

The **ABCS** of

Kindergarten Information



Principal: Mme Rachel Djordjevic

Assistant Principal: Mme Nikki Russett

Phone: 780-986-8404

ecps.blackgold.ca





Absences/ Late Arrivals: Please notify the school office of any absences/illnesses by calling 780-986-8404 or filling out the online absence reporting form on our school website (http://ecps.blackgold.ca). Otherwise, you will receive an automated notification from the office. When arriving late in the morning or the afternoon, please ring the front doorbell for assistance, as all doors are locked at all times.

Allergies: Please notify us of any allergies. We have a peanut-aware policy in our classrooms which means we cannot guarantee a nut-free environment. Should your child require an EpiPen or Benadryl for allergies, a medical form must be completed by a physician.

Arrival: Students may not arrive at school until at least 10 minutes prior to the entry bell. Parents must stay with their children until the bell rings and the teacher opens the door.



Backpacks: Your child will require a medium-sized backpack as this size allows room for extra clothing, work/projects, a snack bag, and library books.

Birthday/Special Occasion Treats: You are welcome to bring in treats for special occasions such as a birthday or holiday. Please be aware of any dietary restrictions in the class such as allergies or intolerances.



Christmas Activities: We do a variety of activities leading up to Christmas including our Christmas Concert and classroom parties. If, for any reason your child cannot participate due to cultural or religious reasons, please let us know.

Communication: Teacher/parent communication is essential in order to enhance the learning for each child. It is important that you contact your child's teacher regarding academic or social progress, student concerns or any issues that may be happening in the home that could potentially be affecting your child's behaviour. Please call the office at 780-986-8404 or email the teacher directly. Please note that teachers cannot take calls during teaching time.

Confidentiality: We handle all concerns and situations in a confidential manner. We cannot speak about another child just like you wouldn't want your child to be spoken about.



Daily Supplies: Each student needs to come with a backpack, non-marking indoor shoes, and a healthy snack each day.

Discipline: We believe in having high expectations of the children to follow classroom rules and to help them understand the reasons behind rules. We want all children to have the opportunity to learn and for no student to keep another from being able to learn. We strive to provide a safe learning environment for the children. We have a strict hands-off policy.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up Time: Please let us know when you've arranged to have someone else pick up your child. We will not release your child unless we have consent directly from you. If you are picking your child up at the end of class, please ensure that you are arriving on time and obeying the parking restrictions. Drop off before school is 8:29 am, and pickup is 11:21 am.



Entering the School (Parents & Visitors): Should you be volunteering in your child's classroom, dropping off a backpack, or coming in for a meeting, you are required to ring the front doorbell and wait for assistance. Parents are not permitted to wander through the halls during school hours.

Entering the School (Students): All students are required to enter through their assigned door. Students coming after the 8:34 am bell will need to enter through the main doors at the front of the school. There is a doorbell to the left that will need to be pressed for assistance. Remember, all school doors are locked throughout the day for the safety of our students and staff.

Extra Clothing: Please send extra clothing in the backpack (shirts, pants, underwear etc.) for those 'just in case' situations. Always dress your child for the weather.



Family School Liaison: We have an FSL that may be able to work with and support your child through emotional, behavioural, and traumatic experiences. This should be seen as short-term assistance. The FSL worker may be able to provide direction for you or your child to receive support through community services and agencies.

Fees: Fees can be paid using the PowerSchool portal, and can either be in one lump sum or two equal payments. **Your child may not be able to attend field trips if payment is not made.**

Field Trips: ECS students have the opportunity to attend many field trips throughout the school year. Consent must be provided by the legal guardian on PowerSchool prior to the field trip. Verbal consent, notes, emails, or texts will not be accepted due to BGSD policy.



Guests: Occasionally we have guest speakers at our school. All guests are vetted by the administration and must have proper volunteer paperwork completed prior to the visit.



Hand Washing: Please encourage your child to wash their hands before eating, after using the washroom, or after sneezing on their hands.

Healthy Snacks: Nutritious snacks are always preferred, as children are better able to concentrate and feel their best after eating something healthy. Two small food items and a healthy beverage such as water or fruit juice are all that are required. Food items such as fruit, yogurt, or cheese and crackers are an ideal snack to fill a little tummy. Please note that soda pop, Gatorade, or items similar will not be allowed.



