of the school year and adjustments need to be made in order to place students accordingly.

*We appreciate your understanding and cooperation!

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

*The school will inform families of what the end of year celebrations will look like once we obtain further guidance from the DOE!

