



Chesterfield
County
Public Schools

Bellwood Elementary Kindergarten 2024



Kindergarten classes feature a **staggered start** to help students transition comfortably into their new surroundings.

Students whose last names start with **A-L** will attend school on **July 22 and July 23.**

Students whose last names start with **M-Z** will attend school on **July 24 and July 25.**

All kindergarten students will come to school on **July 26**, meeting as a whole class for the first time.

What will the first days of school look like for my child?

Students will participate in the same lessons and activities on their first two days of school, regardless of their starting date. Material taught July 22-23 also will be taught July 24-25.

Throughout this first week, students will establish a classroom community as they build relationships with peers. The smaller class setting will help aid in this transition as students learn classroom rules and procedures.

First week focus areas

Classroom values to ensure everyone learns, has fun and stays safe

Where to find classroom materials and where to put personal belongings

How to show respect in line and in the hall

Rules and procedures for the cafeteria, playground, resource classes and bus

How to use supplies such as crayons, scissors and glue

Procedures for using the restroom, washing hands, getting water and getting tissues

What will happen on the first Friday of school?

July 26 will be a big celebration, as whole classes come together for the first time! Students will participate in their first full class meeting, where they share their names and what they like about kindergarten so far. They will have opportunities to work cooperatively with other students as they begin literacy stations and free exploration with math tubs. Students will already be familiar with routines and procedures, so teachers will begin to encourage more independence in the classroom as students dive into academics.



First week activities might include

Get-to-know-you games and songs such as "me bags," "ducky, ducky, tell me your name" and "find a friend who..."

A scavenger hunt around the school to learn about important people and places in the building

Fine motor development with playdough, puzzles, letter tracing and name writing practice

Exploration with colors, shapes, letters, numbers and friends' names

Books such as "Chrysanthemum" and "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" for practice with letters, sounds and names

Books such as "Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse," "Rainbow Fish" and "Pete the Cat" to connect to discussions of rules/procedures and to build classroom communities