Inclusivity: We are a welcoming environment where students from all walks of life and all academic and physical abilities are welcome. We work together to create a respectful and loving atmosphere and value the gifts that each of us brings.

Indoor shoes: Each student is required to have a pair of shoes with a non-marking sole to be kept at school (please print your child's name in or on the shoes). **It is important** that they be pull-on or velcro unless your child already knows how to tie their own shoelaces.



Label Items: Please label your child's backpack, snack bag, boots, shoes, clothing items, and school supplies. Duplicates are often common.

Library Items: We go to the library once a week and each child can take out two books, to be returned prior to the next library day. If the book is not returned, another book cannot be taken out until the previous one is returned. Any outstanding or damaged books will need to be paid for by the end of the school year.



Medication: Should your child be required to take any form of medicine (prescription or not) during the school day, a medical form (available from the office) must be filled out by the legal guardian. All medications will be kept in a locked cabinet in the office and administered by one of our office staff. Students may never keep medication on their person.

Music Time: We integrate music, singing, and song games on a daily basis. It is also through physical movement and dance that we explore our musical talents.



Nature School: Creativity and imagination through hands-on discovery is a huge part of our Nature School Program. This program has been developed to enhance each student's curiosity about their natural surroundings.



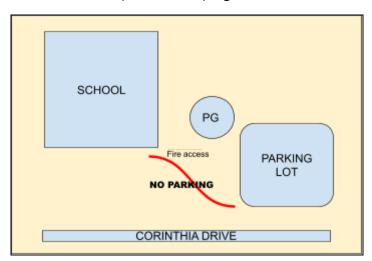
Occupational Therapist Support: Please let us know if your child has received these services previously or if you think your child might require these services; the classroom teacher will do some screening in the fall.



Parking: Our bus loop is off-limits for drop-offs/pick-ups from 8:00 am to 9:00 am and from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm, unless you have a handicap placard displayed and the handicapped person is physically getting out of the vehicle.

Please note that parking in the teacher lot on the east side of the bus loop and along the fence-line on the west side of the bus loop is prohibited at all times during school hours.

If using the bus loop when permitted, please do not park in front of the cement pad to the kindergarten doors, as that is our emergency vehicle access (there is a chain across) or alongside the staff parking lot, as staff or service vehicles may need to exit the area. The area has been clearly marked by signs.



Parent-Teacher Interviews: These take place at the end of November and again in March. Please watch for more information to come. This is a good chance for you to connect with your child's teacher regarding your child's academic standing.

Photographs: professional individual pictures are taken in the fall and again in the spring for ECS graduation. Teachers also take photos on a regular basis throughout the year. If you have chosen for your child to be exempt from all photos, they will not be included in our slideshow or the school yearbook. Please note that pictures are allowed to be taken by anyone during school-wide or class events.



Questions: If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher first and foremost through email. You may call the school office at 780-986-8404 if it is a general school question.



Report Cards: An Early Years Evaluation (EYE) Report is sent home in November. A formal report card is sent home in January and also on the last day of school in June.



Speech & Language Support: Please let us know if your child has received these services as this helps us with planning for the fall, or if you think your child might require these services. Screening will be done throughout the year.



Themes/Topics: These will be indicated in our classroom emails. We rotate our themes monthly, so our students are engaged and interested in their learning.



Volunteering & Visitors: All volunteers must have a volunteer form filled out and submitted to the Principal, at least two weeks prior to the event. Your child's teacher will provide you with this form. If you wish to be a regular volunteer within the school, a criminal record check will be required (please call the office for details).



Website: Our school's website is http://ecps.blackgold.ca/ You will find much useful information on the website. The school calendar and school events can be found here. We encourage you to visit the website often.



X-tra Special: Your child is an x-tra special gift to our school. We treasure memories made, giggles, and fun shared. Rest assured, your child is in good hands.



You: You are invited to be a part of our school community by volunteering, helping with classroom events, Parents' Association, or School Council.



ZZZZ.... Rest is an essential part of mental wellness and physical growth. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest. Setting an early bedtime is a wonderful gift you can give your child. It will help them be alert and ready to learn each day.