

Dear Kindergartener,

I cannot wait for you to join me in Kindergarten next year! In Kindergarten, we will be working on writing our first and last names using lowercase letters. You can start working on this this summer and by the time you get to Kindergarten you will be an expert! When you are practicing writing this summer, make sure you are holding your pencil the correct way. Use your pointer finger and thumb to hold the pencil and let it rest on your middle finger. We call this the tripod grip. It makes writing so much easier! Also, practice making letters correctly. I included a formation chart to help with this!

At the beginning of the year, we will make a homework box to keep all of our homework materials in throughout the year. You will need a box with a lid (boot/big shoeboxes are perfect) that will fit 8.5 x 11 sheets of paper in them. We will decorate these during the first month of school.

We do so many fun things in Kindergarten. Every day we work on learning to read and write. This means that it is very important for us to know our letters and letter sounds. Ask mom and dad to help you with this every day! Make sure you read daily with mom and dad. You can even point out letters or words you know while you read. As you read stories this summer, color in one book per story to keep track of how many books you read! Bring this back to me at the beginning of the year so I can see how much reading you did this summer!

We will start counting on the first day of school and we will work on counting all the way to 100 (and more)! We will also work on writing these numbers. How high can you count?

In our classroom, there are so many fun things to do. We can play in the pretend center, read in the library, or building in the block center. The writing center is full of paper, cards, envelopes, and pencils. We can write very special letters there. In the art area, we complete so many fun projects and masterpieces to hang on the fridge.

Did you know we have a special prayer area in our classroom? We use this area to learn about Mary, Jesus, and God. We will go to Mass each Friday; we will have to sit very quietly at Mass as we pray and listen to God's words. Go to Mass with your mom and dad this summer to see what it is like. Practice sitting quietly and listening to God.

Make sure you take many field trips this summer and learn many things. Take a trip to the library, or the zoo. You could head to a museum or even the beach. Look at what is around you. Do you see animals? What is the weather like? You can even look for letters, words, and numbers.

I hope you are excited for Kindergarten! I can't wait to see you in the fall!!

Mrs. Long