



Good Samaritan School

Elementary Handbook

(Kindergarten – 4th)

School Calendar:

Our school calendar can be found on our website. The elementary school calendar varies from the preschool calendar. Classroom calendars can also be found on our website, as well as posted outside of each classroom. These calendars include holidays, grading days, conference days and early release days. Please check your classroom calendar weekly as they change frequently due to class parties, units of study, field trips, service learning and more.

Attendance:

Attendance is very important. If your child is sick, please call the office in the morning. Your child's teacher will arrange to have homework available for pick up by 3:00pm. For pre-arranged absences please allow the classroom teacher one week to prepare materials for the extended absence. Frequent or excessive absences must be reported, so please try to arrange routine medical or dental visits and vacations during non- school hours.

Arrival/ Departure:

School begins promptly at 8:30am. Students may arrive as early as 8:25am. Each teacher accounts for tardies. Excessive tardies are strongly discouraged. If you are running late, please bring your child to the office and a Good Samaritan staff member will take her/him to class. School ends at 3:00pm. Students remaining after 3:05pm will be taken to the school office for pick up. Early release days end at 1:00pm, following lunch and recess.

Dress Code:

Students are expected to follow the dress code listed in the Good Samaritan School Handbook. Students are required to wear PE shirts, athletic shoes, and shorts every Monday and Wednesday. Closed toe shoes are required for sage play at school.

Classroom Management:

The elementary classes at Good Samaritan School follow the Positive Behavior Support Program. Copies of this program will be provided on Back-to-School Night as well as in the front office. Please read this program carefully and review it with your child.

Homework:

Homework varies with each classroom. Your child's teacher will provide the needed information during the first week of school. It will also be discussed on Back-to-School Night.

Communication with Your Child's Teacher:

Teachers are available by appointment before and after school. Appointments can be made with your child's teacher at any time. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. Teachers are also available by phone or email.

Classroom Visits:

Good Samaritan elementary program has an open door policy and families are encouraged to be actively involved in the classroom. If you would like to volunteer or visit the classroom, please call ahead of time to make arrangements with your child's teacher.

Conferences:

Student conferences are held twice a year. The first conference takes place in the fall, usually in October. This is a great time for your child's teacher to discuss any concerns and goals that they have for your child. The second conference takes place in spring, usually in April. The Stanford Achievement Test is given in the spring for grades 1-3.

Grading Periods:

There are four grading periods in the Good Samaritan Elementary program. Please make note of the following:

Fall Progress Report: October

First Report Card: January

Spring Progress Report: April

Final Report Card: June

Lunch and Snack:

Your child is expected to bring a healthy snack each day. Snack time is at 9:40am. They are also asked to bring in a water bottle each day. Lunch is at 11:30am. Hot lunch is available daily. You must pre-order. Menus are available on our school website as well as in the front office.

Field Trips:

The Good Samaritan elementary program has the wonderful opportunity of providing many field trips throughout the school year. Your child's teacher will do her/his best to provide information regarding these events in a timely manner. Please note, however, that there will be occasions when an opportunity arises that may prevent early notification. We ask that you try to be flexible in these times. Teachers arrange their own trips, which coincide with the units of study in their classrooms. All field trips are done with parent volunteers and drivers. If you plan on driving, please make sure that your Driver/Car Insurance information is current and on file in the school office.

Classroom Parties:

The Good Samaritan elementary program has many classroom parties and celebrations. Please refer to your child's classroom calendar for these events.

Supplemental Education Programs:

Music: Each Thursday with Mary Eads. Grades K-1 study music for 30 minutes; Grades 2-3 study music for 45 minutes.

Spanish: Kindergarten studies Spanish every Friday with Mrs. Kim for 30 minutes.

Grades 1-3 study Spanish every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday with Mrs. Kim.

Korean: Grades 1-3 study Korean every Tuesday for 30 minutes.

Religion: In addition to classroom lessons, grades K-3 attend a church service each Wednesday morning.

PE: Grades K-3 attend PE classes at Timberhill Athletic Club (TAC) each Monday and Wednesday afternoon for one hour.

We look forward to a year of personal growth. This is an exciting time for us all. We thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's educational journey.

Sincerely,

Elementary Teaching Team

FAQ'S

What is Positive Behavior Support?

- Positive Behavior Support is a systems approach to behavior that was developed in the early 90's at the University of Oregon. The GSS elementary staff works to create systems that enable students to know what is expected, the confidence they will be acknowledged when expectations are met, and certainty they will be re-directed when expectations are not met. PBS is based on the idea that when students are taught clearly defined behavioral expectation and provided with predictable responses (positive and corrective) to their behavior, 85-95% of the students will meet the stated expectations. Students needing extensive support and direction are generally smaller in numbers and may be supported by a small team of staff members called the Behavior Assistance Team (B.A.T.).

What is GSS elementary approach to Team Teaching?

- Begin the day together with Language Arts
- Afternoons are split for Science with Ms. Allen, and Mathematics with Mrs. Kim

What can a parent expect to find in our program?

- Small class size: a maximum of 14 children
- Whole group, small group and individual instruction
- A strong academic program
- Integrated curriculum (across curricular areas)
- A variety of instructional approaches, techniques and strategies are utilized to meet the individual needs of each child
- Excellent testing scores
- Exceptional music program
- Spanish and Korean language exploration
- Many field trips
- Chapel on Wednesday mornings
- Physical Education at TAC twice a week
- Technology integration