

July, 2008

Dear Kindergarten Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year at the University School of Nova Southeastern University. We look forward to sharing an exciting, fun-filled, and educational Kindergarten experience with you. This year, school begins on Wednesday, August 20th! Please be prepared for days when your child returns home somewhat less clean than he/she arrived. We believe children learn through exploration of their own environment. The children will often be working with materials such as paint, glue, markers, crayons, and sand.

Each year, the Kindergarten chooses an overall theme to denote five home base areas of our program. Our theme this year will be "Everglades Explorations". Many imaginative, child-centered units have been planned for the school year, and we look forward to exploring each of them with you.

As you begin to prepare for this school year, we would like to familiarize you with our Kindergarten procedures. Look forward to being called by one of the five Kindergarten teachers prior to orientation. These contacts will serve as an introduction to your child's first day of school and a tentative home base placement for the year. Placements will be finalized after the first two weeks of school when children have become acclimated to the routines and expectations of the program. Final placements will be in the best interest of all students.

Our school day begins at 8:30 a.m. Children should arrive by this time so that we can promptly begin our morning activities. Please look forward to upcoming information explaining drop off and pick up procedures for all Kindergarten children.

Each child needs to bring in a complete change of clothing. These clothes should be in a clear, Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name. (underwear, shorts, shirts, socks) This need not be another "uniform" set. Please bring them on the first day of school. Due to a limited amount of space and the size of each child's cubby, we request that backpacks be of the collapsible type that can be folded for storage in cubbies.

Children are required to follow the University School dress code. This includes University School monogrammed polo shirts, chino/twill walking shorts, and slacks/skorts. These items can be purchased from a variety of vendors. For complete details regarding the University School Dress Code, please see the Parent/Student Handbook. ****This year, we are asking that a green uniform shirt be included in your child's uniform wardrobe. This will be the shirt students will wear on field trips.**

Every 4-6 weeks a new theme will be introduced. The first theme will be "Welcome to Kinder-garden – Watch us Grow!" The objectives of this theme will include helping children learn more about themselves and the people around them, and helping them relate to others in different situations, real or imagined, within their daily encounters, and through literature. This theme will be incorporated through all areas of the curriculum as the students develop reading and language skills, problem solving strategies, art techniques and further their knowledge of social science concepts.

Orientation is an important day for children. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, August 19. **PLEASE REFER TO DR. BARNES' LETTER FOR YOUR ASSIGNED TIME.**

Sincerely,
The Kindergarten Team