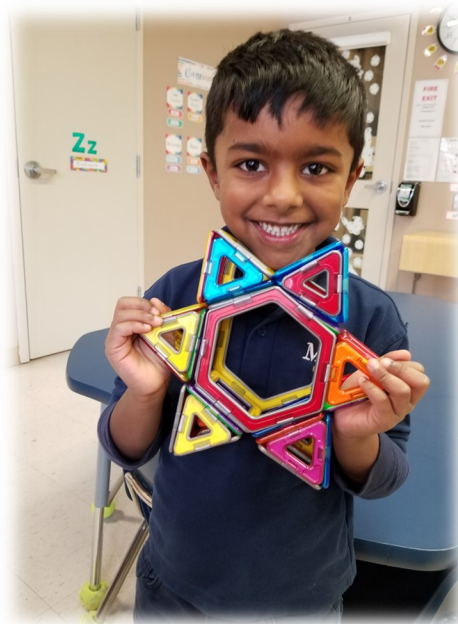




Junior & Senior Kindergarten Handbook





Dear Parents,

We know that as parents it is very exciting to send your child to Kindergarten and that many questions will come to mind.

Since we believe that our children are marvelous gifts from the Lord, the Kindergarten program at MCS tries very diligently to "train the child in the way he should go". (Proverbs 22:6a). All children are unique individuals with God-given gifts. We seek to encourage the development of these gifts by providing the children with the following:

- A caring environment in which the child may experience God's love through stimulating activities for play and learning
- Preparation for more formal education in the higher grades.
- An understanding that God is creator and Lord of all of life

The first years at home followed by the early years at school are very important in shaping the young "Christian Mind" to serve the Lord. These years are also critically important for forming a strong academic foundation.

We look forward to years of learning and sharing with your child. We will do all we can to provide your child with a supportive, caring, and educational environment. In this we ask for your ongoing encouragement and prayers.

To learn more, schedule an in-person tour, or inquire about our Kinder Steps program, please call, email, or attend one of our Open House events.



Please call if you have any questions about Milton Christian School or visit one of our Open Houses.

Howie Martin

Principal

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Great beginnings start here...



At Milton Christian School we strive to partner with parents to provide a rich and valuable start to our students lives. Our Kindergarten program seeks to nurture the growth and development of the whole child by not only focusing on academics but also Christian character, social and emotional intelligence, building independence and encouraging healthy habits that will carry students through their school years and beyond. Our Junior and Senior Kindergarten programs balance hands-on activities and pencil-to-paper work while exploring a wide range of content and subjects.

Highlights of JK and SK

- Flexible options for JK attendance; full-time (Monday-Friday) or part-time (Monday, Wednesday, Friday).
- Initial focus on school routines, class expectations and building relationships with classmates and teachers.
- Participation in school-wide activities including weekly chapel, Christmas presentation, Grandparents' Day, Walk-a-thon, Spirit days and more.
- Prayer, devotions, and learning about God's creation all around us on a daily basis.
- Emphasis on building Christian character including love and respect for others, kindness, integrity and perseverance.
- Phonics, letter recognition, and reading taught incorporating curriculum from next grade level as knowledge and abilities build.
- Math skills taught include: number recognition, rote counting, skip counting, patterns, classification, shapes, size, length, weight, addition, subtraction, place value and more.
- Curriculum also includes: Bible, Creation Studies (science (STEM and social studies), French, visual arts, music, drama, and physical education.
- Outdoor play area reserved exclusively for JK and SK students.





Kindergarten Schedule

- Both the Junior and Senior Kindergarten students start school with the rest of the MCS student body on the Tuesday after Labour Day.
- The JK program has two attendance options. The part time program runs Monday, Wednesday, and Friday while the full time students attend Monday through Friday. Both part time and full time are full day programs.
- The SK program is a full time, five day program.
- Our 'Kiss-and-Ride' drop-off runs from 8:05 AM to 8:20 AM and class begins at 8:30 AM.
- Our Kindergarten classes are ready for pick-up at 3:25 PM while the rest of the school is dismissed at 3:30 PM. Before school care is available starting at 7:30 AM and after school care is available until 6:00 PM.
- MCS runs a balanced school day with two nutrition breaks followed by a recess time. Kindergarten students have an extended snack time to allow students adequate time to eat and get ready for recess.



SAMPLE ~ Kindergarten Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30AM—8:45AM 15 minutes	Morning Routine	Morning Routine	Chapel	Morning Routine	Morning Routine
8:45AM—9:30AM 45 minutes	Language	Language	Language	Language	French
9:30AM—10:00AM 30 minutes	Gym	Music	Language	Drama	Gym
10:00AM-10:30AM 30 minutes	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break
10:30AM-10:55AM 25 minutes	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
10:55AM-11:40AM 45 minutes	Language	Language	Language	Language	Art
11:40AM-12:25PM 45 minutes	Bible	Bible	Bible / Creation Studies	Bible	
12:25PM-12:55PM 30 minutes	Math	Math	Math	Math	Creation Studies
12:55PM—1:25PM 30 minutes	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break	Nutrition Break
1:25PM—1:55PM 30 minutes	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
1:55PM—2:35PM 40 minutes	Story Time Quiet Time	Story Time Quiet Time	Story Time Quiet Time	Story Time Quiet Time	Story Time Quiet Time
2:35PM—3:15PM 40 minutes	Centres	Centres	Centres	Centres	Centres
3:15PM—3:30PM 15 minutes	End of Day	End of Day	End of Day	End of Day	End of Day

Curriculum Overview

Language



Our Kindergarten classroom is a literacy-rich environment with a variety of décor, resources, books and activities all designed to guide our students toward becoming independent readers. Our daily read-aloud story time is always a favourite activity for our students. We read a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books covering all kinds of subject matter.

