



Welcome to Soleado Elementary School

"A place in the sun"

Dear Incoming Soleado Parent,

On behalf of the teachers, staff, parents, and student of Soleado Elementary School, I want to welcome you to our school and to our Kindergarten Round-up. This booklet is designed to provide pertinent information about our Kindergarten program.

The early days of Kindergarten can be fun and exciting days. They can also be challenging and sometimes a bit scary for parents and students alike. There are many things that you can do to prepare your child for entry into Kindergarten. Please read through the booklet and take advantage of the many suggestions designed to make your child's transition into elementary school a smooth and happy one.

Once again, welcome to Soleado Elementary School, our happy place in the sun.

Sincerely,

Gina Stutzel
Principal

What is the Schedule for Regular Kindergarten?

Kindergarten schedule is as follows:

<u>Kindergarten Yard Opens</u>	8:15 everyday
<u>Monday</u>	8:30-1:10
<u>Tuesday-Friday</u>	8:30-2:05
<u>Minimum Day Schedule</u>	8:30-12:00 (no lunch served)

What is the Schedule for Transitional Kindergarten (TK)?

TK schedule is as follows:

<u>Kindergarten Yard Opens</u>	8:15 everyday
<u>Monday</u>	
Early Birds	8:30-12:40
Later Gators	9:30-1:40
<u>Tuesday –Friday</u>	
Early Birds	8:30-1:35
Later Gators	9:30-2:35
<u>Minimum Day Schedule (all together)</u>	
Early Birds and Later Gators	8:30-11:45 (no lunch served)

Where Does My Child Go When They Arrive at School?

In front of the Kindergarten playground entry gate, you will find a yellow pointed curb. This is for **Kindergarten drop off and pick up**. Please stop your car there, open the door, and direct your child to the gate where a staff member will be waiting to greet them. This is not a place to park your car. Parking there will disrupt our traffic flow. Should you wish to walk your child to Kindergarten play yard, please park on Longhill or Flaming Arrow Drive.

How Do I Know What is happening on Campus?

At any time, a parent may request an appointment to speak with a teacher or the principal. It is always best to call ahead and schedule an appointment, rather than just dropping by. Each teacher has voice mail and email that you can use to schedule an appointment or use as communication. Please understand that they are teaching and working with the children throughout the day. Emails and phone calls are usually returned after school.

Formal parent conferences are held two times during the school year. This is an excellent opportunity for you to share comments and concerns. You will be notified as to how to sign up for these conferences once the school year has begun.

There is a weekly newsletter, *SUNBLAST*, which communicates information about school events, campus calendar, programs, and parent activities. This newsletter is available on the school Edline homepage and when you sign up for Member Planet. We also have a Volunteer Blog that updates all parents on activities and volunteer opportunities. Added to the campus this year is a PARENT RESOURCE ROOM that is located in the main office.

Your child's teacher has an Edline website on which classroom information and other pertinent announcement can be posted. In addition, the site can be used to facilitate parent/teacher communication. Your child's teacher will send more information about this site once the school year is up and running.

How Do I Get Involved?

Parent and community volunteers are encouraged to participate in our school activities. These volunteers provide an added dimension to our daily instruction. Our volunteers are valued by students and teachers alike. Parents, guardians, grandparents, and community members can volunteer in the classroom, school library, Art At Your Fingertips Program, garden lessons, and numerous PTA and Booster Club sponsored activities. We strongly encourage you to join the Soleado Elementary School PTA and Booster Club. This is a wonderful way to meet other parents and become involved in our school. Our students thrive when their families are actively engaged in the learning environment.

Your teachers will discuss the many ways you can become an active member of the Soleado Family. All volunteers must have a current TB test with a negative reading. This document must be on file in the Main Office.

What Happens If My Child Becomes Sick at School?

If your child becomes ill while at school, a classroom teacher or aide will walk them to the Main Office. Sometimes it is just a matter of resting for a few minutes, and the child can return to class. If it is determined that your child needs to return home, parents will be notified immediately. **Please make certain that all information on the Emergency Card remains complete and current.**

If your child is ill, running a temperature, has a runny nose, or is vomiting, please keep him/her home from school. The best place for a sick child is home in the comfort of family. Children do not perform well when they are ill, and they can pass illnesses on to other students.

No medication can be distributed at school without a written prescription from the doctor. Arrangements must be set up in advance for your child to be given any medication at school. If your child should need medication during school hours, please contact the Main Office. Children must never transport medication to school.

Is There Before and After School Care?

Childcare is available for the students through the Kids Corner Program. This district sponsored program provides daily quality care from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Parents and guardians must register their child in advance for this program. It is a “first come first served” program.

Helpful Hints for Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten

The first days of Kindergarten are very exciting and challenging days. By your positive attitude and cheerful approach to the school year, your child will know that this is a wonderful extension to the educational progress that you have already started in your family. I have listed a few suggestions that have worked in the past.

- ❖ Start talking about Kindergarten now. Address this new experience with excitement in your voice. Share positive memories of your school years.
- ❖ Each time you drive by Soleado, point out the school. Engage your child in a conversation about the school. Practice getting in and out of the car independently to better facilitate this process at the beginning of the school year.
- ❖ Help your child select a special lunch box and backpack. Put their name on it.
- ❖ Select the outfit for the first day of school. Make certain that it is comfortable and something that the child wants to wear to school. Paint and glue are a part of our daily activities. Save the party clothes for later.
- ❖ Make the morning of the first day of school a pleasant one. Make sure that you are organized and ready for the day. Allow enough time so that things run smoothly. Remember to stay calm and focused. If you get upset, your child will also.

- ❖ When you leave your child on the first day of school, do so with a smile and reassuring hug.
- ❖ When you pick up your child, listen to the stories about the first day with interest and enthusiasm.

This is a very special time in you life and the life or your child. Enjoy the moments!

Skills to Practice with your Child

- ❖ Writing their name
- ❖ Holding the pencil correctly
- ❖ Tying their shoes
- ❖ Sharing
- ❖ Opening their lunch box and eating independently
- ❖ Bathroom procedures
- ❖ Read out loud to them every day
- ❖ Playdates with other students or similar aged children
- ❖ And lots of hugs!