Junior Kindergarten

- Initial focus is on learning the letters of the alphabet using a letter of the week format. We learn to identify both the uppercase and lowercase letters by sight, associate the letters with their sound, and print both the uppercase and lowercase letters.
- As the student progresses we will begin introducing other pre-reading skills such as: recognizing and producing rhymes, isolating letter sounds in simple words, changing or eliminating letter sounds in words, print concepts (left-to-right progression, words, sentences, punctuation, etc.), and sight words.



Senior Kindergarten

- SK begins with a review of letter recognition, letter sound association, and the pre-reading skills learned in JK.



- To continue the journey towards reading, we begin introducing more complex letter sounds and patterns including: long vowels, blends, digraphs, diphthongs, r-influenced vowels, and silent e. We also begin learning about compound words, words endings, contractions, and parts of speech. Students continue to learn sight words and reading leveled books.
- Students will also begin to focus on early writing skills such as: proper letter and word spacing, appropriate punctuation, sentence structure and responding to writing prompts.



Curriculum Overview

Mathematics



As with Language, our Kindergarten class is purposefully designed and equipped to support our Mathematics learning. While many concepts are taught during our math learning time, some concepts such as calendar, time, number recognition, rote counting, skip counting, and place value are integrated into our daily class routine. One of our Kindergarten highlights is being able to count to and celebrate the 100th day of school.

Junior Kindergarten

- In addition to learning to recognize and print numbers, JK Mathematics provides an introduction to a wide variety of math concepts which include: numbers (ordinal numbers, number order, more and less), sorting, shapes, patterns, size, measurement, addition, subtraction, time, sequencing, and money.

Senior Kindergarten

- Building on the foundation established in JK, SK math deepens knowledge and practice of a variety of math concepts and introduces some new concepts as well.
- SK Math concepts include: number bonds, addition, subtraction, position, shapes, measurement, comparing numbers, graphs, fractions, time, and money.



Curriculum Overview

Bible



- Although we schedule specific Bible learning time in our schedule, discussions and mention of God, Jesus and other faith related topics are a part of all that we do in our class. Building a Bible-based, Christian worldview and character is a priority. Our classroom expectations for behaviour and conduct during our time at school is based upon teachings from the Bible.
- Every day begins with prayer and devotions.
- Kindergarten students participate in our weekly, school-wide Chapel and can choose to be a part of our Kindergarten and Grade One worship team.
- The content of our Bible learning is dependent on the current structure of Kindergarten at MCS (separate JK and SK classes or a JK/SK split class). One year will focus on the Old Testament and the following year will focus on the New Testament. Both years will begin with learning the basics of who God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are and why the Bible is such an important book for us to read and study. Christian holidays (such as Christmas and Easter) will be taught in both JK and SK.
- Both Junior and Senior Kindergarten include memory verses.

Creation Studies

- Science, Technology, Engineering, Geography and Social Studies are all incorporated into the Kindergarten Creation Studies.
- Creation Studies involves an exploration of the world around us and how things work, develop and grow. Topics include: plant and animal studies, weather and seasons, human body, rocks and minerals, magnetism, earth and space, introduction to coding, structures, Canada, community helpers and celebrations.





Curriculum Overview

French

- Students are introduced to the French language by learning the alphabet, numbers, months of the year and days of the week, simple phrases, and a variety of vocabulary.

Visual Art

- Kindergarteners will explore the elements of art and discover famous artists and their artwork through a variety of activities, mediums and media. Our art projects will sometimes help reinforce learning from other subject areas and help strengthen fine motor development and control.

Music & Drama

- Kindergarten students will have weekly visits from their music drama teacher to: learn songs from a variety of genres, experiment with sound using different rhythm instruments, explore the elements of music, and receive an introduction to the vocabulary and symbols of music.
- During Drama, students will be able to continue to develop and express their creativity through action songs, listening to and acting out stories, playing games, and more.

Physical Education

- In addition to outdoor physical activity during recess, students will have the opportunity to build gross motor skills, coordination, and endurance while learning to play fairly, take turns, and follow rules during a variety of games and activities.

Play

- While the MCS Kindergarten program is not play-based, we recognize the importance of purposeful play. Students reinforce language and math concepts with centre activities, games and puzzles. During free play students play with creative building and dramatic toys.





Field Trips

Students will participate two or three curriculum-related field trips designed to deepen learning with fun, interactive, and memorable activities and experiences.



Admission & Registration

In order for children to be admitted into the JK or SK Program, a family must fill out the MCS Enrollment Package.

Children registered for JK must be 4 years old as of December 31. Children to be registered in SK must be 5 years old as of December 31. These children ought to be self-reliant in the bathroom and demonstrate a level of social maturity that is age appropriate. The school reserves the right to dismiss a child from the program if it is deemed that the child is not ready for JK or SK within the first term.

As part of the enrollment process for Kindergarten, parents are to bring the child's proof of age, immunization records, Health Card number, and proof of citizenship (for both parents and children). If the child has any specific allergies or physical needs these should also be brought to the school's attention at this time.

